

insomnia

Week 4 Devotion

As parents, we often feel the weight on our shoulders to do everything right for our kids. What we need to remember is that God is in control—he has entrusted you to raise your kids for a brief period of time here on earth but, ultimately, they belong to him.

When it comes to your kids or kids in general, what keeps you up at night?

Think of how you treat other people—the words you use, your attitude toward them, etc. If your child (or someone else's child) copied your behaviors and language, how would that make you feel? What kind of example are you setting for them?

Read Deuteronomy 6:6-7. What parts of those verses are you doing well? What parts do you need to work on? What can you start implementing in your own family this week to apply these verses?

Read James 1:5. In what area of your life—whether it's regarding your kids or something else—do you need wisdom? How can you begin to seek wisdom for that situation this week, rather than just worrying about it?

Challenge

Interaction with God's word (the Bible) is the most important component to translate the morals, values, and faith that you want your kids to have. This week, commit to reading the Bible with your kids. Or, if you don't have kids, read it with your spouse, roommate, or a friend.

Commit to Memory

“Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.” Matthew 6:34

A Prayer for Entrusting Your Kids to God

*Dear God,
I surrender my desire to control my child.
I surrender my desire to manipulate their future.
I surrender my desire to overprotect, shelter, and suffocate them.
I surrender my desire to be their best friend, first.
I surrender my dreams for them.
I surrender my need to be their source.*

*I'm totally open, dependent, and desperate for you to be in control as I let go.
I'm relying on the fact that you are God, and that you have created my child for Your purpose.*

*I pray that You will draw them to yourself.
I pray that they delight in You.
I pray that You be patient with them.
I pray that You provide for them.
I pray that You bless them.
I pray that You use them to be a blessing to others.
I pray that You mature them
.... and ultimately, I pray that they show Jesus in their very being.*

*I trust in Your sovereignty
I wait in expectation for Your providence.*

*My child is yours.
Amen.*

-Author Unknown

What to Pray for Your Kids

1. That Jesus will call them and no one will hinder them from coming. (Matthew 19:13)
2. That they will respond in faith to Jesus's faithful, persistent call. (2 Peter 3:9)
3. That they will experience the transforming power of the Holy Spirit and will increasingly desire to fulfill the greatest commandments. (Matt 22:37-39)
4. That their thoughts will be pure. (Phil 4:8)
5. That they will make good choices throughout their lives. (Matt 6:33)
6. That they will find the future mate God has purposed for them. (Prov 3:5-6)
7. That when the time is right, they will GO! (Matt 28:18-20)