

KIDS MATTER

“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 strength. 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 get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.” Deuteronomy 6:4-9 (NIV)

❖ Myths About Children

1. Myth No. 1 – Children are RESILIENT.
2. Myth No. 2 – Children need to be SEEN and not HEARD.
3. Myth No. 3 – Children should do what I SAY not what I DO.

❖ God’s Instructions to Parents

1. It doesn’t MATTER what you KNOW if you don’t KNOW what really MATTERS.
“Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.” Deuteronomy 6:4 (NIV)
 - **KEY TRUTH: RECOGNIZE and RELATE true PRIORITIES to your children.**
Teach your children to choose the right path, and when they are older, they will remain upon it.” Proverbs 22:6 (NLT)
2. Focus on RELATIONSHIPS more than RULES.
“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.” Deuteronomy 6:5 (NIV)
 - **KEY TRUTH: SHOW LOVE to your children and they will more readily FOLLOW your direction.**
“A refusal to correct is a refusal to love; love your children by disciplining them.” Proverbs 13:24 (MSG)
3. It has to be IN YOU before it can ever be IN THEM.
“These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts.” Deuteronomy 6:6 (NIV)
 - **KEY TRUTH: Our children learn more from us what they SEE in us than what they HEAR from us.**
Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord. Ephesians 6:4 (NIV)
4. There is no substitute for the QUANTITY of QUALITY time.

“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 get up.”

Deuteronomy 6:7 (NIV)

- **KEY TRUTH: Don't miss TEACHABLE MOMENTS, we can't predict them but we can prepare for them.**

But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.

1 Peter 3:15 (NIV)

5. What's worth REMEMBERING is worth REPEATING.

“Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.”

Deuteronomy 6:8, 9 (NIV)

- **KEY TRUTH: INVOLVE your children with OTHER PEOPLE and places that hold and strengthen your values.**

He who walks with the wise grows wise, but a companion of fools suffers harm.

Proverbs 13:20 (NIV)

“And if anyone causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to be thrown into the sea with a large millstone tied around his neck.”

Mark 9:42 (NIV)