

GROWING GREAT KIDS

May 31, 2026

Mike Newman, Senior Pastor

IN THE "IN THIS HOUSE" SERIES:

May 24: *Family Foundation*

June 7: *Parenting Danger Zone*

June 21: *Good to Great Marriages*

July 12: *Passing the Baton*

May 31: *Growing Great Kids*

June 14: *All About Sex*

June 28: *When Families Break*

- 1) Being a parent is a _____ and one of the most important things you will every do in your life.

THE WAY YOU SEE YOUR CHILDREN WILL DETERMINE THE WAY YOU TREAT THEM AND THE WAY YOU TREAT THEM WILL SHAPE WHO THEY BECOME.

Psalm 127:3–5 (NLT) (3) Children are a gift from the LORD; they are a reward from him. (4) Children born to a young man are like arrows in a warrior's hands. (5) How joyful is the man whose quiver is full of them! He will not be put to shame when he confronts his accusers at the city gates.

YOUR CHILDREN NEED YOU TO SEE THEM AS THE GIFT GOD SAYS THEY ARE.

- 2) Parents are to be the _____ in the lives of their children.

Ephesians 6:4 (NLT) (4) Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger by the way you treat them. Rather, bring them up with the discipline and instruction that comes from the Lord.

Deuteronomy 6:1–9 (NLT) (1) "These are the commands, decrees, and regulations that the LORD your God commanded me to teach you. You must obey them in the land you are about to enter and occupy, (2) and you and your children and grandchildren must fear the LORD your God as long as you live. If you obey all his decrees and commands, you will enjoy a long life. (3) Listen closely, Israel, and be careful to obey. Then all will go well with you, and you will have many children in the land flowing with milk and honey, just as the LORD, the God of your ancestors, promised you. (4) "Listen, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD alone. (5) And you must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your strength. (6) And you must commit yourselves wholeheartedly to these commands that I am giving you today. (7) Repeat them again and again to your children. Talk about them when you are at home and when you are on the road, when you are going to bed and when you are getting up. (8) Tie them to your hands and wear them on your forehead as reminders. (9) Write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

Psalm 78:1–8 (NLT) (1) O my people, listen to my instructions. Open your ears to what I am saying, (2) for I will speak to you in a parable. I will teach you hidden lessons from our past— (3) stories we have heard and known, stories our ancestors handed down to us. (4) We will not hide these truths from our children; we will tell the next generation about the glorious deeds of the LORD, about his power and his mighty wonders. (5) For he issued his laws to Jacob; he gave his instructions to Israel. He commanded our ancestors to teach them to their children, (6) so the next generation might know them— even the children not yet born— and they in turn will teach their own children. (7) So each generation should set its hope anew on God, not forgetting his glorious miracles and obeying his commands. (8) Then they will not be like their ancestors— stubborn, rebellious, and unfaithful, refusing to give their hearts to God.

15 THINGS GOD WANTS US TO TEACH OUR CHILDREN:

- 1) Help your children to begin a relationship with Jesus.
- 2) Encourage and help your children understand what it means to surrender their lives to Jesus daily.
- 3) Help them learn what it means to love others.
- 4) Help them learn how to ask for forgiveness and the importance of granting forgiveness.

- 5) Help them learn the Bible is God's primary way of speaking to us and that following its teachings is the best plan for a successful life.
- 6) Help them learn how to pray.
- 7) Help them learn to obey, honor, and show respect to their parents and persons in authority.
- 8) Help them learn the importance of choosing the right friends.
- 9) Help them understand the importance of sexual purity and knowing how to relate to the opposite sex.
- 10) Help them learn that what they say and how they say it is a big deal.
- 11) Help them learn the importance of work and responsibility.
- 12) Help them learn the importance of using money properly.
- 13) Help them learn the importance of guarding their minds and how their thought life impacts how they feel and what they do.
- 14) Help them learn to use social media and digital content in a way that honors God and protects their hearts and minds.
- 15) Help them learn the importance of self-control.

3) Think _____ when it comes to teaching your children and helping them become the person God wants them to become.

Deuteronomy 6:7-9 (NLT) (7) Repeat them again and again to your children. Talk about them when you are at home and when you are on the road, when you are going to bed and when you are getting up. (8) Tie them to your hands and wear them on your forehead as reminders. (9) Write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

Practical Suggestions:

- a) Make sure you are teaching what is _____ and don't wait too long to talk about important issues.
- b) Use _____ to help teach the importance of doing the right things and the consequences of doing the wrong things.

Proverbs 13:24 (NLT) (24) Those who spare the rod of discipline hate their children. Those who love their children care enough to discipline them.

Proverbs 19:18 (NLT) (18) Discipline your children while there is hope. Otherwise you will ruin their lives.

THE GOAL OF DISCIPLINE SHOULD BE CHANGED BEHAVIOR.

- c) _____ you want your children to be.
- d) Use _____.
- e) _____ your children when they are young and increase their freedoms as they grow older.
- f) _____ and don't simply assume your children will do the right things.

4) _____ and trust God for everything outside of your control.

*For more information about what it means to begin a relationship with Jesus or what to do after making a decision to follow Him, stop at Guest Central in the lobby following the service, email us at info@otterbeinchurch.org, or call the church office at 717.762.7147 to set up an appointment. You may also learn more about what it means to follow Jesus and/or request materials and find additional information to help you on your spiritual journey by clicking "**Next Steps > Jesus**" on our website at www.otterbeinchurch.org.*