

Blessed Mother's Day
Our Children Are Gifts From The Lord

Deuteronomy 6:6-9

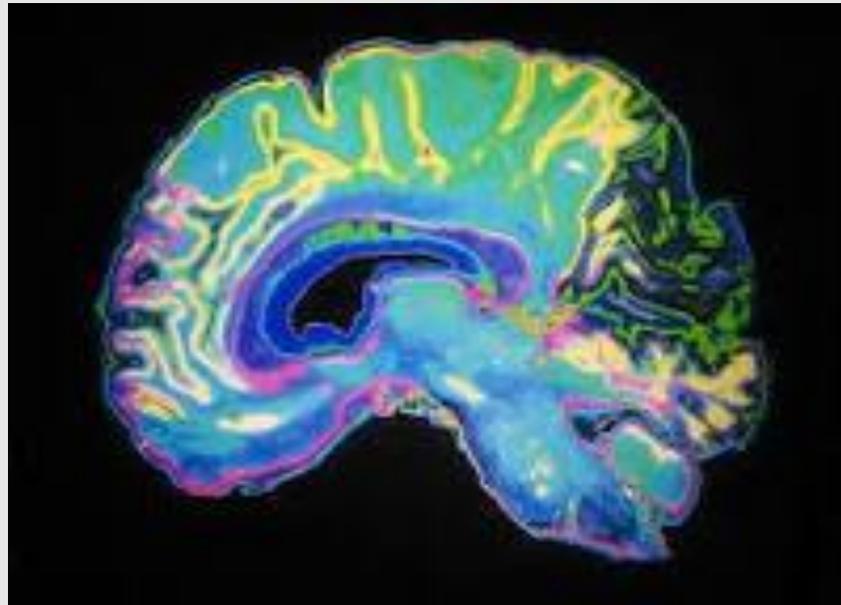
Psalm 127

The First Five Years

The first five years of life a child's brain develops more and faster than at any other time in his/her life.

60% of the human personality is formed in the first 5 years.

At birth, the average baby's brain is about a 25% of the size of the average adult brain. Incredibly, it doubles in size in the first year. It keeps growing to about 80% of adult size by age 3 and 90% – nearly full grown – by age 5.



Technology and Our Children's Health

90% of the current population owns some kind of an electronic device.

Westerners are spending an average of 7 hours of screen time per day.

By the age of 7, a child born today will have spent one full year in front of a screen, that's 24 hours a day 7 days a week for one full year in front of a screen!



We are Parents *not* Pals!

