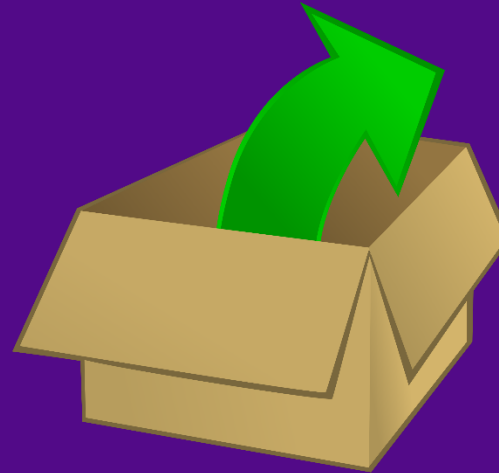




Creative Parenting

“Thinking out of the Box”



How do I make these principles work?

Focus: Nurturing, Creating Strong Emotional Bonds

- ❖ Eph 6:4 “But *nurture* them in the chastening and admonition of the Lord.”
- ❖ Nurturance = Cherishing (lit. warming).
Close knit!





The Importance of Names

“Nomen est omen” – Latin: “Names are destiny”

❖ Are names important to God?

❖ Eph 3:15 “Everything on heaven and on earth is *fitly* named.”

❖ Adam—named the animals (Gen 2:19-20)

❖ Parents—responsibility to name children

❖ Abram/Abraham & Sarai/Sarah (Gen 17)

❖ 7 births named by angels.

❖ John – “Grace” – (Lk 1:13, Jn 1:17).



Importance of Names

❖ Church in Philadelphia:

❖ Rev 3:12 “He that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out, and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of God which is the new Jerusalem, and **I will write upon Him my new name.**”



Importance of Names

❖ Personal Favorites:

- ❖ Hezekiah – “Jehovah is my strength.”
- ❖ Timothy – “Devoted to God.”
- ❖ Samuel – “Answered Prayer.”

Importance of Names

❖ Parent's need to use this as a part of **building self-esteem and purpose...**

❖ Amy – **“Beloved”**

❖ Allison – **“Honest one”**

❖ **Bible Characters:**

❖ David: Heb. **“Messiah's love”**

❖ Giant killer, after god's own heart,
leader...

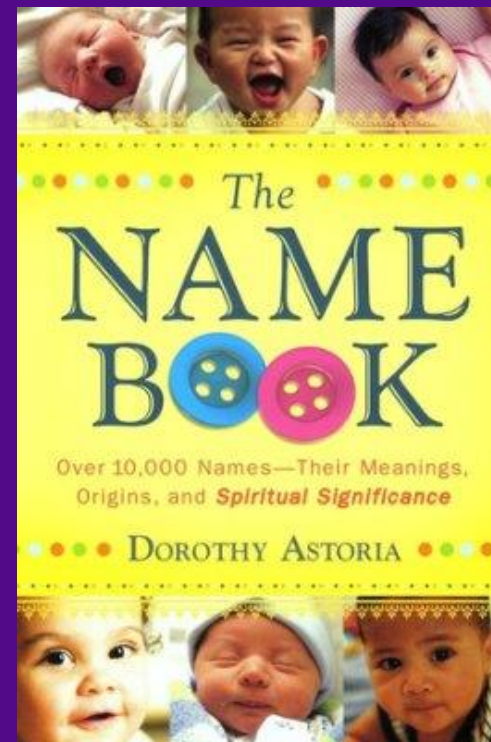


Names at Brooksville

❖ **Heaton**

❖ **Kent**— *Radiant, wise*

❖ **Karen** — *Pure, beloved*





Importance of Names

Nomen est omen – “Names are destiny!”

- ❖ **Brent – ”Rising above obstacles.”**
- ❖ **Do you know what *your* name means? Never too late to benefit!**
- ❖ **Take the names of the local congregation and publish the meanings...**
- ❖ **Tell children in Bible class the spiritual significance of their name!! Lasting impact!!**
- ❖ **Prov 22:1 “A good name is more to be desired than great riches.”**



Importance of Names

- ❖ “The Name Book”-**Dorothea Austin**
- ❖ “Character-building value in understanding its meaning.”
- ❖ “Each name carries its own message, its own gift. Discover its heritage, significance and spiritual application!”



The Family Dinner Hour

- ❖ What does disfellowship involve?
- ❖ Why? Not eat?
 - ❖ The process of eating together creates *emotional bonds*.
 - ❖ Often the only time we are altogether and really share!

