



How do we impress the Scriptures on our children?

The great priority is to impress the Scriptures on our children (cf. Deuteronomy 6:7). To do this we must first get the Scriptures inside of us and then get them inside our children.

Are you teaching the Scriptures to children, or teaching children how to engage with the Scriptures? When we teach the Scriptures to children, we equip them for a day. When we teach children how to engage with the Scriptures themselves, we equip them for life!

To impress the Scriptures on our children we must teach them how to engage with the text. We do this by teaching them the 4 R's:

Receive – Impressing the Scriptures on our children starts with teaching children how to incline their hearts to God, wait on Him, and listen with faith.

Reflect – The Scriptures will be impressed on our children when we invite them to use their imaginations and intuition and teach them basic interpretive skills. In order to interact with God's Word children must become proficient at contemplating, questioning, and analysing the Scriptures.

Remember – Encouraging and equipping children to retain God's Word in their hearts and minds through Scripture memorization is also essential for impressing the Scriptures on our children.

Respond – Children should learn that we read/hear the Scriptures in order to live the Scriptures from the inside out. When children become Nike Christians and are seen to "Just do it!" it's evidence that the Scriptures have become inscribed on their hearts.

The Bible is bursting with life. If children are going to be transformed by God's Word, they must discover that Jesus is the theme, purpose and interpretive key to the Scriptures (Luke 24:27). This is crucial. We impress the Scriptures on our children in order for them to see Jesus and meet with Him.

© Scripture Union, February 2021