

Tips for Mamas of Littles and Middles

1. Keep a small Bible in the bathroom. When life gets hard, hide with God's Word.
2. Don't stop praying for your kids. and let them hear you do so!
3. Think frequently about "5 years from now." If they'll need a skill then, start teaching it now. The best way to eat an elephant is one small bite at a time.
4. When eating becomes a battle, you have lost your ground. The purpose of food is to fuel the body. Train them to eat what they are given; 1 meal for all. They can eat more of what they like, and less of what they don't. Keep it peaceful, and model healthy habits.
5. When training and correcting, keep your voice and body language calm. Monitor yourself carefully. Once your emotional control is lost, so is the battle at hand!
6. Their heart is more important than their behavior. If you train their heart, their behavior will follow.
7. Your most important parenting jobs are: train them to follow Jesus, and love and protect them fiercely.
8. Teach them the importance and blessing of work. Even toddlers can do simple household tasks. Model and let them help, even if it takes longer. Think 5 years ahead!
9. Let them be little. Let them make messes. Allow yourself to PLAY with them! They will remember those moments, and so will you.
10. Give them plenty of grace. Give yourself plenty of grace. Forgive them when they ask. Ask for their forgiveness when you blow it. They learn what we model.