

Homework Assignments

Be DOERS of the word not hearers only

We do not recommend watching this entire video in one sitting. There is just too much REALLY GOOD stuff. A good goal for week #1 is to watch the first 21 minutes and 30 seconds. This section makes a good case for PROTECTING our children from the world around them and EQUIPPING/STRENGTHENING them to resist the dangers/temptations we cannot protect them from. For week two we recommend starting at 21 minutes 30 seconds and ending at 34 minutes and 15 seconds. For week three we have started at 34 minutes 15 seconds and continuing to the end of the tape. The homework assignments are divided accordingly. Choose the ones right for you.

But first a word about adjusting the timeline on Youtube. The timeline is the red line immediately under the video itself. Move your mouse cursor over the line and the white dot appears. Rest your mouse on this white dot and it tells how many minutes have elapsed since the video started. Right click on this dot, hold it down and you can drag the dot to any portion of the video, either ahead or back. (There is also a continuous digital clock just under the left side of the red time line.)

If you do not use all of the Homework Assignment could we ask that instead of throwing them away you consider saving them for a later date or sharing them with others. It has taken us thirty years to collect this material and we hate to think of it being thrown away. Being a parent is never over and neither is the homework. Choose the homework assignment you like best and put the rest on your fridge

A word of caution/explanation about section one of the video. This message from Dr. Stanley is absolutely the best we have ever seen...however...there is a moment that Dr. Stanley says "the way to train a child is NOT to sit down and share a Bible Verse". We suspect this was not his intent and have contacted Dr. Stanley who has said **THOUSANDS OF TIMES** for over fifty years that Daily Bible verses are important for children. In this sermon alone he recommends daily Bible reading for children at least twice. We DO agree with Dr. Stanley that Bible Thumping alone seldom works with children. To be effective our Gos-pills (Pocket Scriptures) should be mixed with love, a sincere parental model and the EXPECTATION that the Holy Spirit will make the verse real.

HOMEWORK FOR FIRST 21 1/2 MINUTES OF TAPE

For best results complete assignment one before moving on to #2.

Complete #2 before beginning #3

Assignment #1 (One Day Only). Watch the first 21 minutes 30 seconds of the message WITH your children. It will reveal to them where your heart is. It should also help them understand what you are trying to do and hopefully GET THEM ON YOUR SIDE.

Assignment #2 (One Week) Identify things your child might need protection from. The first part of this assignment is to make a list!! Dr. Stanley's list starts with television, other additions would be music, video games and friends. I cannot remember where I first heard the following idea but comes from a pastor who gave his children 5 cents each time they identified something in popular media that was against or contrary to God's word. Ten dollars worth of nickels is a bargain if it makes your child more alert to the dangers that surround him. A good start is to fill a bowl with nickels and every time the child spots a lie have HIM move a nickel from your bowl to his bowl. Just the sight of all the money will get him or her INVOLVED. Our kids NEED protected...and shown how to protect themselves.

Assignment #3 (Three Weeks) A second way to PROTECT our children from the popular media is to make children earn their TV or game time by coloring or memorizing a Bible verse for each half hour of TV they want to watch. It is a good way to give God equal time. For free printable Bible Coloring pages and memory verses go to www.bibleparent.com and click on "All in one Parent Take Homes". Choose a topic from the archive list and print out as many pages as you need, You might even print a few to share with your church.

It has taken us many long years to put together these homework assignments. We pray you will not throw them away but save them for future use or share them with your church.

Homework for part two of the message

We add our voice to Dr. Stanley's in guaranteeing these tips.

Introduction to 11 tips (One Day Only). Watch the second part of Dr. Stanley's sermon WITH your children. It will reveal to them where your heart is. It should also help them understand what you are trying to do and hopefully GET THEM ON YOUR SIDE. *This section of the video starts at 21minutes 30 seconds and ends at 34 minutes 15 seconds.* Announce that from this day on your family intends to PUT GOD.....FIRST.

Tip #1: Give them quality TIME. (Once a day for the next ten years.) Set a DAILY time that belongs to each child...a time they can count on. Tell your child WHEN that time is and write him an IOU each time you absolutely MUST miss his or her time. If you forget, your child will remember. The AVERAGE father spends less than one minute of quality time per day, less than five minutes a week with his children. Moms are so busy the amount of quality time may be even less. *If you can't make at least 15 minutes per day per child you may as well forget the next ten tips.* When possible let the child choose what you do. Those who feel they do not have even 15 minutes per day per child can double up by using two of the tips at www.childrenafterdivorce.com. Click first on "Resources for moms" and then "Recovery in the Kitchen" OR "Whistle While You Work". These two activities not only give a child a sense of being loved/valued but a sense of contributing. The children of divorce are in special need of a daily time they can count on.

Tip # 2. LISTEN to your children (and your spouse) carefully. (One Week) The principle is time tested. If you don't listen to them they WON'T listen to you. Put the word LISTEN on your front door for at least a week. Life can be so busy we often forget what is important. Reminders like the word LISTEN on your door can help. For very young children LISTENING may mean STOOPING DOWN and looking into their eyes. Parents who do not make a point of stooping and listening may as well skip the next 9 tips.

Tip #3. Admit when you are wrong and APOLOGIZE...if necessary ask for forgiveness. (One Week) If you can't admit to a child when you are wrong they will not be able to bring their MISTAKES to you. If you can't be human with your children skip the next eight tips. Put a reminder "ADMIT WHEN YOU ARE WRONG" on the front door. You may not be quite as wrong as the child thinks but apologize anyway. The child will remember it always and love you for it.

