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## Daily Devotional - Training Our Children

JANUARY 08TH 2016 BY DEE LOFLIN

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#### Proverbs 22:6

From a very young age, children observe the behavior of the significant adults in their lives. What a wonderful opportunity this is to influence the next generation for Jesus Christ!

How do we train children in godliness? We start by investing time in their lives. Whether through activities, reading together, or quiet conversation, we can model Christian living through everyday activities.

Listening closely to them is another part of teaching our sons, daughters, and other children in our life. To influence them toward righteousness, we must know what they're thinking—what's important to them, what brings them joy, and what bothers them.

Protecting children through discipline is another aspect of godly parenting. When done with love, discipline helps them understand the wisdom of God's boundaries and the importance of self-control.

Admitting our mistakes is also necessary, as transparency helps children draw closer to parents and teaches them humility. If we seem perfect, our kids find it harder to confess their mistakes to us.

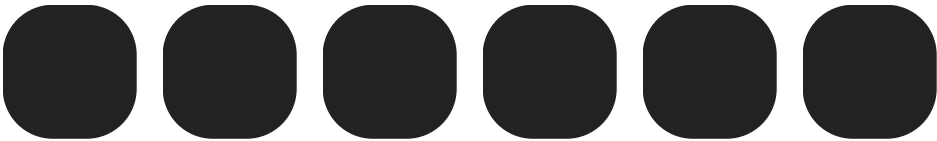
Perhaps the most important aspect of training children is unconditional love. My mother loved me both when I succeeded in school and when I didn't. Her steadfast care for me made me try to do what she'd find pleasing.

Raising a godly child takes the cooperation of believing parents and family, Christian teachers, and born-again friends. Look for opportunities to spend time with children, listen to their hearts, and demonstrate Christ's love for them. By modeling godliness, you influence a life for the Lord.

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