

Concerns from Your Principal

As I think about our world and this generation, I ask myself a question, “How well do we know our kids?” You probably know the verse Proverbs 22:6. It states, “Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.” My parents instilled character in me and raised me to be who I am today, but times have changed. As parents, it is still our job to raise them the right way. We cannot blame it all on society or friends. It is my responsibility and yours to train them the way God intended.

Technology has added a whole new way of how we look at life. How many of us have a cell phone or tablet? How many of our kids have this also? It makes me wonder how we all have changed. So it bears the question, “How well do I know my kids?” The average child is at school seven and a half hours a day. If they play sports or are in childcare, the hours go up. Children are often different around their parents than they are at school. They talk different and they act different. So, as I wonder how well I know my kids, I start to wonder how well we all know our kids.

Ask yourself the following questions:

- What does your child want to be when he or she grows up?
- Who is your child’s best friend? (This is important because they will influence your child).
- What does your child like or dislike about school?
- Who is your child’s hero?
- What is your child’s greatest and weakest strength?
- What is their favorite movie, childhood story or hobby?
- What is their favorite meal?
- What kind of music do they listen too?
- How much time do they spend on their phone, tablet or video games?
- What kind of movies or T.V. shows are they allowed to watch?
- What do others say about your child? For instance, how do they describe them?
- Who do they like?
- Do you eat supper together at the table?
- Does your child feel loved?
- How often do you have a conversation with your child?
- Does your child play alone or participate in group activities?
- If you are divorced, does your child blame themselves?
- Who are your children following on Twitter, Instagram etc?

There are many other questions I could ask, but as I go through these I can’t answer some of these questions about my own children. Our children will not be with us forever. How good of a job am I doing to raise them the right way? Sometimes our kids are hurting inside and we do not have a clue what they are going through. I challenge you and myself to get to know our kids. It is a shame that my family and I live in the same house and I may not know the people who are living in it with me.