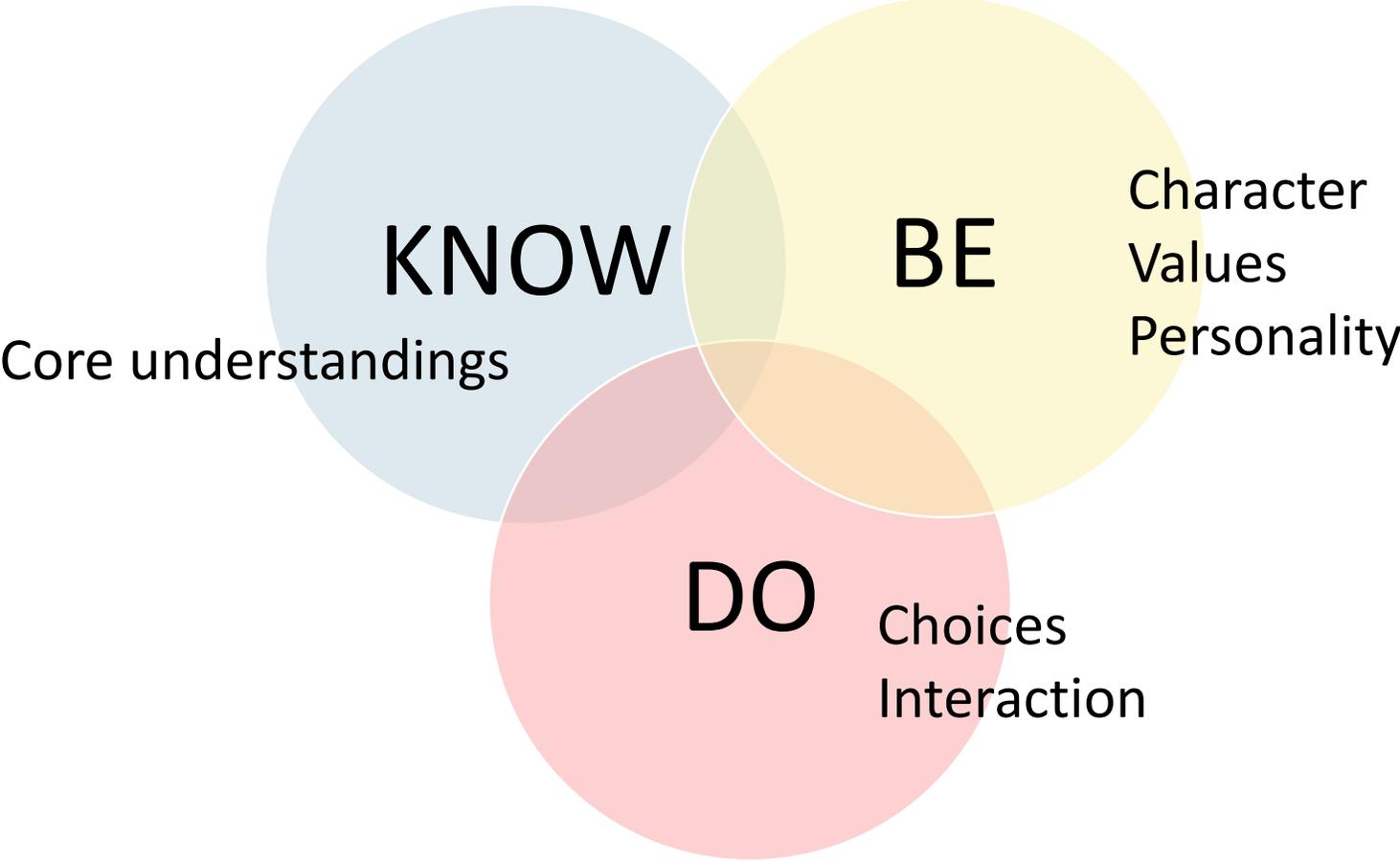
Children need our love, acceptance, and forgiveness.

We LOVE our children unconditionally; we love them because they are a gift from the Lord.

We PARENT them with fairness and integrity and diligence according the Word



Nurturing the Spirit in the Formative Years





She gets up before dawn to prepare breakfast for her household and plan the day's work for her servant girls.

Proverbs 31:15

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

Listen, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. And you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your strength. And you must commit yourselves wholeheartedly to these commands that I am giving you today. Repeat them again and again to your children. Talk about them when you are at home and when you are on the road, when you are going to bed and when you are getting up. Tie them to your hands and wear them on your forehead as reminders. **Write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.**

Shorter Version:

“Know, be and do” your faith in front of your kids
(sometimes narrating as you go).

My son, give me your heart, and let your eyes observe my
ways.

Proverbs 23:26

Building Our Families

Psalm 127:1-3

Unless the LORD builds a house, the work of the builders is useless. Unless the LORD protects a city, guarding it with sentries will do no good. It is useless for you to work so hard from early morning until late at night, anxiously working for food to eat; for God gives rest to his loved ones.

- God wants to be involved in ALL of our lives
- Giving God responsibility for our life doesn't eliminate our responsibility
- Involving the Lord in our life is the key to finding peace

Children are a GIFT from God

Psalm 127:3-5

Children are a gift from the LORD; they are a reward from him. Children born to a young man are like sharp arrows in a warrior's hands. How happy is the man whose quiver is full of them! He will not be put to shame when he confronts his accusers at the city gates.

Arrows: God knows how to deploy our children since the Lord is the one who has equipped them with their capabilities.

Our Home Our Family

Our character is shaped by the home.

Our future is affected by the home.

Our life will be prolonged because of the home.

