

Parenting by Faith: Laying a Foundation in the Toddler Years

Planning for the Infant

The Goal is for them to conform to the Family's Schedule (over time). Two helpful resources are:

Baby Wise by Robert Buckman

Twelve Hours in 12 Weeks: The baby sleep Solution by Suzy Giordano.

Planning for the Toddler

The Toddler Busy Book by Trish Kuffner

Plan around meals and bath time, then look at your open gaps to see what are the "must dos" according to your family goals. Priority goals should reflect the schedule.

When making your schedule always think about what the kids are doing while you are engaged in any activity. For example, what are the kids doing while you are doing the breakfast dishes? Have you given them an instruction what to do while you do the dishes for 20 minutes? Do you have a regular Bible Reading/Singing time, outside play time, library visit, play date time, table station activities, alone reading or play time?

Two Nap Schedule (Basic Components)

Breakfast

Nap

Lunch

Nap

Dinner

Bath

One Nap Schedule (Basic Components)

Breakfast

Snack

Lunch

Nap

Snack

Dinner

Things to remember:

1. You rule and manipulate the schedule, the schedule doesn't rule you. The schedule will keep changing as your children go through different stages in their growth and development. This shouldn't discourage you. Continue to pray over your plans and pray for your flexibility when they change.

2. Consider the WHOLE family when working through the schedule.

Planner for _____ Weekly Goals:
 the Week of: _____

Date:	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
8:00							
8:30							
9:00							
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8:30							

The Musical Mind (<http://people.spsu.ca/~k2mch/>)

<http://thr7.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/weekly-calendar-template-microsoft-word-urdpxm8n.png>

Commands to Parents

Teach - Ephesians 6:4

“ **bring them up** in the training and instruction of the Lord” (NIV)

“bring them up *ektrephete* (G.1625) "effectively nourish, nurture"

in the discipline *Paideia* (G. 3809) instruction that trains someone to reach full development

and instruction **3559** *nouthesia* (a feminine noun derived from [3560](#) /*nouthetēō*) – properly, setting (placing) the *mind* through *God-inspired warning* ("admonition").

of the Lord”(ESV)

Formal vs. Informal Teaching - Deuteronomy 6

“Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. ⁵ You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. ⁶ And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. ⁷ You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. ⁸ You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. ⁹ You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

Teach them the Awesomeness of God

One generation will declare Your works to the next and will proclaim Your mighty acts.

⁵ I will speak of Your splendor and glorious majesty and ^l Your wonderful works.

⁶ They will proclaim the power of Your awe-inspiring acts, and I will declare Your greatness.

⁷ They will give a testimony of Your great goodness and will joyfully sing of Your righteousness. (Psalm 145:4-7)

Teach them the consequences of sin and the hope of the Gospel

“Now all these things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ, and gave us the ministry of reconciliation, namely that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them and He has committed to us the word of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as through God were entreating through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, to be reconciled to God.” (2 Corinthians 5:18-20)

Sovereign- God alone is the all-powerful, holy, Creator King who must be obeyed

(Genesis 1:1; Psalm 24:1-2; 1 Peter 1:16; Isaiah 44:6; Daniel 4:34b-35)

Sinner-All have rebelled against God, deserving the punishment of Hell

(Romans 3:10-12; Isaiah 53:6; 1 John 3:4; Romans 6:23; 2 Thess. 1:9)

Savior-Jesus Christ, the Lord, will judge His enemies and save His friends through His death on the cross and resurrection from the dead.

(Matthew 1:21; Luke 2:11; John 1:1-3:14; John 8:24; 1 Peter 2:24; 1 Corinthians 15:3-4; Acts 4:12; John 14:6)

Summons-You must repent from your sin and believe in Christ to be saved.

(John 3:16; Mark 1:14-15; Acts 17:30-31; Romans 10:9-10; Eph. 2:8-9; Titus 3:5)

Teach them Regularly to Come to Jesus and Sit at His Feet

“Then some children were brought to Him so that He might lay His Hands on them and pray; and the disciples rebuked them. But Jesus said, “Let the children alone, and do not hinder them from coming to Me; for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.”

Make it a daily Habit to Store God's Word through Memorization

Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is--his good, pleasing and perfect will. (Romans 12:2)

Informal Opportunities

“With Me” Principles from *Master Plan of Evangelism*

Thoughts for Application:

1. Do I Rely on the Holy Spirit to Parent My Child? How does my prayer life reflect my dependence for parenting?
2. Do I See myself as My Child's God-given authority or do I give decisions to my young child?
3. Do I spend time reading Bible Stories/Bible to my children?
4. Do I see life as an opportunity to share the gospel with my child?
5. Do my children seem like a bother to me or do I wish them to be with me and live out my Christian life before them?