Psalm 128:1-6

Focus on the Family

What Parents Owe Their Children

"Blessed are all who fear the LORD, who walk in His ways. You will eat the fruit of your labour; blessings and prosperity will be yours. Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your house; your sons will be like olive shoots around your table. Thus is the man blessed who fears the LORD. May the LORD bless you from Zion all the days of your life; may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem, and may you live to see your children's children." – Psalm 128:1-6

Introduction:

The Trait Parents Want Children to Possess (Time Magazine)

- 1. 55% A sense of responsibility
- 2. 42% Hard working
- 3. 30% A meaningful faith
- 4. 22% Helpful to others
- 5. 22% Well-mannered

My List

- 1. To love and obey God.
- 2. To have a good self-image.
- 3. To take responsibility for their choices.
- 4. To have a positive mental attitude.
- 5. To have a thankful spirit.

What Parents Owe Their Children

1. <u>Unconditional Love</u>

- Unconditional Love provides ...
- a. Security.
- b. Intimacy.
- c. A nurturing environment.

2. Constructive Criticism

Love is basic to discipline. (Hebrews 12:5-11)

- Proverbs 13:24 "He who spares the rod hates his son, but he who loves him is careful to discipline him."
- Hebrews 12:6 "The Lord disciplines those He loves, and He punishes everyone He accepts as His child."

Correct discipline will ...

- a. cause children to respect their parents.
- b. cause children to do right.
- c. cause children to live at peace.

3. Time Together

Week 1

"Parents are prone to give their children everything except the one thing they need most. That is time — time for listening, time for understanding, time for helping and time for guiding. It sounds simple, but in reality, it is the most difficult, and the most sacrificial task of parenthood." - *Emma K. Hurlburt*

How Parents Spend Family Time (per week)

- **86** % Watch T.V. together.
- 80 % Spend 30 minutes talking about things important to the child.
- 73 % Spend time doing homework.
- 69 % Went to a restaurant together.
- **59** % Took a trip that the children would enjoy.
- **49** % Played some type of a game.
- 23 % Attended a cultural activity.
- <u>13</u> % Went to a movie together.

4. A Christian Model

A study reveals that if both mother and father attend church regularly ...

- 72 % of their children remain faithful to God.
- <u>55</u> % if only dad attends regularly.
- <u>15 %</u> if only mom attends regularly.
- <u>6 %</u> if neither attends regularly.

5. Mutual Respect

The toughest thing about raising kids is convincing them who has seniority. There should be mutual respect in ...

- a. Their personality.
- b. Their pressures.
- c. Their opinions.

6. A Foundation for the Future

The best inheritance parents can leave a child is a good name.

Parents must give children ...

- a. Roots.
- b. Wings.

What Parents Owe Their Children

"Blessed are all who fear the LORD, who walk in His ways. You will eat the fruit of your labour; blessings and prosperity will be yours. Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your house; your sons will be like olive shoots around your table. Thus is the man blessed who fears the LORD. May the LORD bless you from Zion all the days of your life; may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem, and may you live to see your children's children." - Psalm 128:1-6

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My List

- 1. To <u>love</u> and _____ God.
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 2. To have a good _______.
- 3. To take ______ for their choices.
- 4. To have a positive mental attitude.
- 5. To have a ______ spirit.

What Parents Owe Their Children

_____· Unconditional Love provides ...

a. _____.

- b. _____.
- c. A nurturing environment.
- 2.
- Love is basic to discipline.
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Correct discipline will ...

- a. cause children to ______ their _____.
- b. cause children to _____.
- c. cause children to at .

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- a. Their _____.
- b. Their _____.
- c. Their _____.
- 6. A ______ for the _____.

The best inheritance parents can leave a child is a good name.

Parents must give children ...

- a. _____.
- b. .

Twelve Ways to Pray for Your Children

- 1. That they will know Christ early in life.
- 2. That they will have a hatred for sin.
- 3. That they will be caught when guilty.
- 4. That they will be protected from the evil one in each area of their lives.
- 5. That they will have a responsible attitude in all of their personal relationships.
- 6. That they will respect those in authority over them.
- 7. That they will choose the right kind of friends and be protected from the wrong kinds of friends.
- 8. That they and their mate would be kept pure until marriage.
- 9. That they will seek a mate who is a godly believer in Jesus.
- 10. That they will totally submit to God and actively resist Satan in all circumstances.
- 11. That they will be single-hearted and willing to be sold out to Jesus.
- 12. That they will be hedged in so that they cannot find the way to the wrong people and wrong places and that the wrong people cannot find their way to them.

The Quality Most Parents Want to Teach Their Children Is ... Time Magazine, quoting a Pew Research Survey, May 2014 http://time.com/3393652/pew-research-parenting-american-trends/

No More Oatmeal Kisses – by Erma Bombeck http://www.chickensoup.com/book-story/52530/no-more-oatmeal-kisses

34 minutes: The amount of time the average family gets to spend together each day

http://www.highlandspringgroup.com/press-and-media/group-news/article/34-minutes-

 $the -amount-of-time-the-average-family-gets-to-spend-together-each-day/\!\!>$

Family Time: Why Spending Time with Family is Important https://www.aha-now.com/why-family-time-is-important/>

Twelve Rules for Raising Delinquent Children – by Captain Robert Horton, Houston P.D., Juvenile Division <u>https://www.snopes.com/fact-check/12-rules-for-raising-delinquent-children</u>

The Impact on Kids of Dad's Faith and Church Attendance, June 2016

 $\underline{https://nickcady.org/2016/06/20/the-impact-on-kids-of-dads-faith-and-church-attendance}$

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