

The Sculptor

I took a piece of plastic clay
And idly fashioned it one day,
And as my fingers pressed it still,
It molded and yielded to my will.

I came again when days were past
The bit of clay was hard at last;
The form I gave it, it still bore,
But I could change that form no
more.





I took a piece of living clay
And gently formed it day by day,
And molded with my power and art
A young child's soft and yielding
heart.

I came again when years were
gone –
It was a man I looked upon;
He still that early impression wore,
And I could change him
nevermore.





Children are important!

- We have a special window of opportunity!
- “The hand that rocks the cradle rules the world.”





Children are important!



50 Years Of Changing Influences

- 1950's – The top four influences:
 - The Parents
 - Their Peers
 - The Media
 - Institutions such as schools and churches
- 2000's – The top four influences are:
 - The Media
 - Their Peers
 - The Parents
 - Institutions such as schools and churches

Wish to be the most important influence?

- Be especially diligent to carefully monitor media exposure
 - Proverbs 4:23 “ Keep your heart with all diligence.”
- Watch who their friends are!
 - Proverbs 13:20: He who walks with wise men will be wise, but the companion of fools will be destroyed.

How Do We Instill Belief?

- God wants churches of *regeneration*, not *generation*.
- Each child must come to have their own faith!



How Do We Instill Belief?



GOD HAS NO
GRANDCHILDREN!

How Do We Instill Belief?

**“All thy children shall be taught of
Jehovah; and great shall be the
peace of thy children, in
righteousness they shall be
established!”
(Isaiah 54:13-14)**

Passing Values On

- Three Aspects:
 - Definition of Value
 - How can we pass them on
 - Practical Suggestions



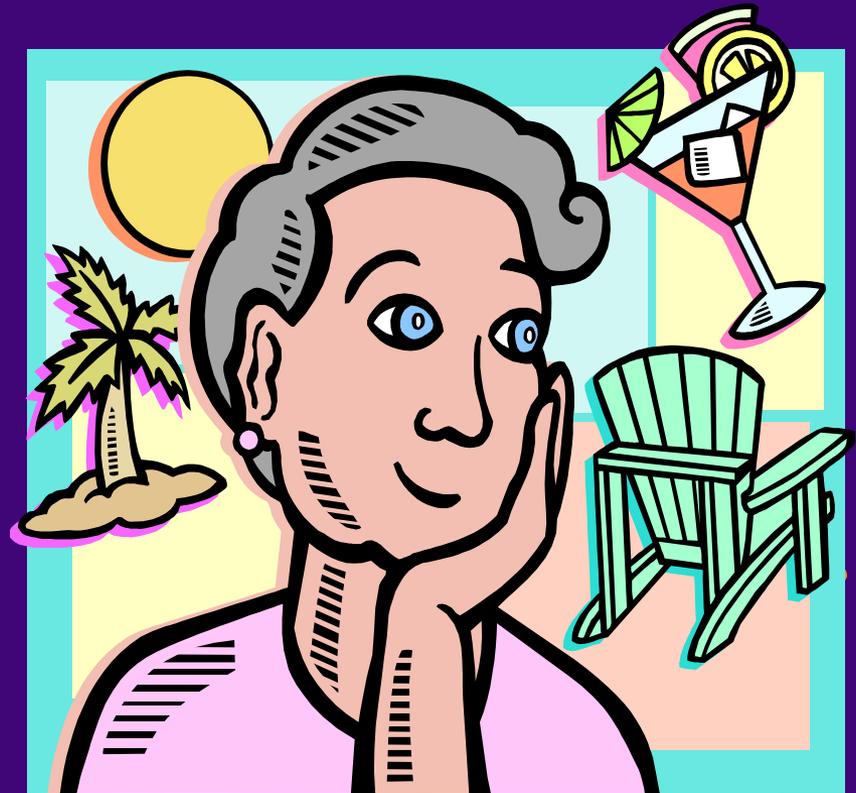


Definition:

- Value: “Those beliefs to which we attach worth.”
 - Some have a *higher rank* than others
 - Proverbs 22:1 “A good name is to be more desired than great wealth, Favor is better than silver and gold.”

