

Teaching Your Kids with the Psalms

Psalm 145

I. Live in the Psalms: Let the Psalms be part of the rhythm of your family life. Psalm 145

II. Awe: Try to Be An “Awe Full” Parent Instead of an Awesome Parent.
Psalm 145:1-3

“I will extol you, my God and my King, and bless your name forever and ever. Every day I will bless you and praise your name forever and ever. Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised, and his greatness is unsearchable.”

Psalm 145:1-3

The greatest need of your child is to have a great God not a great parent.

“Every awesome thing in creation is designed to point you to the One who alone is worthy of capturing and controlling the awe of your searching and hungry heart.”

Paul David Tripp

III. Make Time for Great Stories: Use the Psalms to celebrate the great things God has done and to point your children to the stories of what God is doing. Psalm 145:4-7

“One generation will commend your works to another and shall declare your mighty acts. On the glorious splendor of your majesty, and on your wondrous works I will meditate. They shall speak of the might of your awesome deeds, and I will declare your greatness. They shall pour forth the fame of your abundant goodness and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.”

Psalm 145:4-7

“If you want someone to hear the truth, you should tell them the truth. But if you want someone to LOVE the truth, you should tell them a story.”

Andrew Peterson

“The bible is itself a magnificent story of the creation, fall, redemption, and ultimate restoration of all things. The greatest story of all is this: The beautiful world is broken, but it will not always be so.”

Warren Cole Smith

“When your children ask in time to come, ‘What do those stones mean to you?’ then you shall tell them that the waters of the Jordan were cut off before the ark of the covenant of the Lord. When it passed over the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan were cut off. So, these stones shall be to the people of Israel a memorial forever.” Joshua 4:6-7

IV. Always Give Grace the Central Place. Psalm 145:8-9

“The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. The Lord is good to all, and his mercy is over all that he has made.”

Psalm 145:8-9

Offer the gospel to your children as a habit of devotional life. This will foster honesty and transparency and facilitate faith and repentance.

V. Kill Earthly Anxieties with Kingdom Glories. Psalm 145:10-13

“All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord, and all your saints will bless you. They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom and tell of your power to make known to the children of man your mighty deeds, and the glorious splendor of your kingdom. Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout generations.”

Psalm 145:10-13

“King Nebuchadnezzar to all peoples, nations, and languages, that dwell on earth: Peace be multiplied to you! It seemed good to me to show the signs and wonders that the Most High God has done for me. How great are his signs, how mighty are his wonders! His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and his dominion endures from generation to generation.”

Daniel 4:1-3

Our children need to hear the glories of a King who has ruled over the Pharaohs and Neros of history and to know that He is the God who we can trust in days when politicians rattle their swords and ruin their nations and when evil appears to hold sway. Jesus is that King.

Use the Psalms to calm your own hearts as parents.
Then use the psalms to calm your children.

- VI. It's Okay to Not be Okay: Teach your kids that they can struggle honestly because God is kind and hears their cries. Psalm 145:14-21

God is big enough for our deepest brokenness.

“The Psalms help you to say, ‘Yes, I believe that God is working all things together for good, but the reality is, things are painful right now and I am feeling miserable.’ That is the beauty behind the book of Psalms. They are God’s way of inviting you to honestly express your worries and frustrations to him. So, pick up a Psalm, any Psalm, and tell God all that’s on your heart.”

Joni Eareckson Tada