

Five Ingredients for Raising Children {concluded}

by Wayne Goff

Make Them Do Chores

Julie Lythcott-Haims, dean of freshmen at Stanford University, and author of the NY Times bestseller, *How to Raise an Adult*, discovered that people need two things to be successful in life: love and a work ethic.

So how do you develop a work ethic in young children? By making them do chores – they realize the importance of work in life in order to succeed. Doing dishes, mowing the lawn, taking out the garbage, walking the dog, cleaning their rooms – all the things that children balk at and parents have to nag them about. But it's worth the effort, parents. The happiest children I see around the country when I go to Gospel Meetings are children who have been trained to work hard and well. “*For even when we were with you, we commanded you this: If anyone will not work, neither shall he eat*” (2 Thessalonians 3:10). Now why is that not also true for our children?

There is a reason God gave children **parents**. To train them in life and in the way of the Lord. Yes, it's easier to just let them “grow up” without any training. But it's just plain wrong, Proverbs 22:6; Ephesians 6:1-4.

Article cited from www.inc.com. Written by Bill Murphy, Jr. “Want to Raise Successful Kids? Science Says Do These 5 Things Every Day.”

To Help Us Pray More Often & Better

by Bill Crews

To help us pray more often than we do, and better than we do, we need:

1. A great sense of God's presence, Psalm 139:7-12; Acts 17:27 – we should want to speak to those who are present.
2. A greater love for God, Matthew 22:36-37; 1 John 5:3 – we should want to talk to those we love.
3. More diligent study of the Word of God, Psalm 2:2; Colossians 3:16 – the more we listen to God, the more we have to say to Him.
4. A greater faith in the efficacy of prayer, Matthew 7:7-8; James 5:16-17 – faith leads to prayer, and we must pray in faith, James 1:5-6; Mark 11:24.
5. A deeper sense of our own sins, weaknesses, limitations and needs, James 5:13; 1 John 1:9; James 4:2-3 – arrogant, self-righteous, self-sufficient, impenitent people are not praying people. Humble, convicted, penitent, trusting people are praying people.
6. More gratitude for God's abundant blessings, James 1:17; Acts 17:24-25 – grateful people give thanks for their blessings.
7. A greater awareness of our utter dependency upon God, Acts 17:28; Job 12:10 – this will lead us to be submissive, lowly, petitioning people.

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