

“Leading Your Children to Fall in Love with Jesus”

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You should care for every child as if you are literally caring for Little Baby Jesus.

If His mother Mary came to your door, what would you tell her about His day?

You have to be “Jesus” to your children. Every day, every week. All year long.

Numbers 6:4-9

Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you wake up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and gates.

Follow the Leader!

- Children learn by example.
- If you LOVE Jesus, they will experience it through all their senses!
- They will “Catch” your values and Christ-like attributes.
- Remember Miss Sarah!

Loving Jesus through Music

- One of the most powerful tools to teach young children about God and Jesus is through the venue of music.
- They are wired from birth to “move” and “wiggle”.
- They learn language through music and movement.
- They will copy YOU as you dance and sing!

“Show and Tell”

- Children will “LOOK” to you for cues on what is “Right”.
- It is your job to “SHOW” and “TELL”
- Never rush a child through a conversation about God, the Bible or Jesus.
- Be slow and deliberate, focus on key words with a reverent voice and loving expression.
- Honor the Lord in the way you speak to a child.

Spiritual Assessment

- Is there a “Test”?
- Do they “pass” or “fail” in the memory verse department?
- Can you See “visual evidence”?
- Do you Hear “audible evidence”?

Spiritual Assessment

- Look for growth in their “character” traits and verbally acknowledge them when you see “IT” in action.
- Keep samples of work, written observations and photographs of activities, use this information in a “portfolio”, just as you would to document other areas of development.

Assessing Spiritual Development

- Ask “Open-ended Questions” about artwork or pictures they are creating.
- Ask specific questions when reading “Pictures”.
- Have them “Explain To You” what a verse or story means to them.
- Watch and observe what they “say” when they are playing with other children.

And a little child shall lead them...

The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat and the calf and the young lion and fatling together; and a little child shall lead them.

Isaiah 11:6

This little child...

- Has NO FEAR
- Walks with confidence
- Has a PURPOSE
- Has PEACE
- Sees God

How did he get **THAT WAY**?

- Who were His role models?
- How did HE learn to be BRAVE?
- Who invested time in HIS life?
- What can we learn from HIM?

Someone was intentional!

- Prayed for his faith
- Prayed for his character
- Prayed for his safety
- Prayed for his relationships
- Prayed for his future

Teaching with Eternity in Mind

When you write your lesson plans, do you include a “spiritual goal”?

When you select a story for “Chapel /Worship”, what is the purpose of the lesson?

When you pray for your students by name, are there specific areas that God has laid upon your heart?

“Let the Little Children Come”

Consider the calling God has placed upon you...you are a doorway and a key to the heart of a child, and your greatest privilege is introducing the children to Jesus.

Remember, let the little children come...through the door of your classroom.

A Song for All Generations

“Jesus Loves Me This I know, For the Bible Tells Me So.

Little Ones to Him Belong, They are Weak, But He is Strong.

Yes, Jesus Loves Me! Yes, Jesus Loves Me! Yes, Jesus Loves Me!

The Bible Tells Me So!”

WHO?

“Jesus”

(Infants, Toddlers, Two-year olds)

Children in these ages need to know that Jesus, and God, really exist

WHAT?

“Loves”

(Three-, four-, and five-year olds)

Kids in this age range become fascinated to hear, see, and learn about all God and Jesus have done that makes them great—with "love" as most important. Lessons emphasize the exciting Bible stories that show God or Jesus in action. While kids earlier learned that Jesus exists, now they learn what He's done that makes Him so wonderful—which sets the foundation for what happens next.

WHO?

“Me”

(Kindergarten and first grade)

This is a great age to tell kids that this Jesus that they've heard so much about wants to have a personal relationship with them. Their little hearts leap at the chance to be a forever friend with

WHY?

“The Bible Tells Me So!”

Timeless Truth

John 3:16

It's the Song they Hear in their Heart

- From newborn infants to aged adults, this song is felt in the deepest corners of the human heart.
- Sung with tender voices and fun smiles, children from around the world grasp the Biblical Truth...Jesus Loves Them!
- It was written as a poem for a sick child, and later became a song that is now in several languages.

Summary

- Children are close to God's heart!
- We are "Jesus, with skin on!"
- WE must pray for them!
- They develop according to HIS Timetable!
- Every moment of every day is counting for something...nothing is wasted!
- Time is SHORT!

And Finally...

Jesus said, “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit; teaching them to observe all the things I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” **Amen.**

Matthew 28:19