

PARENTING IN THE REAL WORLD

Part 5 – Eight Life Skills to Build within Your Child’s Heart (3)

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Your child’s connection to **God** is the most important heritage you can give them.

Hosea 4:6 “My people are being destroyed because they don't know Me... Since you have forgotten the laws of your God, I will forget to bless your children.” (NLT)

Psalm 78:5-6 “(God) commanded our forefathers to teach their children (God’s Word),⁶ so the next generation would know it, even children yet to be born, who in turn would tell their children.” (NIV)

I. LIFE SKILL #6: TRAIN YOUR CHILDREN TO BUILD A HEALTHY **WORK ETHIC**.

A. *Proverbs 10:4-5 “Lazy hands make a man poor, but diligent hands bring wealth. ⁵ He who gathers crops in summer is a wise son, but he who sleeps during harvest is a disgraceful son.”*

B. Teach your children to learn how to work and earn their own money **before** they leave your home.

C. *Psalm 127:2 “It's senseless for you to work so hard from early morning till late at night. For God wants His loved ones to get their proper rest.”*

D. Teach your children to work hard but don’t live for work. Live in **balance**.

II. LIFE SKILL # 7: TRAIN YOUR CHILDREN HOW TO PROPERLY **HANDLE MONEY**.

A. What Solomon taught his children:

1. Give back to God a **tithe**.

*Proverbs 3:9-10 "Honor the Lord from your wealth, and from **the first** of all your produce; so your barns will be filled with plenty and your vats will overflow with new wine."*

2. **Pay attention** to your money and watch it closely.

Proverbs 27:23 "Riches can disappear fast, so watch your business interests closely. Know the state of your flock."

3. Develop a **budget** and follow it closely. Don't give in to impulsive spending no matter how enticing the temptation may be.

Proverbs 21:5 "Plan carefully and you will have plenty. If you act too quickly you will never have enough."

4. **Save** some of your money as a regular habit. Live below your means.

Proverbs 21:20 "In the house of the wise are stores of choice food and oil, but a foolish man devours all he has."

5. Make your money the hard way. **Earn it.**

Proverbs 13:11 "Dishonest money dwindles away, but he who gathers money little by little makes it grow."

6. Never **co-sign** a loan for someone.

*Proverbs 6:1-3 "My child, if you co-sign a loan for a **friend** or guarantee the debt of someone you hardly know— ² if you have trapped yourself by your agreement and are caught by what you said— ³ quick, get out of it if you possibly can! You have placed yourself at your friend's mercy. Now swallow your pride; go and beg to have your name erased." (NLT)*

B. Teach your children how to save money and how to **manage** their money.

C. Teach your children how to **delay** gratification.

III. LIFE SKILL # 8: TEACH YOUR CHILDREN HOW TO HAVE A **HEALTHY** VIEW TOWARD BIBLICAL SEXUAL MORALITY.

A. God made sex between a husband and wife for three reasons:

1. To promote **unity** between a husband and a wife. It is a bond between marriage partners.

2. To provide enjoyment, for the mutual pleasure of both husband and wife.
3. To produce **children**.

Hebrews 13:4 “Honor your marriage and its vows, and be pure; for God will surely punish all those who are sexually immoral or commit adultery.”

1 Corinthians 6:9-11 “Don't you know that those who do wrong will have no share in the Kingdom of God? Don't fool yourselves. Those who indulge in sexual sin, who are idol worshipers, adulterers, male prostitutes, homosexuals, ¹⁰ thieves, greedy people, drunkards, abusers, and swindlers— none of these will have a share in the Kingdom of God. ¹¹ There was a time when some of you were just like that, but now your sins have been washed away, and you have been set apart for God. You have been made right with God because of what the Lord Jesus Christ and the Spirit of our God have done for you.”

- B. Your **family** may be the only real safeguard your kids have in learning a healthy view of sexual morality.
- C. The reality is this, if you are not talking about sex with your children, not just once but ongoing, you are the only one at the table **without** a voice.
- D. If your child has a sex education class in school, it is your responsibility to find out **what** will be taught and how it will be taught. You should seek this information respectfully and with kindness while remembering you are the one ultimately in charge of your child's education.
- E. Our children's ministry recommends some books to help parents in addressing sex in an ongoing education to your children.

“God's Design for Sex” by Stan and Brenna Jones, is a series of four books, with each book targeting a specific age range of children.

A book that is more specific and not appropriate for younger children is “The Wonderful Way Babies Are Made” by Larry Christensen.

- F. Focus on the Family (www.focusonthefamily.com)

Teaching Children Healthy Sexuality (Rob Jackson); “Prevent the Sexualization of Your Daughter” and “Talking About Sex and Puberty,” along with various Q&A articles on the site.

CDs and DVDs of today's sermon or previous sermons are available for purchase after the service at our Water's Edge Resource Center.