Tip #4: Love them UNCONDITIONALLY. (One week) To love a child only when he lives up to our expectations will surely lead to an ANGRY rebellious child. That is why each of us must ask God to help us love the child we have, the child He has given us. The first step is to SEE a child's need rather than what we consider to be his failings. This week's homework assignment is to LOOK at each of your children for at least one minute a day... seeing how they are feeling, seeing what they need, seeing the good things God has put in them. *Surely no parent is too busy to look carefully at each of their children for at least one minute a day.*

A few ideas to help a child FEEL loved even during difficult times are:

1. Get a kids' music tape and even if you are bad learn to sing at least one song TOGETHER.
2. Make it a point to let the child accidentally hear you say something nice about him or her to someone else. NEVER let a child hear you say something bad about him to another person.
3. Do something ridiculous or funny, chasing him or her, having a pillow fight, making a face, or my favorite getting a couple of water pistols or nerf guns.
4. Next time you are feeling grouchy or tired apologize, then ask for a little hug telling the child that his or her hugs always make you feel better.

Love takes practice, thought, and prayer.

Tips #5: Discipline motivated by the desire to protect. (One Week) In today's world many parents are letting children raise themselves. We urge you NOT to give up on discipline, but don't forget MERCY. With some children a gentle word produces both REPENTANCE and a change of heart. Other children are not so easy. The homework assignment for this week is to find out which sort of children you have. Before disciplining/correcting a child EXPLAIN why his or her behavior was wrong...then offer the child MERCY: "If you stop the bad behavior and promise not to repeat it there will be no punishment...no timeout or extra chores."

Offering mercy is God's chosen way of dealing with his children. It puts a child in control of his or her own behavior AND reduces conflict/stress between parent and child. If a child abuses the mercy shown him...be FIRM. Do not give up on discipline. Do not give up on mercy, but don't allow it to be abused. This week BEFORE disciplining an erring child offer mercy and a chance at self control.

Authors note to those who use physical correction: First, IF you do use physical correction, once or twice a year should be more than enough and not on a child under age four or over age of ten. Using it more than twice a month indicates that it is not working and may be child abuse. Find another way. Never strike a child in anger. The child must KNOW that you are using the rod for his good. Third, do not strike a child with your hand or in a place that could injure him. Use a switch, pick a place that may sting but will not injure.

Tip #6: Motivate your children to be all they can be. This week catch your children being good. At least once a day COMPLIMENT your children. *The child who is hardest to compliment is the one who needs it most.* Check off each day you compliment/encourage each child.

Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.

A second good idea is to ask your children's librarian to select some age appropriate books on a variety of occupations, doctor, pastor, mechanic, etc.. After a week or so ask your child which is their favorite, Help your child explore and learn more about their area of interest.

This is the end of section two and the beginning of section three.

Tip#7: Lead them to FULLY understand their ultimate accountability is to God. (Twenty minutes per child.) Ask each of your children the following questions.

1. What happens if you break one of your parents rules?
2. Could you get hurt?
3. What happens if you break a rule at school?
4. Could you get hurt?
4. What happens if you break a city or state LAW?
6. Could you get hurt?
5. What happens if you break one of God's rules?
8. Could you get hurt?
9. Whose rules are most important? (not sure about this next one)
10. Does God make rules because he doesn't like you OR because he likes you very very much and wants to protect you?

Tip #8: Teach them that the most important thing in life is their PERSONAL, INTIMATE, relationship with Jesus Christ. The number one reason most parents do not witness to their own children is that their own relationship with Jesus is not what it could be. You can't give what you don't have. You can't teach what you don't know. Make this week YOUR WEEK to get closer to our Lord. Go to www.teachustoprayer.com and click "Prayer Crafts and Activities", then scroll down and click on the second activity "Prayer Jars". Do this activity WITH your children. Nothing will make Jesus more real and personal than sticking with a prayer long enough to get the ANSWER. There are enough prayer activities at this site to last an entire year.

Tip # 9. Teach them to spend DAILY time reading the word of God and in prayer. The children who do this will be our nation's leaders and yet fewer than one out of 1,000 parents shares even one Bible verse (Gos-pill) a month. Our main website www.bibleparent.com is the ONLY website in the entire world with free PRINTABLE DAILY bible verses. We hope you visit us and try at least one of the "All-in-one-Parent-Takehomes". The great thing about our "Gos-pills" is that all a parent has to do is snip off a verse and tuck it in their child's pocket with a quick prayer that God make the verse real. There are verses on dealing with emotions as well as salvation, faith etc

Tip #10 Etch into their minds that God has a plan for their life. Few parents and very very few children ever consider

"PUTTING GOD FIRST"

Most of us keep him in third or fourth place which is just not good enough. This week ask yourself and your children to DECIDE if God is to be first or NOT. It will be the most important decision you or they ever make. If you decide to put God first there are enough prayer activities at www.teachustoprayer.com to last an entire year. For daily PRINTED scriptures there is no better site than www.bibleparent.com. When we put God first His plan for our lives will come through loud and clear. Otherwise we and our children will get second best maybe third or fourth best.

Tip#11: Teach them to obey God and leave ALL the consequences to him. Salvation (being remade into Christ's Image) is a work of God. Our part is simply to "TRUST & OBEY". We hope you put these two words on your front door. Your children should see them every day of his their lives. He or She will remember them all their lives.

TRUST & OBEY

GOD