

*Creating an*  
environment of growth



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“Home” shapes our perceptions of life, it gives us our security or lack of it, it defines our identity, it teaches us how to relate to others, it shapes the way we love, the way we hate, the way we see God, the way we behave.

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You have the power to determine the memories, the standards, and the behaviours of your children by the environment you choose to create in your home.

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*“At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?” He called a little child and had him stand among them. And he said: “I tell you the truth, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven...”*

**Matthew 18:1-6 (NIV)**

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*...Therefore, whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. And whoever welcomes a little child like this in my name welcomes me. But if anyone causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a large millstone hung around his neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea.”*

**Matthew 18:1-6 (NIV)**

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What might our children be saying to us?

**“I am not an  
easy target.”**



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Example:  
“*Let [Jesus’]  
blood be on us  
and on our  
children!*”

Matthew 27:25 (NIV)

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Children cannot  
be the target of  
our own bad  
decisions.

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What might our children be saying to us?

**“Don’t be  
embarrassed,  
sing with  
me!”**



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*“People were bringing little children to Jesus to have him touch them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.” And he took the children in his arms, put his hands on them and blessed them.”*

Mark 10:13-16 (NIV)

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It's ok to get back to your roots of childlike wonder and don't be embarrassed by them or yourself.

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What might our children be saying to us?

**“Stop telling  
me to grow  
up, I’m not  
ready yet!”**



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It seems the  
world is forcing  
our kids to grow  
up sooner than  
they should

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Have you ever caught yourself saying, “Stopping acting like a little child! Will you please grow up!” The reality is they are little children and they are too young to grow up.

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What might our children be saying to us?



**“Please  
raise me  
knowing  
Jesus.”**

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The greatest thing you can do for your family and for your kids is to raise them with the knowledge of Jesus and what He offers them and the life He promises.

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*“Everyone has to die once,  
then face the  
consequences. Christ’s  
death was also a one-time  
event, but it was a sacrifice  
that took care of sins  
forever. And so, when he  
next appears, the outcome  
for those eager to greet  
him is,  
precisely, salvation.”*

Hebrews 9:27-28 (Msg)