

## Parenting for Eternity

Wouldn't it be great if when our children were born they came with a manual on parenting? The Scripture is our manual, and it is replete with helps to raise our children to honor and love the Lord. This workshop will give practical helps and tools for raising our children to not just obey outwardly, but to have the heart attitude that will please the Lord.

**Ann Pritchard Blaser** has two degrees in education and taught school in the public school system. She has been actively involved in Bible Study Fellowship for thirty years training leaders and teaching women to study the Bible. She taught the study of Scripture for twenty-two years with classes of as many as 650 women and leadership groups of over seventy. Ann's ministry has recently changed and now she is advising and shepherding other teaching leaders. In addition to BSF she has traveled overseas to do women's conferences where she helps women to learn how to study the Bible systematically and how to write lectures and teach others. Ann and her husband Bill have two grown children who are following Christ and two young grandsons.

### Introduction:

What person in Scripture do you want your child to be like?

What is it to "resolve"? What did Daniel learn before he was taken into captivity?

Living in a pagan culture

Parenting with the long view

Every child – a potential tyrant

Rescuing your children from themselves

Teaching them what we know of God

### I. Raising our Children to Know God

A Raising a budding theologian

B. Knowing God is the single most important thing a person can ever learn

C. Character of God – Flash card and game

Explain the pictures and qualities of God's character

For each card do a short lesson: (see page 5)

Examples of how to play a game with the flash cards

D. Once we know the character qualities of God....what difference do they make?

E. Ask questions about the character of God as you read Scripture

## **II. The Needs of Your Child    Tim Keller**

A. A need for security

B. A need for significance

C. A need for strength

## **III. Scripture Memorization**

A. They can memorize TV commercials    Romans 8:38-39

B. Summer program

C. Resource for Scripture Memorization (see page 6)

#### **IV. Incorporating Prayer in Your Parenting**

- A. Lamentations 2:19 – "Arise, cry out in the night, as the watches of the night begin; pour out your heart like water in the presence of the Lord. Lift up your hands to Him for the lives of your children..."
  
- B. Quote from John Wesley – God will do nothing but in answer to prayer."
  
- C. God wants to hear our prayers
  
- D. Other ideas
  
- E. Bible Study Fellowship International prayer suggestions (see page 7)
  
- F. Undesirable character traits

#### **V. How to Lead Your Child to Christ**

#### **Conclusion: A mom named Charlotte**

How does God call you to build into a child's life today?

## Bibliography

Kimmel, Dr. Tim, Grace Based Parenting, Thomas Nelson Publishing

Plowman, Ginger, "Don't Make Me Count to Three!" A Mom's Look at Heart-Oriented Discipline, Shepherd Press

Priolo, Lou, Teach Them Diligently, How to Use the Scriptures in Child Training, Timeless Texts Publishing

Durbin, Kara, Parenting with Scripture, A Topical Guide for Teachable Moments, Moody Publishers

Bible Study Fellowship International – Home Training Lessons

## **Character of God**

**Sovereign** – ruler, king, God rules over all – picture a crown - have children make a crown and decorate it.

**Omnipotent** – all powerful – Picture a strong muscular arm - nothing is too difficult for God; have children make a list of things/people that are really strong. Remind them that God is stronger than all of those things/people

**Omnipresent** – God is present in all places in all times – have the children draw an "eye" - Play "Hide and Seek". Afterward, discuss that God can see us and is with us wherever we are. We cannot hide from Him.

**Omniscient** – God knows all things. God knows all the things in all of the books in the world and he knows far more than the smartest people in the world. Ask them to think about all the books in their library at school. God knows everything. He knows where every bird is, He knows how many hairs are on your head!

**Love** – God has so much love for us that He gave His Son to die for our sins so that we could live forever with Him in heaven. He loves us even when we make mistakes. He cannot love us more and He will not love us less. Draw pictures of the baby Jesus in the manger.

**Holy**- God is always good and perfect. He does not do or say anything that is wrong. Show two t-shirts, one that is new and perfectly white and one that is dingy and dirty. God has no spots at all.

**Trinity** – God is three in one, God the Father, God the Son (Jesus) and God the Holy Spirit. He is three persons in one being. Show an apple or an egg and talk about the three parts. Talk about water being liquid, steam and ice. There are no really good pictures of the Trinity because the Trinity is so much more than we can know.

**Immutable** – God never changes- He is always the same – Bring a very hard rock and bang on it with a hammer. Explain that the rock may change, but that God never changes.

