Chores, Allowance, & Hard Work



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CHORES

Joyful hard work is a blessing to all involved. God created us to work hard and chores can be a little taste of the blessing of hard work.

Yes, doing chores builds character, but chores also build confidence, create a sense of satisfaction, and can be fun.

I have my children do chores everyday because when they grow up they will have to do chores everyday. I also want my children to value and enjoy hard work. Chores are a great way for them to learn to work hard.

Tips:

Choose age-appropriate chores
Set a time each day to do chores
Appreciate your children's hard work!

AGE-APPROPRIATE CHORES

Toddler (2-3)

Make Bed
Put Dirty Clothes in Hamper
Put Clothes Away
Pick Up & Put Away Toys
Unload Silverware from Dishwasher
Wipe Cabinets & Baseboards

Preschooler (4-5)

All Toddler Chores

Set the Table

Clear the Table

Feed Pets

Dust

Move Clothes from Washer to Dryer Match Socks & Fold Towels/Washcloths Water Plants & Weed

Ages 6-8

All Toddler & Preschooler Chores
Load & Unload the Dishwasher
Simple Meal Prep
Fix Cereal for Younger Siblings
Wash Dishes with Help
Clean Mirrors
Sweep
Vacuum
Fold Laundry
Wipe Down Sinks, Counters, Toilets
Get the Mail
Take Out Trash
Rake Leaves
Read Aloud to Younger Children

AGE-APPROPRIATE CHORES

Ages 9-11

All Younger Chores
Make Simple Meals
Wash Dishes
Clean Bathrooms
Wash & Dry Clothes
Change Bed
Mop Floors
Weed Garden
Clean Out Car
Take Garbage/Recycle to the Curb

Ages 12 & Up

All Younger Chores
Clean Out Refrigerator
Plan & Prepare Meals
Put Away Groceries
Fold Laundry
Iron
Wash Windows
Mow the Lawn
Wash the Car
Unclog a Drain
Unstop a Toilet
Babysit Younger Children
Help Younger Children with Schoolwork

CHILD #1 CHORE LIST

CHILD #2 CHORE LIST

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CHILD #3 CHORE LIST

CHILD #4 CHORE LIST

CHILD #5 CHORE LIST

ALLOWANCE

Many parents pay their children an allowance for doing their chores. To be honest, we were so poor when our oldest children were little that we couldn't scrape together a few dollars for allowance. So they just learned to do their chores because it was the right thing to do. Everyone in a family does their fair share to make the household run smoothly.

If you do give an allowance to children for their chores, make sure they have to do their chores to get their allowance. Then, be sure to train them to tithe, save, and spend wisely.

We provided our children with opportunities to earn extra money by doing extra work beyond chores. For example, washing the car wasn't a chore, but the kids could earn money washing the car. From extra money they earned working for us and other people (tutoring, babysitting, mowing neighbor's lawns), they tithed, saved, and spent wisely.

MY OWN THOUGHTS ON ALLOWANCE

HARD WORK

God is our provider and He loves to bless us. However, the number #1 way He provides is through hard work.

All hard work brings a profit, but mere talk leads only to poverty. (Proverbs 14:3)

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving. (Colossians 3:23-24)

For even when we were with you, we gave you this rule: "The one who is unwilling to work shall not eat." (II Thessalonians 3:10)

TIPS TO TEACH CHILDREN TO WORK HARD

Be a good example--let children see you work hard!

Don't do everything for your kids

Take them up on their offers to help when they are little and show appreciation always

Be an encourager, not a control freak!

Require children to take care of their own room and stuff

Make work part of your family routine

Serve at church and in the community as a family

Let children sweat, get their hands dirty, and be challenged with work

Work together as a family on projects that are challenging

Give children a chance to earn money

Teach children to tithe, save, and spend wisely

EXTRA JOBS TO EARN MONEY IDEAS