

## PARENTING AGES 0 – 5 – Class #1

### Impress your Children - Deut 6: 1-9

- 1) “Impressing” upon your children is way more than just telling them about God and Christianity, it is truly living the life yourself. Your walk with God, humility, discipling relationships, engagement with God and the kingdom are the big influencers in your child’s perception of Christianity. It will be difficult for children to grow up in view of loving God with all their heart, soul, mind, and strength if they do not see it in their parents.
  - a) More difficult in the context of young parent lifestyle...sleep deprivation, working, sick children, tired...how do we overcome?
  - b) PRAYER!!, advice, looking at week ahead, hospitality when you can, create your ministry, contribute to kingdom where possible (Children’s ministry, leading a BT, serving in other ways), perseverance
  
- 2) Teach them that God is good, What has God done for them today? Where do we see God in the creation around us??
  - a) Church gatherings are fun. Talk with them to make sure they are having fun and learning. Supplement with play dates with disciples and kids their age so they can have their own friends. Help them ‘be a friend to have a friend’ so they can be successful in their classes..
  - b) Notice God during their day (small devo’s)... Look at that Bird! Isn’t that amazing!
  - c) Help their best friends to be in the kingdom, facilitating play dates, hospitality with families that have kids that are your age, etc.
  
- 3) Understanding Authority ages 0-5  
In our adult lives, we have authority and operate within the confines of that authority. God is the ultimate authority. Where will your children begin to learn about that?? We would recommend now. It starts with kids appreciating YOUR authority and eventually grows into an appreciation for God’s authority. What you do at home is extremely important. If they aren’t on the authority page at home, they won’t be away from home. Here are some ideas to create boundaries and authority that we chose.
  - a) Expectations of sitting at the dinner table
  - b) Not running in the church building
  - c) Having boundaries at home (electric plugs, etc.)
  - d) Having a regular routine/schedule helps their security, and authority
  - e) 90% positive reinforcement!