**Eternal** – God has no beginning and He has no ending. He has always existed and He will always exist. Use a ring or a hoola-hoop and ask the children to find the beginning of it...the end of it.

**Justice** – God is perfectly just. He never blames the wrong person. He knows exactly what is fair and what is not. Show a judge's gavel and talk about how human beings don't always know what is just and right, but God does.

## Resource for Scripture Memorization

Anger: Psalm 37:8a; Proverbs 15:1; James 1:19-20

Attitude: Philippians 2:5; Colossians 3:23-24; I Thessalonians 5:16-18

Compassion: Ephesians 4:32; I Peter 3:8

Complaining: I Corinthians 10:10a; I II Philippians 2:14-16; Jude 16

Contentment: Philippians 4:12; I Timothy 6:6-8; Hebrews 13:5

Cursing: Exodus 20:7; Psalm 19:14; Ephesians 4:29, 5:4

Discipline: Proverbs 5:23, 10:17, 29:7; Hebrews 12:5b-11

Fighting: Matthew 5:9; II Corinthians 10:4; Galatians 5:14-15; I Peter 3:8

Forgiveness: Genesis 50:17; Luke 17:3; Romans 6:23; Colossians 3:13

Honesty: Exodus 20:16; Psalm 120:2; Proverbs 12:19, 22; Matthew 5:37

Humility; II Chronicles 7:14; Proverbs 11:2; Matthew 23:12; Philippians 2:3-4

Idolatry: Exodus 20:3; Habakkuk 2:18; I Corinthians 8:4b

Jealousy: Exodus 20:17; Proverbs 14:30; Romans 12:15a; II Corinthians 12:20

Kindness: Luke 6:31; I Corinthians 13:4; Ephesians 4:32; I Thessalonians 5:15

Laziness: Proverbs 10:4-5, 20:13; I Thessalonians 5:14; Hebrews 6:12

Obedience: Romans 16: 19; Ephesians 6:1-4; James 1:22-25; I John 5:3

Pride: Proverbs 8:13, 13:10, 16:18; Romans 12:16b; II Corinthians 7:4

Respect: Leviticus 19:3, 32; I Thessalonians 4:11-12a; Hebrews 13:17

Revenge: Leviticus 19:18; Proverbs 20:22; Romans 12:17-21; I Peter 3:9

Self-Control: Proverbs 25:16, 28; I Thessalonians 5:8; Titus 2:6; I Peter 5:8-9

Sharing: Luke 3:11; Romans 12:13; I Timothy 6:18; Hebrews 13: 16

Temptation: Psalm 19:13; I Corinthians 10:12-13; Ephesians 6:10-11

Thankfulness: Psalm 11:4-5; II Corinthians 9:15; I Thessalonians 5:16-18

Weariness: Isaiah 40:28-31; Matthew 11:28; Galatians 6:9; Hebrews 12:3

Worry: Proverbs 12:25; Matthew 6:25-27, 6:34; Philippians 4:6-7; I Peter 5:7

## **Pray that your child will:**

1. Know Jesus Christ as Savior early in life (Ps. 63:1; 71:17; II Tim. 3:15)
2. Have a hatred for sin and a fearful respect for his own vulnerability to temptation (Ps. 97:10; Matt. 26:41)
3. Be caught and called to account when guilty (Ps. 38:5-6, 17-18; 119:71)
4. Be protected from the evil one in each area of his life: spiritual, emotional, and physical (Luke 22:31; John 17:15)
5. Have an attitude of Christian morality and responsibility in all her interpersonal relationships (Ro. 14:21; I Cor. 13:4-5; I Tim. 4:12)
6. Respect those in authority over him (Ro. 13:1)
7. Desire the right kind of friends, be protected from the wrong associations (Ps. 91:9-11; Prov. 1:10-11, 15; Hosea 2:6)
8. Rely on God's direction regarding marriage, being kept from the wrong choice and being saved for the right marriage partner (Ps. 37:4-5; II Cor. 6:14-17)
9. Choose to remain pure until the time of marriage and that the one he is to marry will also remain pure (I Cor. 6:18-20)
10. Learn to submit totally to God and resist Satan actively in all circumstances (Ps. 119:1; 143:10; James 4:7)
11. Be single hearted in living and applying God's Word, using its wisdom rather than the world's standards to make decisions in his life (Ps. 19:7; 84:10; 119:10; Ro. 12:1-2)
12. Allow God to mature within him the character of Christ that will be lived out in a lifetime of service and submission to Him (Ps. 90:12, 17; Luke 2:52; Ro. 8:29)