

The Fatherhood Series

The Practical Application of Leaving A Legacy!

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10 things To Tell Your Offspring!

1. I'm so glad God made you.

Our grandkids are growing up in a world that does not acknowledge God as their Creator, so it's vital that parents and grandparents regularly remind them how God carefully designed them in their mother's womb

2. I will always listen to you.

If you want to have the privilege of speaking truth to your grandkids, you have to earn that honor by being a good listener.

3. You are precious.

Kids long to believe they are precious. And while God puts in the heart of every person a longing to find their worth in being loved deeply by their Creator, He has also created us to love and be loved by others.

4. God loves you.

It may seem logical to teach kids about Christianity by telling them what the Bible says they should and should not do. And it is right to train them to honor and obey God's commands. But if we focus only on the list of dos and don'ts, we miss the wonderful opportunity to introduce our grandchildren to the depth of Jesus' great love for them.

5. God has a plan for your life.

From the time kids are little, people begin to ask them what they want to be when they grow up. Some children have a definite plan, some do not. "I don't care what you grow up to do for a living as long as you are serving Christ." You can pour courage into your grandkids to follow God's plan for their lives if you remind them of how God saved them unto good works that He has ordained in advance (see **Ephesians 2:8-10**)

6. Loving God is the secret to loving others.

Loving others selflessly does not come naturally. Just spending an afternoon watching your grandkids take each other's toys confirms this truth. Jesus said, "The student will become like his teacher" (Luke 6:40). Your grandchildren will learn to love by how they observe you loving others—not by how you tell them they should be treating people

7. Be quick to forgive.

Learning to quickly forgive others and to think well of them are valuable lessons to teach your grandchild. It is in our sinful nature to hold onto grudges and to assign wrong motives to people's actions. Not just apologies but saying "I was wrong!" would you forgive me?

8. Be content.

1 Timothy 6:6 says, "Godliness with contentment is great gain." In a generation where your grandkids will be influenced to believe they're entitled to more of whatever their little hearts desire, training them this valuable secret of contentment will do more to equip them for a happy life than all the gifts you might lavish upon them.

9. I'm praying for you

One of the most powerful legacies you can leave your grandkids is training them by example the importance of prayer.

10. Tell others about the hope of Jesus.

Do your grandkids hear you complaining about how the world's going to hell in a hand basket? It's easy to point out what's wrong in the world today—and we should help our grandkids learn to discern right from wrong. But couple those comments with your deep sorrow over the lost.