Tom Selleck on “Blue Bloods”





Make the Family Dinner Hour Sacred



takebackthetable.org



Make the Family Dinner Hour Sacred

❖ *“The more often a child eats dinner with his/her family, the less likely that child is to smoke, drink, or use drugs. Frequent family dining is correlated with doing well in school and developing healthy eating habits. This pattern holds true regardless of a child’s gender, family structure, or socioeconomic level.”*



Study of National Merit Scholars

- ❖ “One survey examined National Merit scholars, looking for common denominators in their upbringing.
- ❖ “Almost without exception, the most astounding teenagers grew up in homes where the *whole family* sat down and ate dinner together at night.” The Ladies Home Journal

Family Memory Verses:

- ❖ Before we say our prayer we say either our family motto or a verse.
- ❖ Keep them on 3” by 5” cards and write them down, review, share *Ps 119:11*
- ❖ “*Our Daily Bread Promise Box.*”





Creative ideas..

❖ Find verses that meet current needs

❖ Isa 41:10 *“Fear thou not for I am with thee. Be not dismayed, for I am thy God. I will strengthen thee, I will help thee, I will uphold thee with thy right arm of righteousness.”*

❖ Sometimes read an article out of the paper so we can help “process” the material and guide their thinking.

Favorite saying: “Watch”

- ❖ Watch your thoughts; they become your *words*.
- ❖ Watch your words; they become your *actions*.
- ❖ Watch your actions; they become your *habits*.
- ❖ Watch your habits; they become your *character*.
- ❖ Watch your character; it becomes your *destiny*.



Family Motto or Mission Statement

- ❖ Families of the past “Coat of Arms” or “seal.”
- ❖ Businesses understand the value of a motto:
GM, Hallmark cards.
- ❖ Why not our own families?
 - ❖ *What you will someday be you are now becoming!*
 - ❖ What the flag is to our country this motto would be for my family!!

The Hunter Family Motto

We are a loving,
affectionate,
responsible,
obedient, cheerful
Godly family. We
are always do our
best and finish
what we start.





The Walker Family Creed

❖ We are the Walkers. We Walk in Paths of Righteousness. We are a family of loving supportive people, and our goal is to help each other be our best. We focus on whatever is true, honorable, right, pure, lovely, and of good reputation. We strive for excellence, and being worthy of praise. **We are the Walkers and Walker women don't wear brown!!**



Joel and Kate Wilsford's FAMILY MISSION IS TO:

- ❖ **Love, care for, and support each other . . .**
- ❖ **Making our home a refuge from the world. . .**
- ❖ **Enjoy life and all its blessings . . .**
- ❖ **Do for others**
- ❖ **Giving ourselves to God forever!!**

Signed:

❖ *Joel, Emily, Jeanie, Kate, Anna*




The Huber Family Motto

**“We are the . . . holy,
humorous, happy, helpful,
honest, heroic Hubers!”**

We are the Crafts Family

- ❖ **We are a Compassionate, Cheerful, Crazy, Conscientious, Come-on-over Christian family.**
- ❖ **We Cherish: The Name and Sacrifice of Christ, The Truth of His Holy Word, and Each Other.**
- ❖ **And sometimes we're: cat-loving, cinema-viewing, chicken-eating, chocolate-loving, couch potatoes.**

Why not take some time and come up with a family motto, creed or mission statement of your own?



Family Traditions=Build close-knit bonds!

- ❖ **Traditions = “To hand down.”**
- ❖ **Good traditions can become cherished memories which show forethought and concern**
- ❖ **Two fold purpose:**
 - ❖ **Create anticipation and meaningful reflection later**
 - ❖ **Cement relationships that create lifelong bonds of closeness (Eph 6:4)**



Traditions..

- ❖ **God has “handed down” many memorials and Divine traditions.**
- ❖ **Ex. Passover (Ex. 12: 24-27).**
- ❖ **NT. The Lord’s supper – looks forward and backwards.**



Examples/Ideas

- ❖ Family mottos & verses become cherished traditions...
- ❖ Spiritual Birthdays...
 - ❖ 9/9/95 Amy, 10/25/97 Allison
- ❖ *You are special* plate...
- ❖ Go for family walks..
- ❖ Tuck in – nightly prayer with a blessing.
- ❖ “Pillow prayers” – good with teens



Let's Make a Memory . .

- ❖ *“We have moment to hold in our hand, and to touch as it slips through our fingers like sand. Yesterday’s gone and tomorrow may never come, but we have this moment today.”*
- ❖ **May God bless you as you *creatively* raise your children in the *nurture* and admonition of the Lord!**