



The 12 Tasks of an Effective Father

Task #2—Moral Development
Your Word. The 10 Commandments. The Golden Rule.

Deuteronomy 6:6-9; Psalm 78:1-8

Questions
April 6, 2001

1. Given the school shootings, increasing vulgarity, and rampant sexual promiscuity, just how focused are you on the moral development of your children?
2. What are we to teach our children according to Deuteronomy 6:6-9? What are some culturally relevant ways you have done, or could do, this today?
3. Moral *instruction* is teaching children the "information" for whatever is included in the statement, "There are things that you ought and ought not do" (See Psalm 78:4-6). Moral *development* is forming the "motivation" in the heart of the child so he or she will say, "I want to do this because I trust in God" (See Psalm 78:7). Do you agree that moral *instruction* without a change of heart is not enough to drive folly from the heart of a child? If this is true, what are the implications for your own style of teaching your children?
4. How many of the worlds problems would be solved if people kept their word, obeyed the 10 Commandments, and followed the Golden Rule? Can you improve on teaching, "Keep your word, obey the 10 Commandments, and follow the Golden Rule"?
5. Did your father give you a clear sense of right and wrong? How has that played out in your own family? What is your dream for the moral development of your children and grandchildren?