Definition:

- Values focus on 4 different areas:
 - *Experiences*





Definition:

- Some focus on *Relationships*



Family Relationships



Definition:

- Some focus on Money/ Material things.

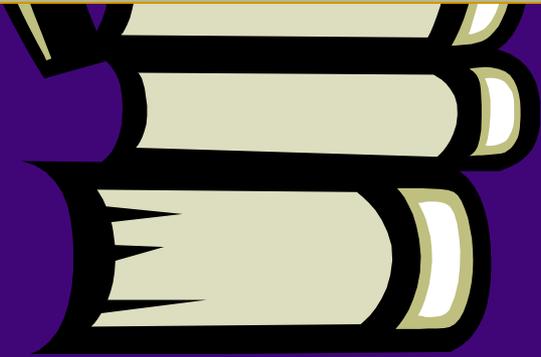




Definition:



The Pearl of Great
Price





What Are *Your* Values?

- Our top values ought to be *knowing and loving* God

(Matthew 22: 36-37)!



JEREMIAH 9:23-24 Let not a wise man boast of his wisdom, and let not the mighty man boast of his might, let not a rich man boast of his riches; 24 but let him who boasts boast of this, that he **understands and knows Me**, that I am the LORD who exercises lovingkindness, justice and righteousness on earth; for *I delight* in these things," declares the LORD.

How do we pass values on?

Deuteronomy 6:1-3

“Now these are the commandments, statutes, and ordinances which Jehovah God commanded to teach you, that ye might do them. That thou mightest fear the Lord thy God, to keep all his statutes and his commandments, which I command thee, thou and thy son, and thy son's son, all the days of they life; and that thy days may be prolonged ... Hear therefore, O Israel, and observe to do it; that it may be well with thee . . .

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

- Hear O Israel; The Lord God is one Lord; and thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.
- And these words which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart. And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.
- And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes, and write them on the post of thy house and upon thy gates.

A close-up photograph of a young child's face, smiling broadly with their mouth open, showing their teeth. Their hands are raised in the air, palms facing forward, in a gesture of joy or praise. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green.

How do we pass them on?

Deuteronomy 6:1: “Now these are the commandments, statutes, and ordinances which Jehovah God commanded to teach you, that ye might do them.”



Modeling the key way children learn

Acts 4:13 “When they beheld the boldness of Peter and John they took note that they had been with Jesus.”



**There is no substitute
for Godly living!**

**Emerson: “What you are thunders in
my ears so loud I can’t hear a word
that you are saying.”**



How do we pass them on?

Deuteronomy 6:7 And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children

- Root: “To whet or sharpen”
- TEACH CREATIVELY! (vs 8)



How do we pass them on?

Deuteronomy 6:8 “And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes, and write them on the post of thy house and upon thy gates.”



Make things interesting!

- Can lead a horse to water but can't make him drink, but you can add salt to make him thirsty!
- Takes *creativity*!



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How do we pass them on?

Deuteronomy 6:7 And thou shalt talk of them . . .

them is through *discussion!*

- Avoid **dogmatic lectures** and “pat answers” that short circuit the *process!*
- Ask **lots of questions.**



Dialogue – Give and Take

- Listen and allow them to feedback their thoughts and feelings.



**Deuteronomy 6:7 Shalt *talk*
of them when when thou
sittest in thine house, and
when thou walkest by the
way, and when thou liest
down, and when thou risest
up.**



How do we pass them on?

- It takes time to do these things!
- *Time is life!*



Dr. Graham Blainey

“The most serious problem of TV/movies streamed on the internet is not poor programming necessarily, but the fact that it has destroyed the average family’s conversation at the evening meal.

People anxious to see their favorite program rush through the meal and what happened through the day, both big and small, are never discussed.”



James Comer – Prof. Of Psychiatry Yale University

“Parental influence is highest among
teens whose parents were involved with

Present Research came to the
same conclusion as the
Scriptures 3400 years ago!

various social situations.”