

10 Key Kid Raising Principles

1. Enjoy your kids (at age 8 one half of your child's life with you is over).
2. Pick your battles, but always win the ones you pick (save your "nos" for the big stuff).
3. Know your 3 A's and be: *authoritarian* from ages 0-12; *authoritative* from 12-18; and *advisorial* from 18-60). Be slow and thoughtful in dispensing discipline.
4. Become significant to your kids with *kind words* and *shared experiences* (Write them frequent letters of encouragement - Heb 3:13).
5. Teach them to *love God*, to *work* and to *express gratitude*.
6. Dad should be the primary disciplinarian (he must protect his wife from his kids).
7. Don't own your kids' sin (They are likely "Christ likers" while under your roof).
8. Don't overemphasize activities like *sports* and *music*.
9. Ask your kids for forgiveness when you sin against them.
10. Love God and love your spouse.

Deut 6:4-9 (The Shema)

4 "Hear, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD alone. 5 And you must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your strength. 6 And you must commit yourselves wholeheartedly to these commands I am giving you today. 7 Repeat them again and again to your children. Talk about them when you are at home and when you are away on a journey, when you are lying down and when you are getting up again. 8 Tie them to your hands as a reminder, and wear them on your forehead. 9 Write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates. NLT

