

## **Discipling Our Children**

Disciple: to teach, train, or admonish. Therefore, when we teach our children about the Lord, we are discipling them.

Scripture: Deut. 6:4-9, 20-25

Goal: for our children to see God in everything – in other words, to develop a Christian worldview

### **What/How:**

#### 1. Bible Reading

- as a family at dinner
- before bed, parent(s) with child(ren); or for older children, independently
- Use different/more complex Bibles as they grow (a great birthday gift!).
- Model it; let them see you doing your devotions.

#### 2. Prayer

- before bed (one thing thankful for, one thing to work on, one for someone else)
- prayer wheel with pictures of missionaries and friends, child puts clothespin on picture of person he/she chooses to pray for that day
- pray before purchases, pray before school/about school issues, pray before doing newspaper route, pray about family decisions, etc.

#### 3. Scripture Memorization/Books of the Bible Memorization

- Hang verses/passages of Scripture in the bathroom on a strategic wall.
- Memorize as a family at dinner.
- practice saying verses when waiting for the bus in the morning
- Community Bible School Scripture songs

#### 4. Devotionals

- CEF has a great foundational devotional for kids. They can get it for free by completing a number of CEF Mailbox Club assignments.
- Focus on the Family has a series of fun family night devotional activities books.
- Give an age-appropriate devotional as a Christmas gift.

#### 5. “Yay, God!!!”

- Celebrate God’s creation when you see striking autumn leaves and amazing sunsets.

#### 6. Sing and Play Christian Music

- Community Bible School Scripture songs.
- Play children’s CD’s in the car and throughout the day.

#### 7. Discipline

- Discipline (teach, train, correct) children by having them look up verses and write them out, coupled with prayer, apologizing, and asking for forgiveness.

#### 8. Adventures in Odyssey

- *Great* stories (available in CD's) that teach the principles of God's Word
9. Journaling
- Journal family prayers and God's answers, so children can see God at work, thank Him, and learn to pray expectantly.
  - Older children can be taught to journal what God is teaching them.

**\*Praying for our children that we are discipling:**

- We should keep in mind that when we are discipling someone, there will be spiritual warfare; therefore, we need to pray faithfully for our children. Some parents pray over their children when they are sleeping at night (There is a wonderful painting depicting this, entitled *Spiritual Warfare*.).
- Pray that the Lord would put other Christian adults in your child's life, who could speak God's truth to your child, or to whom your child could go with questions.