

-- Developing Godly Fruit in Our Families --

Love

- Family identity(making family a team – working and playing together)
- Family time – meals, bible readings & story time
- Keeping your marriage strong
- date night/couch time/coffee time
- Siblings - care & compassionate
- Family hugs
- Playing together - take them to park
- [love languages]
- Help each other
- Speak in love (love is not rude)
- Balancing the needs of individual temperament with overall family goals eg sporty/social / introverted
- Memorable family times

Joy

- Happy for others
- Happy for achievements of others in family (Celebrate as family when one does well)
- Sharing successes
- Celebrate day for each - birthday
- Gifts to share - end of year
- Joy for truth - (Sunday school, pamphleting)

Peace

- Self control – have child fold hands in lap
- "quiet time" during the day
- Story books (audio)
- Meeting mat & behaviour
- Limit choices to age appropriate
- Be a peacemaker
- Resolve conflict [request forgiveness]

Longsuffering

- (patience) - self control
- Waiting in highchair
- Waiting at lunch days
- Doctors waiting rooms etc
- Waiting until teatime -not instant gratification for every desire
- Interrupt rule – put hand on parents if they are talking and wait
- Sharing/turns with playing & toys

**Our personal example of patience

Gentleness

- Younger family members/babies
- Care for and be gentle with pets
- Gentle with toys (property)
- The way we treat each other
- Gentle speech

Goodness

- virtue - beneficence/ attitude/ behaviour
 - guarding tongue & tone
 - Thinking of others
 - thankfulness
 - respect
- Including Other
- Thinking of others
- Contributing in ecclesial environment

Faith

- Trust in God
- Conviction (not half hearted)
- Develop trustworthy children
- Praying together
- Readings

**Our Example of being trustworthy

** Our example of trusting in God

Meekness

- (Teachable) – need to spend time with them
- First time obedience
- No tattling (not delighting in misfortune of others)
- Family Chores
- Heart training, conscience, attitude, thoughtfulness
- Discipling & training (discipline)

Self Control

- Compliance without frustration (no tantrums)
- Self control - quiet hands
- Interrupt rule
- Value of Money
- Waiting patiently – lunchtime etc
- Encouraging responsible choices
- Not too many choices too early
- Avoid Overstimulation (too many toys, books etc.)

--- Purposeful Parenting Checklist ---

- How can I be a more Godly parent?
 - God is Love (1 John 4:8, 16)
 - God is consistent (James 1:17)
 - God is longsuffering and patient (Exodus 34:6, Psalms 86:15)
 - God is faithful (Lamentations 3:23, Hebrews 10:23)
- Is God at the Centre of our Family? Do we show His Glory? What can we improve on?
- How am I going to demonstrate the relationship of Christ and his bride in our marriage?
- Are we characterised by loving Communication? How can I make more time for this?
- What are our Family Goals?
- What will be the key highlights of our Family Identity?
 - What will we make sure we do?
 - What will we never do?
- What is our plan to fit in the readings?
- Is prayer an integral part of our family life?
 - What else can we do so our children feel like God is their Father?
- Do other people enjoy our children?
- Are our children characterised by Obedience?
- Do I show respect? Are our children respectful?
- What can we do so that our family is characterised by thinking of others?
- What are the key areas of Training our children require?
- Can I be more consistent and fair with discipline?
- How can I focus on patience and have more faith and trust in God?

Nature Play's list of 51 things your kids should do before they turn 12...

- 1 Climb a tree
- 2 Sleep under the stars (even in your backyard)
- 3 Fall off a bike
- 4 Learn to swim
- 5 Build a cubby or a tree house
- 6 Find a geocache (geocaching.com) in your neighbourhood
- 7 Go beachcombing after a storm
- 8 Cook damper on a campfire
- 9 Go on a school camp in the bush
- 10 Catch a wave (start with a small one)
- 11 Play chasey in the rain
- 12 Catch a yabby (or have fun trying)
- 13 Make a water slide with builders' plastic and a hose (do it on your watering day)
- 14 Find a cave
- 15 Make something with things you find
- 16 Play in a creek
- 17 Do something you're scared of
- 18 Watch kangaroos in the wild
- 19 Slide down a grass hill on cardboard
- 20 Yell "cooeee!" in a gorge or a valley
- 21 Camp on a beach
- 22 Build a sandcastle city
- 23 Skim a stone
- 24 Plant something and watch it grow
- 25 Play spotlight
- 26 Ride your bike on a bush trail
- 27 Visit an island
- 28 Go for a two-day hike
- 29 Snorkel at the beach or on a reef
- 30 Ride a flying fox
- 31 Play under a sprinkler
- 32 Climb a big rock
- 33 Play in the bush for a whole day
- 34 Visit a waterhole
- 35 Meet kids in a park and invent a game
- 36 Paddle a kayak
- 37 Dig for worms in your backyard
- 38 Catch a crab
- 39 Learn the Aboriginal names for five plants and five animals
- 40 Visit a national park
- 41 Catch a fish
- 42 Play on a rope swing
- 43 Eat bush tucker
- 44 Make a kite and fly it
- 45 Jump in a muddy puddle
- 46 Identify the birds in your backyard
- 47 Go abseiling
- 48 Catch a tadpole (and release it)
- 49 Make a mud pie
- 50 Find a lake, puddle or pond and use a magnifying glass to spot the living creatures swimming in it
- 51 Play beach cricket

Source: natureplaysa.org.au

First Time Obedience

1. Call your child to you and expect a "Yes Mummy" or "Yes Daddy".
2. The child must come to you immediately.
3. Maintain eye contact.
4. Give instruction clearly in 1 or 2 sentences.
5. Expect a verbal response.
6. Child must action instruction and confirm to you that it is done.
7. Encouragement - "Well Done" and a hug.

