

RIGHTEOUS TRADITIONS: Wise and Worthwhile Words of Wisdom

Righteous traditions have a unique power. They become the glue to bind families together. Traditions help establish a firm foundation for our children, which in turn creates stronger families. Ultimately, stronger families create a stronger church and nation. Righteous traditions are vital in our L.D. S. homes today to battle the forces of evil.

Thomas S. Monson reported on a worldwide survey of nearly 100,000 boys and girls. He came up with the following list of do's and don'ts that every mother and father should memorize:

1. Treat all your children with equal affection.
2. Keep close to them.
3. Make their friends welcome in your home.
4. Don't quarrel in front of the children.
5. Be thoughtful to each other.
6. Never lie to your children.
7. Always answer their questions.
8. Don't punish them in the presence of others.
9. Be constant in affections and moods.
10. Concentrate on good points—not failings.

Specific righteous traditions for families from President Joseph F. Smith:

- Try today, and tomorrow, to make a change in your home by praying twice a day with your family.
- Call on your children and your wife to pray with you.
- Ask a blessing upon every meal you eat.
- Spend ten minutes in reading a chapter from the words of the Lord in the Bible, the Book of Mormon, or the Doctrine and Covenants, before you retire or before you go to your daily toil.
- Feed your spiritual selves at home, as well as in public places.
- Let love, peace, the Spirit of the Lord, kindness, charity, and sacrifice for others abound in your families.
- Banish harsh words, envying, hatred, evil speaking, obscene language, innuendos and blasphemy. Let the Spirit of God take possession of your hearts...
- Not one child in a hundred would go astray if the home environment, example and training are in harmony with the truth of the Gospel of Christ, as revealed and taught to the Latter-day Saints.

A recent survey of more than two thousand adolescents revealed some surprising things about today's kids. A majority of the kids believe in God and feel that more religion is needed in family life. The youngsters also expressed the wish that families could spend more time together as a family. The kids also said they wanted to communicate better with their parents.

President Thomas S. Monson

Despite all new inventions and modern designs, fads, and fetishes, no one has yet invented, or will ever invent, a satisfying substitute for one's own family.

Stuart E. Rosenberg

We say that children should be loyal to their parents. It is equally necessary that parents be loyal to their children.

Royal Bank of Canada Newsletter

We must spend more time with the children and less in clubs...and social gatherings. Fathers and mothers, we must come back home. We must sacrifice some of our other interests and organize our Church programs better so that both parents and youth will not be away from home so much of the time. We must get more people to work in the Church so that the burden will not fall so heavily on the few. Then we must organize and to the maximum possible in the minimum amount of time, so that there can be more proper home life.

Spencer W. Kimball

Do we want our homes to be happy? If we do, let them be the abiding place of prayer, thanksgiving, and gratitude.

George Albert Smith

Do your best to make certain you are the sort of person you want your children to become."

Thomas S. Monson

Nothing is more beautiful than a mother who is proud of her husband and teaches her children to be like him.

Henry D. Moyle

There is too little religious devotion, love and fear of God in the home; too much worldliness, selfishness, indifference, and lack of reverence in the family.

Joseph F. Smith

Let us be worthy to be honored. Set your homes in order and have therein a spirit of joy with your companions, friends, and neighbors, that wherever you go the world will be brighter and happier because of your lives.

George A. Smith

We have been so anxious to give our children what we did not have that we have failed to give them what we should.

Thomas S. Monson

One of the questions after a study of magnets at Olympus Junior High located in Salt Lake City, Utah, was: What begins with M and picks things up? More than one-third of the students answered “Mother.”

Abraham Lincoln said, “All that I am and all that I hope to be I owe to my angel mother. Blessings on her memory.”

It is the mother who creates memories and righteous traditions. It is the mother who is the consistent force who never gives up on a child. It is the mother who stays up late and gets up early to work with a child to complete assignments and projects. It is the mother who worries. It is the mother who rolls with life’s punches and teaches her children to do the same. It is the mother who teaches her children, “There are no problems so great that we cannot solve,” and then sets about solving the world’s problems. God bless all the mothers of the earth. God bless all the homes of the world to develop and maintain righteous traditions.