

Guiding a child to God's wisdom

The child's greatest need is the parent's greatest goal: To remove foolishness and give God's wisdom, leading to loving God and others through the power and provision of Jesus Christ.

Why do children need to be taught God's wisdom?

1. Increases reverence of God. Pr. 2:1-5
2. God's wisdom leads to salvation. 2 Tim. 3:14-15
3. God's wisdom prevents sinful living, guards against evil influence. Pr. 2:10-26
4. Children are born with an imbedded foolishness and blindness to God's wisdom. Pr. 22:15

Concerning what do children need God's wisdom?

1. **God's worthiness.** Dt. 6:4; 4:32-40; 10:17-21
A child's understanding of God is the foundation for all wisdom. Prov. 1:7
2. God alone is God and rules over all. Dt.
3. God is all wise and powerful.
4. God's word is authoritative and must not be altered or ignored. Dt. 4: 2
5. **God's requirement:**
 - a. Love Him Dt. 6:5
 - b. Trust His Word and obey him. Dt. 5:29-6:3; 8:1-3
 - c. Love others as He loves us. Dt. 10:19
 - d. Admit our sin and seek His help to overcome it. Mt 6:33
6. **His sinfulness.** Dt. 6:12-16
 - a. His idolatry. Dt. 6:10-14, All behavior flow from striving to satisfy an idol of our heart. Romans 1:20-32. Real change is not behavior modification but worship realignment.
 - b. His lack of character flows from idolatry. Worshiping something other than God. Rom. 1:20-32
Children, like adults are ruled by self - seeking, lovers of pleasure rather than God.
 - c. He has no consciousness of it until he sees it in the mirror of God's word. Romans 7:8-15; Gal. 3:19
 - d. Their sin us ultimately against God to who they will be accountable. Dt. 28-29
7. **God's love and grace.** Dt. 6:16-20; 7:7; 4:31

How can a parent instill understanding to their child?

1. Use life circumstances to explain God. Dt 6:7-9
 - i. Take advantage of opportunities to talk. Dt. 6:7-9
 - ii. Relate to your own testimony and life experience. Dt. 6:16-20
 - iii. Challenge them to think biblically.
2. Use life circumstances to express God. Dt 6:6,9
 - i. Let God's word dwell in you. Dt. 4:9; 6:6; Col. 3:14-15; Ps 119:9-11; 1 Peter 2:1
 - ii. Respond to life's circumstances letting God's word govern your thoughts, speech and actions. Dt. 6:6; 4:9; 2 Cor. 10:4-5; Ps 56:10
 - iii. Trust in God's word in the midst of trials. Dt. Ps 56:10; 1 Peter 1:8
3. Use your own testimony and share with urgency. Dt. 6:16-20
4. Godly communication
 1. Beware of wrong ways of communicating:
 2. Be a good listener of your child's heart. Prov. 20:5; James 1:19-21
 3. Communicate according to the need of the moment. Eph. 4:29
4. Godly reproof spelling out their disobedience to God and leading them to understand their behavior in light of God's Word. Prov. 29:15