

Heritage from the Lord (Psalms 127:3-5)

“Children are a heritage from the Lord, offspring - a reward from him (Psalm 127:3). Our children are gifts from God and we should take care of the precious heritage. Not all children have faith even though their parents have faith. Parent’s faith does not hand down naturally to their children. After Adam and Eve who were already grown up when God made them - they did not have childhood. All of us are supposed to be born as a baby and raised by our parents. God wants parents to raise their children well and makes parents responsible. We should bear in mind that children are not parent’s possession but a heritage of God. We might be reproached for responsibility unless we raise our children in God’s plan. What can we could do? Follow the ways of God who made us.

Establishing right values **“What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? (Matthew 16:26)** We should remind our children “Absolute vs temporary” concern. Jesus said as parable with the rich man and beggar Lazarus. The rich man lived in luxury with temporary concern only while Lazarus in faith with absolute concern though he ate what fell off from the rich man’s table, even the dogs came and licked his sores. The times came when the beggar and the rich man died, their spiritual place being opposite. The rich man was in torment in Hades, saw Abraham far away with Lazarus. He asked Abraham to send Lazarus to dip the tip of finger in water to cool his tongue but declined. Also, asked to send Lazarus to warn his five brothers not come to the place of torment but rejected because they have Moses and the Prophets whom to listen to. This parable shows that both the rich man and Lazarus not perished but live as spiritual immortal in eternal life or punishment. We should teach constantly let our children have absolute concern for eternal life.

Nurturing with God’s Word. **“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 on 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)** It is called “Shema” which is great commandments that we should focus on God’s Word and obey it, especially keep and teach ten commandments to children because it is the source of lesson and blessing. **“but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments (Exodus 20:6)** We should educate children that God wants us live to keep ten commandments, sanctified life to keep our salvation which received by faith.

Teach fundamentals of faith: Keep Lord’s day and offer Tithe We should show an example ourselves to teach. Keeping Lord’s day is the guard to make spiritual safety. **“If you keep your feet from breaking the Sabbath and from doing as you please on my holy day if you call the Sabbath a delight and the Lord’s holy day honorable and if you honor it by not going your own way and not doing as you please or speaking idle words, then you will find your joy in the Lord, and I will cause you to ride in triumph on the heights of the land and to feast on the inheritance of your father Jacob. “For the mouth of the Lord has spoken (Isaiah 58:1-14)** Keep the Lord’s day is the way of blessing to live in God. Offering tithe prevents from being enslaved of material. Desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death. We could live in blessing and grace of God when we offer tithe without greed. **“Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this,” says the Lord Almighty, “and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it. (Malachi 3:10)**

Live by God’s help. We should remind our children that we need to depend on God, **“Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it. (Proverbs 22:6)** As for me, this is my covenant with them,” says the Lord. **“My Spirit, who is on you, will not depart from you, and my words that I have put in your mouth will always be on your lips, on the lips of your children and on the lips of their descendants—from this time on and forever,” says the Lord.(Isaiah 59:21)** Tell it to your children, and let your children tell it to their children, and their children to the next generation.(Joel 1:3)

Parents should show their life in Faith We should show seeking His kingdom and His righteousness in our life (No worries what to eat, to drink, to wear but keep priority in life instead) **“Do not let your heart envy sinners, but always be zealous for the fear of the Lord. There is surely a future hope for you, and your hope will not be cut off. Listen, my son, and be wise, and set your heart on the right path:(Proverbs 23:17-19)** Fear the Lord is the key of present and future which prevent confusion in children’s life.

Parents are the mirrors of children

Parent should show role model of prayer

Make house atmosphere as teaching and learning. “Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates. (Deut 6:9)

Teach Honesty

Cultivate creativity through compliments

Do not exasperate our children “Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord (Ephesians 6:4).