

**P210**

**GRACE NOTES RADIO PROGRAM**

**TITLE: What every child needs.**

**SONGS: BELONG TO ME**

**PRAY FOR ME**

**INTRO: The family is under tremendous pressure these days.**

**There's a war raging against our kids. They're faced with problems in mammoth proportions, unlike those of any other generation - moral decay, mounting crime, devastating disease, limited career opportunities – increasing insecurity. No wonder the suicide rate for teens has sky-rocketed.**

**Today, on Grace Notes, Barbara Sandbek will take a look at the role we parents, can play in helping our youth.**

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**First, I want to say that we all may feel powerless to change the environment we live in, but we can do something about our own family.**

**THE BEST WAY TO START IS BY GIVING GOD CONTROL OF OUR LIVES.**

**1 Peter 5:8 says...**

**The devil roams around like a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour.**

**He'll devour us and our family unless we follow what James 4:7 says...**

**SUBMIT YOURSELVES to God, resist the devil, and he will flee from you.**

**Back in Joshua's day, it must have been unpopular to want to follow God's laws, but Joshua took a stand. He said in Joshua 24:15...**

**Choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve...but as for me and MY HOUSEHOLD, we will serve the Lord.**

**WE NEED TO TELL OUR KIDS & THE WORLD THAT WE STAND FOR THE LORD!**

**WE ALSO NEED TO TELL OUR KIDS WE'LL STAND UP FOR THEM.**

**Our children are like a African violets. We wouldn't think twice about exposing these flowers to direct sunlight – it would kill them. So, too, our children shouldn't be left alone to experience the direct blows of the world's system. They need protection. Best weapon we have against our kids predators is to steer them clear of evil by saying 'NO' even if 'YES' is more convenient.**

**In Africa, when a lion comes, most animals leave their young, but the water buffalo stays and circles around them. Let's be like the water buffalo for our children's sake.**

### **WE NEED TO TELL OUR KIDS ABOUT GOD**

**God established families to pass on the truth of His Word. Deuteronomy 6:7 says we're to teach God's words DILIGENTLY to our children, when we sit at home, walk along the road, lie down, and get up.**

**These are 'ACTION' words - we're to show them God by example. It's like 'Show (then) Tell'. A picture is worth a thousand words.**

**The thing I remember most about my mom was seeing her on her knees, praying. I picture my dad on stage preaching, while we waited to sing.**

**Yes, our walk talks louder than our talk talks – but we still do need to take time to talk to our kids about God.**

**According to the Wall Street Journal, American parents spend, on the average, "less than 15 minutes a week in serious discussion with their children".**

**When we talk, we should choose our words wisely. Share experiences where God answered prayer or increased our faith – rather than 'fried preacher' stories. We can do so much damage to our child's opinion of Christians by careless discussions the Bible calls 'idle chatter'.**

**When children live with criticism - they will learn to criticize.  
When children live with anger - they learn to be angry.**

**When children live with unforgiveness - they learn not to forgive.**

**Another thing we should do is it admit to our kids that we don't have all the answers – only God does. And His answers are found in His Word, so read the Bible together.**

**2 Timothy 3:16-17 says...**

**All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.**

**Pray with your children, too. Show them how to pray and be sure to share the answers with them. Nothing is too insignificant to ask God's help for.**

### **WE NEED TO TELL GOD ABOUT OUR KIDS.**

**In Job Chapter 1, we see that Job prayed continually for his kids so that they wouldn't sin. He acted as priest for his family. We have a perfect High Priest, Jesus, who will intercede for us when we pray.**

**Dale & I have prayed for our sons from the time they were born – for their future wives, for them to follow God's perfect will and be used by God.**

**God won't give you a child that His wisdom and grace won't enable you to handle. We prayed for this, too.**

**There was a point in one of our sons lives when God told us to stop nagging and start praying fervently. This made a real difference. I remember saying to him...It's just a matter of time...we're praying for you. There's nothing more consoling than to hear those words..."I'm praying for you".**

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**\*\*\* PRAY FOR ME \*\*\***  
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## **LISTEN TO YOUR KIDS – You'll learn a lot.**

**I see the parents' role as that of a coach. There should be a two-way interchange between the coach and the player. A coach doesn't live their lives, he guides, advises, encourages and disciplines.**

**Discipline shows our love. Proverbs 13:24 says...**

**He who spares the rod hates his son, but he who loves him is careful to discipline him.**

**The discipline referred to here is training, either by word or deed.**

**A coach sees through their players' mistakes to what they can BECOME. That's how God sees us. We should do the same for our kids.**

**In the book entitled, 'The One Minute Manager', there's a statement that says we should catch people doing something RIGHT. It may take a while to see it, but you'll be surprised at your child's response when you notice it.**

## **PUT YOURSELF IN YOUR CHILD'S SHOES**

**Philippians 1:6 says...**

**He who hath begun a good work in you will perform it to the Day of Jesus Christ..**

**God isn't finished with ANY of us, so don't expect your kids to be adults before they're ready.**

**Be quick to forgive and slow to punish – like God is.**

**God made families to learn from each other, to share love and to show unity as a testimony.**

**There is POWER in a unified family.**

**The key to unity is servanthood.**

**We need to serve one another in love.**

**We're in a battle against a great foe - but we have a greater God who a says we don't have to fight alone.**

**The most consoling thing I ever realized as a parent, is that we don't have to be a parent in God's sight. He wants us to come to Him as a child would - we don't need to have all the answers. In our hurting times when we feel so alone - remember...He sees us and our kids both as his children. We're precious in His sight.**

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**\*\*\* BELONG TO ME \*\***

**Thanks for joining the program.**

**If you've been blessed, please write to us at**

**Grace Notes**

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**Join us again on our next program. Until then, let your grace notes be a song of praise!**