

# Grandparenting Matters



## Hello Grandparents

Welcome to the first edition of "Grandparenting Matters," a newsletter created just for you with love and encouragement as we travel on this incredible journey of grandparenting.

As grandparents, we have a special role in the lives of our precious grandchildren, and our lives can have a profound impact on their faith and future.

So, let's embrace this wonderful role with joy and enthusiasm!

## The Journey Ahead

In the upcoming newsletters, we will share more practical insights and inspiring stories to support you in your grandparenting journey.

Remember, you are treasured, valued, and deeply loved by God, and your influence matters.

May God's grace and wisdom abound in your lives as you pray for and bless your grandchildren and share your faith with them.

**Don't forget our next Grandparenting Event!  
Saturday 7th October 2023  
10am - 12.30pm  
at Moulton Parish Church  
We'd love to see you there!**

## Inside this Issue

We all love and want the very best for our grandchildren, so in this issue we are taking a look at God's design for grandparenting and what it means to bless our grandchildren!



STOP PRESS!!



# God's Design for Grandparenting

Did you know that the Bible has much to say about the importance of generational influence? God's Word provides a solid foundation for our role as Christian grandparents, guiding us with wisdom and inspiration. Let's dive into just a few key verses that underscore the significance of our role as grandparents:

Deuteronomy 4:9 (NIV):

"Only be careful, and watch yourselves closely so that you do not forget the things your eyes have seen or let them fade from your heart as long as you live. Teach them to your children and to their children after them."

This verse from Deuteronomy reminds us of the importance of passing down our faith and experiences of God to future generations (whilst always respecting their parents beliefs and wishes). As grandparents, we have the unique opportunity to share God's faithfulness throughout our lives, leaving a lasting legacy for our grandchildren.

Psalm 78:4 (NIV):

"We will not hide them from their descendants; we will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, his power, and the wonders he has done."

Psalm 78:4 emphasizes the power of storytelling in sharing God's wonders with the next generation. As we engage with our grandchildren, let's seize the chance to share God's amazing works and the transformative impact He has had in our own lives.

Proverbs 17:6 (NIV):

"Children's children are a crown to the aged, and parents are the pride of their children."

Proverbs 17:6 beautifully describes grandchildren as a crown, signifying the joy and honour they bring into our lives. Embrace this role with love, knowing that you have a unique part in shaping their personal faith journey.

Proverbs 17:6 (NIV):

2 Timothy 1:5 (NIV): "I am reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also."

In this verse, we see the godly influence of Timothy's grandmother and mother, whose sincere faith impacted his own. Your faith, as grandparents, can inspire and nurture a genuine faith in your grandchildren too.

Ha Ha Ha Ha!

## On a Lighter Note!

"Grandmas never run out of hugs and treats!"

"To a small child, the perfect granddad is unafraid of big dogs and fierce storms but absolutely terrified of the word boo!"

"Granddads have silver in their hair and gold in their hearts"

Ha Ha Ha Ha!

B L E S S

## Blessing Our Grandchildren

As grandparents, we hold a unique and influential role in the lives of our grandchildren. Our words and actions have the power to positively shape their journeys and leave a lasting legacy of faith.

In this edition of "Grandparenting Matters," we delve into blessing our grandchildren - a beautiful action that infuses their lives with encouragement, affirmation, and biblical truths.

## Encouragement: Our Role as Cheerleaders

Think of yourselves as the biggest cheerleaders for your grandchildren.

Let your words be a source of encouragement that uplift and inspire.

Ask God to help you become intentional encouragers, seeking moments to share positive affirmations.

Cultivate the habit of looking for the good in them and in their actions.

Imagine the joy when you share these observations with them the next time you meet or through a heartfelt text.

What a wonderful way to infuse their lives with positivity and confidence!

## Affirmation: Speaking Words of Grace

Affirmation is a powerful way that can shape a child's self-perception and nurture a strong bond between generations. Seek opportunities to share words of affirmation upon your grandchildren. As you witness Christ-like traits in them - compassion, gentleness, forgiveness, generosity, gratitude, kindness, and truthfulness - speak words that make them feel good about themselves.

Your words of affirmation have the power to motivate, uplift, and strengthen as well as encourage faith.

## Biblical Blessing: Sharing God's Goodness

Saying a blessing upon your grandchildren is a profound act that invokes God's favour upon their lives. Unlike prayer, where we speak to God on their behalf, a blessing is a direct and intentional communication of God's favour and power to the person. When you bless your grandchildren in the name of Jesus, you intentionally infuse their lives with His grace and goodness. A spoken blessing has the potential to shape their spiritual journey in remarkable ways, being rooted in their values and Christ-like characteristics, not just in performance and achievements.



## Opportunities to Bless Our Grandchildren

You can bless your grandchildren in different moments, such as:

- Hello and Goodbye:** Welcome them with open arms and send them off with a heartfelt blessing.
- Bedtime:** End the day with a comforting blessing, reminding them of God's watchful care.
- Family Gatherings:** Use these precious moments to bless them and the family.
- Milestones:** Celebrate their achievements and significant life moments with a special blessing.
- Phone Calls:** Even from a distance, your words of blessing hold tremendous meaning.
- When they are down:** Offer a blessing to lift their spirits during tough times.



Let's therefore embrace the wonderful gift of blessing our grandchildren!

Through encouragement, affirmation, and sharing God's goodness, we can help bless and positively shape their lives. Together, let's create a legacy of love, faith, and joyful connection that will shine brightly through the generations.

## A Grandparents Prayer

Dear Lord, please help me to be creative and wise in the way I spend time with my grandchild(ren), that they may see your love and grace in me.

Help me to discern how I can best relate to them the wonderful truths of your Word. May they be assured of my love for them and come to know of your love which is greater still.

Enable me to grow in serving you in this way and may my grandchildren come to a living faith in you as their Saviour and Lord. Please guide me Lord, and fill me with your grace, day by day, for your name's sake. Amen.

This newsletter was produced by the Grandparenting Ministry Team at Moulton Parish Church, Northamptonshire NN3 7SW.

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