

Back To School!

by Wayne Goff

Our children are headed back to school and we hope are prepared for another wonderful school year. Parents, did you remember to get them everything they needed for school? Here's a few suggestions that we sometimes overlook.

1. **Values.** Be sure to equip your children with God's moral values. The Judeo-Christian values of the Bible are **not** in vogue in America today, so you will have to teach them to your children *before* they go to school.

Values like serving God daily, not cursing, honoring their teachers and class mates, not stealing, not cheating on homework or exams, not lying about others, and not coveting their class mates' things. Emily and I remember going to school in our formative years and so badly wanting a **Nifty** notebook and **Tot** stapler! *Now those were the things to have back then!*

2. **Character.** Someone once said that "character is what you are when nobody is watching." But what we mean by "character" is the "*moral qualities distinctive in a person.*" Do you always display honesty, decency, kindness, etc.? If you do, then you have good character. If you act one way at home or at church, and another way around your friends, then you *lack character*.

3. **Responsibility.** This is simply being *accountable for yourself*. Do your homework. Study, take notes, prepare for tests, and do your *own* work. There is a lot of that missing from schools these days. Do not succumb to the temptation to *blame others* for your problems. Own up to your shortcomings and faults, and you will then be proud of who you are and what you have done during your school days.

"Let's see, do we have everything for school?" I sure hope so! The most important things are invisible and invaluable!

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