

The five Cs we wanted for our kids:

1. **C**_____

They would feel good about themselves and they would know who they are because of whose they are.

2. **C**_____

They would have a moral compass of values - making decisions of integrity, informed by an understanding of right and wrong.

3. **C**_____

They would have beliefs grounded on biblical truth, internalized to the point of intentional action.

4. **C**_____

They would be secure enough to focus on others and their needs.

5. **C**_____

They would be able to function and thrive knowing they have God-given gifts. Having developed some skills, that they would become effective contributors to the world around them.

Ten actions kids need from caring adults

#1: Strong _____ – In your role as a parent (or adult of influence).

- When you welcome a child, you _____.

Jesus took a little child whom He placed among them. Taking the child in His arms, He said to them, "Whoever welcomes one of these little children in My name welcomes Me..." Mark 9:36-37

- Children are a _____ and a _____ from the Lord.

Behold, children are a gift of the Lord; the fruit of the womb is a reward. Like arrows in the hand of a warrior so are the children of one's youth. How blessed is the man whose quiver is full of them... Psalm 127:3-5a

- God gives children to be _____ and _____ on His behalf.

#2: Ongoing _____ – Affection must be provided consistently and appropriately.

Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.

Romans 12:10

- When children are :
 - Young - they hug easily... _____ and enjoy it while it lasts
 - Older - they tend to resist... _____ and don't become passive aggressive
- An unaffectionate father will produce:
 - Boys who don't know how to express themselves emotionally
 - Girls who will express themselves sexually

#3: Encouraging _____ – Children are starving for the fuel of encouragement.

- Children _____ their need for encouraging words.

Thoughtless words cut deeply like a thrusting sword. But the speech of the wise is a healing balm.

Proverbs 12:18

- Words have the ability to _____ a child's life for the positive or the negative
 - When you see something positive, say it!
 - If you're constantly on their case about stuff, you are conditioning them to avoid you.
- Key: Don't _____ encouragement back and you won't be disappointed.
- A lot of language directed at kids is either
 - Shame oriented
 - Performance oriented
- So when they hit a homerun or they strike out, the encouragement is the _____ :
"I love watching you play!"

Encourage toward those five Cs:

- Confidence: “I thought you were very brave... diving in when you were scared.”
- Character: “I’m amazed at how patient you are with your little brother.”
- Compassion: “I noticed that mom didn’t want to get up from the couch and you got the remote for her. I love seeing you serve other people.”
- Conviction: “I was really proud of the way you spoke up about what’s important to you.”
- Competence: “I can see the progress you’re making. Your hard work is showing.”

The words of the wicked are like a murderous ambush. But the words of the godly save lives. Proverbs 12:6

A good person produces good words from a good heart and an evil person produces evil words from an evil heart. Matthew 12:35

My story...

- When Jesus changed my heart, my parenting changed.
- The best help will come up short if you don’t understand how God sees you... because you wind up parenting from –
 - a wounded heart
 - a broken heart
 - a wrong identity

Follow God’s example, therefore, as dearly loved children. Ephesians 5:1