

## *Readers' Ideas for Loving Our Children Well*

- **Shepherd their hearts. Hearts are way more important than behaviors!**
- **Have clear rules and expectations. Set them early on, and be consistent (not legalistic) about enforcing them.**
- **Teach your child about good decision-making, starting with small ones. Teach them to own choices and consequences.**
- **Reduce rules as your child grows in maturity and responsibility.**
- **Beware of labeling your child shy, not athletic, not book-smart, etc. Speak life over them at all times.**
- **Say yes whenever possible. Pick your battles carefully. Let your yes be yes and your no be no.**
- **Teach your child what God says about sin. Train them to recognize it and ask God's forgiveness quickly.**
- **Allow their faith to become their own even when they drift a little; even when it's hard to watch.**
- **Don't avoid teaching them about "the birds and the bees." If you don't, the world will teach the worldly version.**
- **Teach them to repent and seek forgiveness when they hurt someone vs. a meaningless "sorry."**
- **Trust God with your child at all times, in all areas. Pray about every area of their lives!**