

Better Moms Make A Better World

To Encourage Your Heart

The Pattern of an Analogy

"Sharks are to blood like Mom is to coffee," my older son relayed to my younger son.
Now that's some classic material...let me write that down.

Not wanting to forget to share this rich nugget with my husband at dinner that night, I wrote Jake's sentence on my notepad that my friend, Kristen, gave me that was monogrammed, "I am only as strong as the coffee I drink and the hairspray I use!"

Um, I think I see a pattern to Jake's analogy.

It's most interesting to me that kids watch us more than we think they watch us. This became blaringly evident when I asked my kids if they'd seen my glasses anywhere. My sons asked, "Did you look on top of your head?"

You don't really want to know why he said that, do you? Can we just suffice to say it's because he's observed a pattern?

Ephesians 5:15 advises to, "Be very careful, then, how you live--not as unwise but as wise,"

If my kids hear my playing music with bad words...

If my kids see my eating junk food all day long...

If my kids observe a disrespectful attitude to strangers in public...

If my kids hear me playing uplifting music...

If my kids see me eat healthy and treats just sometimes...

If my kids see me return meanness with kindness...

If my kids see my read the Bible, not just tell them they should...

There's a pattern to the analogy of life.

Before my kids hear me talk, am I sure that I'm walking what I talk?

What pattern do you want your kids to see alive in you?

-by Steph Fink

For more about Steph, please visit her web site at: www.encouragedinheart.org

Checklist for Husbands and Wives for the New Year.

1. Do not yell at one another unless the house is on fire.
2. Shower together, it saves water.
3. The correct answer to "Do you love me?" is not "I married you, didn't I?"
4. Have a regular date night.
5. Major house projects may need to be followed by marital counseling.
6. You're never too old for crazy (or colored) underwear.
7. Remember, the silent treatment was invented by a kindergartner.
8. Read the Old Testament book "Song of Solomon" together.
9. Love begins in the morning with the way you talk to each other and treat each other.
10. Enjoy making up after a quarrel.
11. Be spontaneous. Tickling never goes out of style.
12. Find humor in negative situations.
13. Get a lock on the bedroom door, or a "Do Not Disturb" sign!
14. True love means valuing your spouse as much as God does.

2012 Meeting Dates

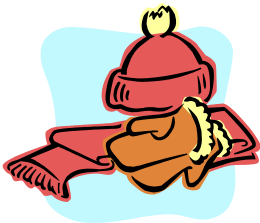
February 9 – Kari Meyer – *Word Gifts: Releasing the Power of Encouragement*

March 8 – Barbara Curtis – *Raising Kids in a Pop Culture*

April 12- Kathi Lipp – *The Me Project: 21 Days to Living the Life you have Always Wanted*

**** Open House, bring a friend! ****

May 10 – Sherri Munshi – *Shopping Your Closet*



“Praying not only affects us, it also reaches out and touches those for whom we pray. When we pray for our children, we are asking God to make His presence part of their lives and work powerfully on their behalf... All that needs to happen in our lives and the lives of our children cannot happen without the presence and power of God. Prayer invites and ignites both.”

- Stormie Omartian
“The Power of a Praying Parent”

?? Question of the Month ??

Answers from last month's question: "What are the ages of your children and have you spoken to them about puberty and reproduction"?

5 AND UNDER: 100% NO	AGE 11: 83% YES, 17% NO
AGES 6-7: 7% YES, 93% NO	AGE 12: 80% YES, 20% NO
AGE 8: 100% NO	NO DATA FOR AGES 13-15
AGE 9: 33%YES, 67% NO	AGES 16-17: 100% YES
AGE 10: 43% YES, 57% NO	



Spotlight on Mentor Moms



Our three mentor moms are here to encourage and pray for us, having been through this stage of mothering and lived to tell about it. To help us get to know them better, we will be highlighting them in the upcoming newsletters. Please introduce yourself to them and take advantage of their knowledge and support.

Beth Davidson and her family moved to Northern Virginia just three years ago after being in the Chicago area for 40 years. But, don't be fooled, she is really a southern girl at heart, hailing from Alabama.

Beth has been married to Wayne for 29 years and has three children and two grandchildren. Her daughter Heather is grown with children of her own, Joel is out of school and lives locally, and her son Chad, the youngest, is still in high school and a licensed pilot.

Currently, Beth is the Director of Women's Ministries here at Christian Fellowship Church. Beth has recently accepted this position which follows a long, extensive career of volunteer ministry work, including working in counseling with Billy Graham Ministries.

When she has free time (not often enough), Beth enjoys flying with Chad, being outdoors, biking and bird watching. She loves wildlife and especially birds, with feeders strategically placed outside windows to really see the beautiful variety of birds living in the woodlands just outside her backdoor.



Ladies Night Out



MOMsnext BUNCO night – Thursday, January 26th
Nancy Gordon's home - 20238 Kentucky Oaks Court, Ashburn 20147 703.858.7766
Fun for all, no experience required!



Save the Date



Chick Flick Movie Night – Thursday, February 23rd, at 7:00 PM
More details in next month's newsletter

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