

**Mother's Day - Psalm 78:1-7**  
**May 11, 2008 - Skip MacMillan**

***What is the one thing you would give your child, if you had it in your power to give?  
What is the one thing you want for them?***

**The Call - Psalm 78:1-7**

Tell your children about the Lord.

Tell her what He has done in the stories of the Bible from long ago.

Tell her of the power of God.

His power over creation: speaking into being, calming storms, parting waters, and calling rains to fall.

His power over sin to redeem humanity, that one day all there will be is love and wisdom.

Tell her one day there will be no more pain, sorrow, sadness or crying, that He is making all things new.

Tell her about the heart of God, and how He views His sons and daughters, Isaiah 62.

Tell her what he has done in your personal life:

How he has redeemed you; tell of His forgiveness, love and mercy.

How he is helping you today and what He means to you personally.

Tell the difference He is making in your own life, that His love is changing you from the inside out.

Tell how His presence influences your thoughts and actions.

Tell all the great things He has done in your family.

Tell them that God is the source of all "love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control."

Personally, my wife and children are a sign and reminder of God's mercy and grace toward me. I need to tell them how He changed me with His love and forgave me.

**Questions from Baptism:**

***Do you acknowledge your child's need of the atoning sacrifice of Jesus Christ and the renewing grace of the Holy Spirit? WE DO.***

You believe in Christ first, believe the Gospel and our need for the Gospel.

Tell them (your child) the Gospel, the greatness of Christ's atoning sacrifice: moving us from death to life; hopeless to hope-filled; alienated to holy, without blemish and free from accusation.

Explain to her, her need of Christ more than anything else in life, that He is that one thing you want most for her.

Why?

Because in Christ is bound up all the glory of God, all hope, all wisdom, all love, all truth, and all power.

That with Christ she is secure, strong, safe, eternally secure.

***Do you call on God's covenant promises in (their) behalf, that He will be (their) God and Savior, and do you look in faith to the Lord Jesus Christ for (their) salvation, as you do for your own? WE DO.***

You need to know what God promises in Genesis 17:7.  
Tell her of God's promises to be her (his) God.

Call on God to fulfill His promises to you, "I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you."

Specifically, speak the Gospel into them, make it clear to your child that it is through faith in Jesus Christ that we are saved, not by works. "That if you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved" (Romans 10:9) (see also John 6:39, Ephesians 2:1-10, Colossians 1:21-23).

*Do this with gentleness and wisdom; it cannot be forced! It must be believed and owned in their heart!*

Trust God with their salvation; love the LORD, love your husband and child, and trust God to be faithful.

***Do you now dedicate your child to God and promise, in humble reliance upon the Lord's strength, grace and teachings that you will live before (them) an example of a life being loved by God and loving God and your neighbor? WE DO.***

### **Lifestyle**

"When you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up" (Deut. 6:7).

Your life and lifestyle is telling a story, telling priorities; have your life tell the story of God. God the Spirit is at work in you and through you; call on the Lord for strength and help.

**Loved by God:** you must be experiencing God's unconditional love for you! You must receive it first.

Zephaniah 3:14-17

This is the kind of love God has for you. Know it, experience it, and pass it on!

**Love your neighbor:** Demonstrated by the things you say, by serving others, attitude, seeing your mission as loving others.

"As you have heard from the beginning, His command is that you walk in love" (2 John 1:6).

***Will you point (them) to the heart of God, teach (them) the Scriptures, pray with (them) and for (them) and will you strive to love (them) as (their) heavenly Father loves (them)? WE WILL.***

### **Heart of God**

In-tune with the heart of God, His love and grace in your own life.

Time with God so you have something to give to your child, learning Psalm 78, Isaiah 62, etc.

You are painting a picture of God to them.

What are you painting? What did your parents paint for you?

### **Scripture**

Mom and Dad, open up the Bible with them, don't let them leave having not seen you open it up with them. Read, ask questions, wonder, gain new understanding, make it a part of the family.

Be committed to God by building your lives around what Christ says.  
Show her that what you believe is found in these pages, that your actions are governed by this Book.  
May they leave your home having heard the Scriptures, read, discussed, asked questions, and knowing the Scriptures.

### **Prayer**

Get the family together and pray together.  
You begin the prayer and then ask them to pray and you close.  
Find time to pray.

### **Love**

Love them as their heavenly Father loves them.  
Love covers over a thousand mistakes.  
1 Peter 4:8- "Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins."  
Love is, 1 Cor. 13 =

### **Husbands, your role:**

*"I have been emailing with my best friend and he and his wife are in the middle of a divorce. I had no idea until last week. Not to get into the details but it falls right into the same pattern as we were discussing last night. My wife and I were talking and we both agreed that men probably stray to fill a physical need. Women stray to fill an emotional need. Anyway, I think we as men have a huge responsibility to tell our wives every day how awesome they are and how much we need them and love them. When I do that with my wife (and man does she deserve it), she is a completely different person. I need to do it more often."*

### **Conclusion**

Tell them of "the praiseworthy deeds of the LORD, his power, and the wonders He has done".  
Recognize your child's need is for a relationship with her Creator and heavenly Father.  
Call on God to fulfill His promises to be their God and to walk with your child all her days.  
Live in the love God has for you and love Him in response with all your heart, mind, soul and strength.  
Then point them to the heart of God.