

Have you ever sat and watched your child and wondered what they would become? What will they be like as teenagers? What kind of an adult will they become? What kind of an influence will you have in their lives (positive or negative)? It behooves us to do it.

This past week I was listening to a pastor share how one mom, in the Bible, (Exodus 2:1-10) had a vision for her child. She and her family lived in perilous times. The pharaoh was killing baby boys by throwing them in the river, but this mom knew the Lord and sought Him for wisdom. She would have prayed without ceasing for the life of her child (1 Thess 5:17).

When Jochebed's son was born, she saw that he was a goodly child. Goodly, in the Hebrew, is **tobe** and it means good, beautiful, best, better, bountiful, cheerful, etc. She saw that God, her heavenly Father, had something special for her child (Jeremiah 29:11) so she hid him for three months. After three months she could no longer hide him so she made an ark. The word **ark** is the same word for the ark of Noah (The only two places in scripture where that word for **ark** is used.). She made it according to the same plan, coated with tar and pitch. She then put him in the same river where pharaoh was throwing the babies. She knew her baby was safe in that ark and God was watching over him. Who showed up? The Pharaoh's daughter and rescued her baby. Not only that, but Jochebed was chosen as the one to nurse him until he was old enough to be weaned. Do you think she used that time to pray over him and teach her son about her Lord? We know she did because God chose Moses, Jochebed's baby, to lead the Israelites, His people, out of bondage! Jochebed knew her Lord had plans (Jeremiah 29:11) for her precious son and she was faithful to the vision the Lord had given her.

How about you? Do you have a vision for your child? How much time are you spending in prayer for your child and their future? Are you actively involved in disciplining and training them up in the way they should go (Proverbs 22:6)?

Goodly children do not just happen along the way.

They are prayed for, loved, encouraged, disciplined, and trained.

They are so precious; one of a kind eternal beings! They are worthy of our time.

Deuteronomy 6:4-8

Hear O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.

- Jan Shrable