



“Deliberate Discipleship and Parenting”

1 Corinthians 4:11-16

Paul to Corinthians: *Step It Up!*

He taught by demonstrating

Subtitle: “Living the saved life in a fallen world”

vss. 11-13 – “it’s not easy to follow Jesus!”

Vs. 14 – “I write ... to admonish you”

Vs. 15-16 – I am your father... imitate me!

1. Tell of God's Greatness!

“Our God is an awesome God...”

“The heavens declare the glory of God”

Scientists discovery last August....

“Boom!” = GOLD

1 Octillion = 27 zeros =

(\$1,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000)

X 10 in gold (Forbes Mag).

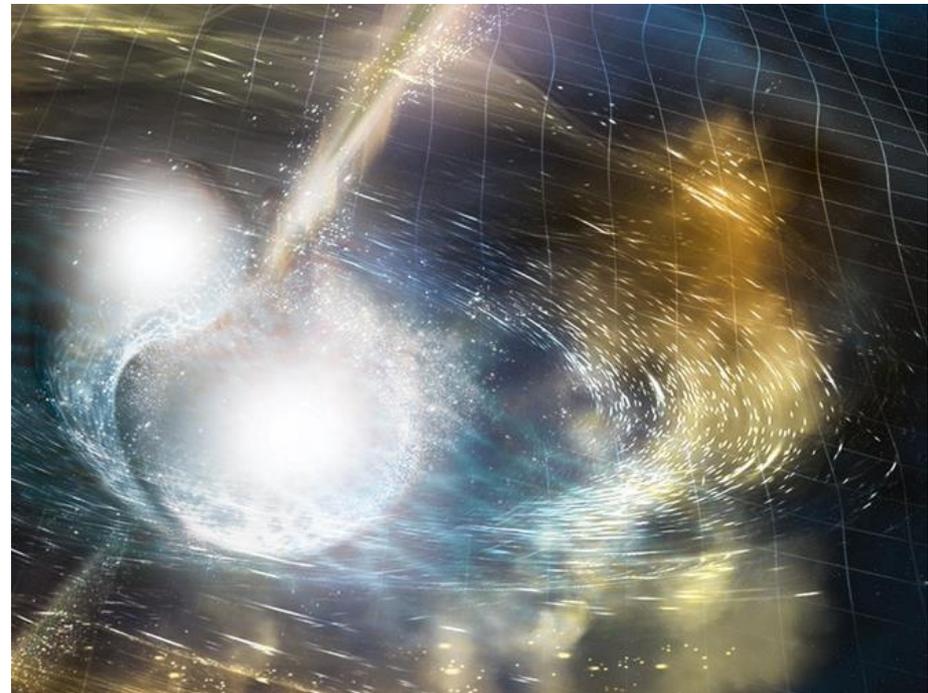
The crash happened 130 million years ago...but the signal didn't arrive on Earth until Aug. 17 after **traveling 130 million light-years.**

A light-year is 5.88 trillion miles.

(1 Peter 3:8)

NASA

Goddard Images



Shaping the Mind/Heart of a Child

Using Wonder!

Santa, Easter Bunny, Tooth Fairy
Cartoon Heroes

So tell Bible stories.

David and Goliath!

Moses and the burning bush!

Joshua / Jericho walls

Birth of Jesus!



#2 - Teaching a Child About His/Her Creator vs. Evolution

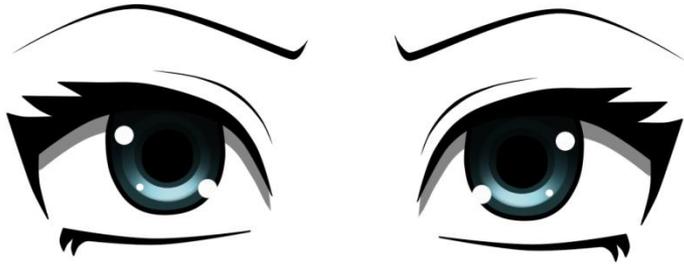
“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth...in the image of God He created him, male and female He created them” (Gen. 1:1, 27)

If you are created, then He is worthy of worship!

Parenting Principle: model worship
(1 Corinthians 4:16)

Declare Not Only What He Has Made, But What He has Done in Jesus!

“And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to Myself.” (John 12:32).



**** Watch the eyes!**

“The eye is the lamp of the body” (Matthew 6:22).

**** Listen for lies and blame.**



#3 – Your Children Grow In Your Image! (Gen. 1:26-17)

**They will reflect you:
Your children have your DNA.**

**They learn / repeat your behavior patterns.
Good and bad. Proving grounds:**

- * school, sports**
- * relationships with people: pride, jealousy, anger, compassion, grace**

Bible teaches we are morally /spiritually responsible for our own behavior.

“All have sinned...” (Romans 3:23).

“The son will not bear the punishment for the father’s iniquity, nor will the father bear the punishment for the son’s iniquity; the righteousness of the righteous will be upon himself, and the wickedness of the wicked will be upon himself” (Ezekiel 18:20)

But! Propensities Are Handed Down

“I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children, on the third and the fourth generations of those who hate Me” (Exodus 20:5).

How?

Tendency to NOT correct sin in our children when we ourselves have not repented confessed, and forsaken the same sin.

Example: Abraham's Family Tree

Abraham lied about Sarai (Sarah) to Pharaoh

* failure to trust God (Gen. 12:11-19)

Isaac lied about Rebekah to Abimelech king of the Philistines (Gen. 26:7)

* failure to trust God

Jacob lied to Issac, pretending to be Esau

* failure to trust God (Gen. 27:19)

The Gospel Breaks The Cycle!

(1 Corinthians 4:16)

“Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come” (2 Corinthians 5:17).

Dedicate yourself to Jesus, so they will learn:

- * God is holy and sees all**
- * God loves and forgives**
- * God calls us to holiness and salvation**