

Nurturing Faith & Values in Early Parenthood

**Key Principles for Raising Responsible and Kind
Children**

Ebune Achor Simeon

Scriptural passages

- 1Sam. 1:11; 2:11; 8:1-5
- 2Pet. 1-5-8
- Exodus 2:1-10
- Heb. 11:24-25
- Num. 27:1-8

Samuel's Strong Spiritual Foundation

- He grew up in a sacred environment,
- learning to listen to God's voice and serve Him faithfully.
- This prepared him to be a strong prophet, judge, and leader of Israel.

Lack of Positive Parental Influence

- Being raised in the temple
- Samuel had limited parental guidance from his own family.
- His primary role models were:
 - Eli
 - Hophni
 - Phinehas

Repeating Eli's Mistakes

- Samuel's own sons, Joel and Abijah, did not follow his righteous ways.
- were corrupt, accepting bribes and perverting justice (1 Samuel 8:1-3).
- mirrored Eli's failure to properly discipline his sons
- Samuel may not have been an active or strict father.

Lessons from Samuel's Experience

- Faithfulness to God is crucial, but parenting requires intentional guidance and correction.
- A godly upbringing does not automatically guarantee righteous children—active teaching and discipline are necessary.
- Parents must balance their roles—whether in ministry or leadership—without neglecting their family.

On Moses.... Early Influence Shapes Character

- Moses' mother secretly nurtured him during his early years
- This foundation influenced his later decision
- Early childhood training in faith and values impacts lifelong decisions

Lead by Example

- Children learn from what they see. Demonstrate kindness, honesty, patience, and respect in daily life.

Encourage Empathy & Kindness

- Teach kids to recognize and respect others' feelings through
- sharing,
- taking turns, and
- understanding perspectives.

Foster Gratitude

- Practice gratitude as a family by saying
- 'thank you,'
- appreciating small things, and
- acknowledging efforts.

Teach Responsibility

- Assign age-appropriate tasks like
- making their bed,
- doing chores, etc. to build accountability.
- “As your Children grow up, learn to reduce their comfort and Increase their responsibility”

Promote Honesty & Integrity

- Create a safe space where children feel comfortable admitting mistakes without fear.

Cultivate Respect for All

- Correct Disrespectful Behavior Calmly
- Teach Respect for Personal Space and Property
- Teach the Power of Words

Encourage Assertiveness, Not Rudeness

- Teach them to say "no" firmly but respectfully:
- Support Their Decisions:
 - respect their choice.
- Build Their Self-Confidence:
 - reinforce their right to set boundaries.

Encourage Perseverance

- Praise effort over results, teaching kids that mistakes are learning opportunities.

Instill a Love for Learning

- Encourage curiosity by:
- reading books
- Exploring
- and having meaningful conversations.

Set Boundaries with Love

- Use consistent and fair discipline to reinforce that actions have consequences while showing love.

Practice Generosity & Service

- Engage children in acts of giving, like donating toys or helping others, to nurture generosity.

Rules of Life

- 1. Pay Attention to Details
- 2. Focus
- 3. Honesty
- 4. Obedience
- 5. Don't stop until you finish
- 6. Be grateful and faithful
- 7. Seek correct knowledge
- 8. Stop, think and act
- 9. Know more, Earn more
- 10. No excuses, get it done

Rules of Life Cont.

- 11. Provide Solution
- 12. God first, family then others (GFO)
- 13. If it is critical, do it yourself (DIY)
- 14. Write the vision
- 15. First things first
- 16. No shortcuts
- 17. Courtesy wins
- 18. Moderation is the key
- 19. Earn, Save and invest more
- 20. Be prompt and punctual