

THE GOSPELS

Jesus, God’s Son, is born. He grows up to do amazing things that only He can do.

SAY THIS:

Who can believe in Jesus?
YOU CAN BELIEVE IN JESUS.

 DO THIS:



MORNING TIME

When you go into your child’s room, say, “Good morning! I see someone Jesus loves! It’s [child’s name]! I know Jesus loves you, because Jesus loves everyone!”



DRIVE TIME

As you drive, brainstorm different names with your child to put in the sentence: [Name] can believe in Jesus. Say the sentence together. See how many people you can think of!



CUDDLE TIME

Cuddle with your child this month and pray, “Dear God, there will be a lot of things [child’s name] can choose to believe in as [he/she] grows up. I pray [he/she] will choose to believe in Jesus and follow Him. Help me model the way and teach [him/her] the truth about Jesus. I love You, God. In Jesus’ name, amen.”



BATH TIME

As you bathe your child, ask them about things they can do. “Who can wash their tummy? Who can wiggle their toes? Who can clap their hands?” Continue asking questions, as long as your child is having fun. End with, “Who can believe in Jesus?”

BASIC TRUTH:

JESUS WANTS TO BE MY FRIEND FOREVER.

HOW TO MEASURE SUCCESS AS A PARENT

By Reggie Joiner

Be careful how you measure success as a parent.

It’s not what you learn about your kids.

Our culture is saturated with parenting resources that educate us about family issues. Every parent struggles with how to assimilate what they know into daily practice. Just knowing more doesn’t make you a better parent.

It’s not what you give to your kids.

Most parents will pay any price to provide what they think their kids need physically. It is easy to become so preoccupied striving for a better lifestyle, education, or neighborhood that you miss what really matters.

What is real success?

It’s what you do with your kids.

It has more to do with how you spend your time than how you spend your money. Children need a relationship more than they need things. The fact is there is no substitute for time.

It’s what you leave in your kids.

An inheritance is what you leave TO your children. A legacy is what you leave IN your children. One is temporary while the other is forever. Most parents plan, work, and strategize to leave an inheritance, but few have any systematic plan to leave a legacy. Transferring faith and values from one heart to the next takes a special kind of relationship.

It’s more than quantity time.

Spending a large amount of time with your children doesn’t automatically establish the right kind of relationship to leave something significant IN your children. It usually takes something more deliberate or more intentional.

It’s more than quality time.

Sometimes there is a tendency to think you can make up for missed time, but you can’t cram for relationships any more than you can get physically fit in a weekend or a week.

It’s the quantity of quality times.

Having a successful relationship with children requires consistent effort. In Deut. 6:7, Moses gave specific instructions for parents to know how to pass their values along to their children. He said, “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.”

It’s as simple as a routine.

Significant relationships need a practical routine. By rethinking and reprioritizing the routine, a parent can establish healthier relationships with their children and instill deeper values. So start by scheduling a few times this week to intentionally invest in your kids.



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