

Taste and See That the LORD is Good

Practical Evangelism to Your Children

Ages 6-12

Tri-City Bible Church
Vista, California

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Introduction:

Psalm 34

Setting Priorities:

A. Relationship with God

Mark 12: 30-31

Deuteronomy 6: 4-9

Joshua 1: 8-9

John Piper: *“God has established prayer as the means by which we receive supernatural help. And without supernatural help, we cannot live a life worthy of the gospel. Everything that distinguishes Christians from the world in a Christ-exalting way is a work of God’s supernatural grace. And God has ordained that this grace flows to us through prayer. That’s why prayer must be central, not peripheral to your life and family and ministry.”*

B. Relationship with Husband

Ephesians 5: 22-33

1 Peter 3: 1-2

Titus 2: 3-5

C. Relationship with Children

Titus 2: 4-5

Practical Evangelism in the Home:

A. Be an Evangelist

Ephesians 6: 4

Deuteronomy 6: 5-7

"Soul love is the soul of all love." (J.C. Ryle)

B. Teach the Gospel

Galatians 3: 10

Galatians 2: 15

Luke 19:10

Romans 10: 9

Romans 10: 13

James 4: 8

1 John 2: 3

C. Teach Prayer

"Prayer is the turning point in man's soul." (J.C. Ryle)

"Parents, if you love your children, do all that lies in your power to train them up to a habit of prayer. Show them how to begin. Tell them what to say. Encourage them to persevere. Remind them if they become careless and slack about it. Let it not be your fault, at any rate, if they never call on the name of the Lord." (J.C. Ryle)

D. Walk by the Spirit in Everyday Experiences

Deuteronomy 6: 5-7

Responding by the Spirit vs. Reacting by the flesh

1. Obedience to Parents:

1 Kings 1: 6

2. Loving One Another:

1 Corinthians 13: 4-7

Matthew 22: 39

Philippians 2:3

James 4: 1-2

3. Forgiving:

Matthew 6: 12

4. Dealing with the Troubles of Life:

Philippians 4: 4-7

1 Peter 5: 7

Philippians 2: 14

Jeremiah 31: 25

E. Examples of Structured Devotions

Share from personal study

Proverbs (chapter corresponds with the day of the month)

Visible Scripture

Bible on Audio

Discussions with Dad (regarding Sunday sermon, questions, or topics from current events/school/etc.)

Catechisms, Children's Stories, Sermons

F. Common Objections

1. Lack of Time:

Cultural expectations vs. Biblical commands

Ephesians 5: 15-17

Psalm 90: 12

2. Uninvolved Husband:

1 Peter 3: 1-2

Pray for him-

Help him-

3. Unresponsive Children:

Isaiah 55: 10-11 (see whole chapter)

2 Peter 3: 9

Galatians 6: 9

4. Feeling Inadequate

1 Timothy 4: 7b-8

Deuteronomy 31: 8

G. Concluding Encouragement

“Children are a precious gift from God, but much anxiety comes with them. In all cases, the Word of God gives us one receipt for the curing of all their ills, ‘Bring him unto me...Never must we cease to pray until they cease to breathe. No case is hopeless while Jesus lives. The Lord sometimes suffers his people to be driven into a corner that they may experimentally know how necessary He is to them. Ungodly children, when they show us our own powerlessness against the depravity of their hearts, drive us to flee to the strong for strength, and this is a great blessing to us. Whatever our morning’s need may be, let it like a strong current bear us to the ocean of divine love. Jesus can soon remove our sorrow, he delights to comfort us. Let us hasten to Him while He waits to meet us.” (Charles Spurgeon)

“Train them, lastly, with continual prayer for a blessing on all you do. Without the blessing of the Lord, your best endeavors will do no good. He has the hearts of all men in His hands, and except He touch the hearts of your children by His Spirit, you will weary yourself to no purpose. Water, therefore, the seed you sow on their minds with unceasing prayer. The Lord is far more willing to hear than we to pray; far more ready to give blessings than we to ask them ;—but He loves to be entreated for them. And I set this matter of prayer before you, as the top-stone and seal of all you do. I suspect the child of many prayers is seldom cast away.” (J.C. Ryle)

Suggested Resources

Worship and Prayer:

***Psalms*

How to Worship (Audio, Session 1, CBC Women's Event) by Logan Carr

Sweet Communion: Prayer (Audio, Session 2, CBC Women's Event) by Logan Carr

Marriage:

Reforming Marriage, by Douglas Wilson

What Did You Expect: Redeeming the Realities of Marriage, by Paul David Tripp

Feminine Appeal, by Carolyn Mahaney

Motherhood and Parenting:

***The Duties of Parents*, by J.C. Ryle (1888)

The Mother at Home, by John S.C. Abbott (first published 1833)

Shepherding a Child's Heart, by Tedd Tripp

Spiritual Instruction of Children:

***The Holy Bible*, audio format

My 1st Book of Questions and Answers, by Carine MacKenzie

The Gospel Story Book, by Marty Machowski

Proverbs for Parenting: A Topical Guide for Child Raising from the Book of Proverbs, by Barbara Decker