

DAY TWO — THEY'RE WATCHING

Your example speaks louder than your instructions.

Scripture: “In everything set them an example by doing what is good.” **Titus 2:7**

We spend a lot of time telling our children how they should behave.

Be patient.

Be kind.

Tell the truth.

Forgive people.

Have self-control.

Pray when you're worried.

But here's the thing about parenting:

They're watching us do all of it.

Our children watch how we respond when we're frustrated. They hear how we talk about other people. They notice whether we keep our promises, whether we apologize when we're wrong, and whether our faith is something we live—or something we simply talk about.

Your source material reminds us that parenting means **modeling a godly life**, including integrity, patience, gratitude, kindness, peace, forgiveness, honesty, wisdom, self-control and love.

And that's a pretty big list.

Thankfully, God doesn't expect us to demonstrate perfection.

He asks us to demonstrate what it looks like to follow Him.

Let your children see you pray when you're worried.

Let them hear you say, *"I was wrong. I'm sorry."*

Let them watch you forgive.

Let them see you choose kindness when you could choose anger.

Let them see you keep going when life gets hard.

Because sometimes the greatest lesson you'll ever teach your child won't come from a lecture.

It will come from watching you live.

Have you ever heard your child say something and thought, *"Where in the world did they learn that?"*

Then suddenly you realize...

They learned it from you.

That's humbling.

But it can also be encouraging.

Because if they're watching us, we have the opportunity to show them something worth following.

We don't have to pretend we have everything together.

In fact, letting our children see us struggle—and then turn to God—may teach them more than pretending we're never afraid, angry or uncertain.

Your children don't need to see a perfect parent.

They need to see a faithful one.

Choose **one characteristic** you want your child to develop—patience, kindness, honesty, forgiveness, gratitude or self-control.

Then intentionally **model it today**.

Don't just tell them what it looks like.

Show them.

Little eyes are watching. Little hearts are learning.

Before you ask, “*What am I teaching my child?*”

Ask yourself:

“What am I showing them?”

Heavenly Father, help me remember that my children are learning from the life I live in front of them. Give me patience when I'm frustrated, kindness when I'm tired, wisdom when I don't know what to do and humility when I get it wrong. Help me model the character I want my children to develop, and let my life point them toward You. In Jesus Name We Pray, Amen.