

Encourage Your Children

If our heart is as Mal 4:6, then we will pass on to our children our faith (Pr 22:6).

It is very important and necessary for parents to show a sincere interest in their children's training experiences. Be interested in what they are learning. Let your children know that their educational training is very important to you, and you attend parent/teachers meetings regularly. Parents who wait for their report card (grades, etc.) do not care for them. Parents must keep themselves informed by being interested in what their children are learning, listening to them read aloud in preparation times, observing their study habits, asking specific questions, like, "What did you learn today in training?" or, "Did you learn a new word today? Did your teacher have to discipline you today? Did your teacher check your homework I saw you doing last night? What songs did you sing today in training class? Did you learn any new ones?"

Teach your children to pray before the minchot. Take turns each day. We all need to be taught how to pray, as our Master taught His disciples.

Teach them to speak up at the preparation time. Ask what they learned from the morning minchah or from last night. Encourage them to speak up in the minchot, to give thanks. Teach them 1 Chr 23:30, that priests give thanks and praise.

If you sing with a loud voice, you will speak with a loud voice.

Tell your children what was talked about in the parent/teachers meeting, with discretion — how the teacher was so proud of them, and how they pay attention and behave, and what a good example they are to the rest.

Make sure never to make them feel worthless, but always encourage the slow learners that children develop differently. They are not slow learners, but simply late bloomers, and all will bloom in time. Sometimes, the late bloomers excel even more than the early bloomers. Never, never make them feel dumb or stupid or slow or retarded, etc.

Speak of late and early bloomers as in fruit trees — some bloom before the others, but they all bloom or ripen in season.

Give them examples of late bloomers in history, like Albert Einstein and Thomas Edison, who greatly excelled above the early bloomers.

Even if they *are* somewhat retarded or slow, never let them know it. It's only late and early bloomers. Just because someone makes lower grades doesn't mean he is dumb. Either he is a late bloomer, or he is not giving full attention to the teacher. Always think of ways to encourage them on.

Heb 10:24 — Make sure also to instruct them never to be jealous of others who seem to excel.