



Inside:

- Couch Time topic!
- Book Review Proverbs for Parenting
- The National Conference - Families of Fire
- Monthly Tip - Character training is important
- Training Workshop Day
- Emergency bible verses

State Team Greeting

Hello everyone,

Hope our newsletter finds you all well and having great success in growing your family in a Godly manner. As we travel around it is such a joy to meet with and observe the quality in our Growing Families families! But the one thing that we must not do is become complacent. It is so true that great families don't just appear - it comes from the hard work and dedicated application of principles when the kids are little so that we can absolutely enjoy the teen years.

You know in my work here we often come across families that appear to be so "together" but what you see on the surface is not what's really going on.

After beginning GKGW with one family (a wonderful Christian family) some time back, I was shocked to find that all was not rosy at home. I won't go into details but the parents were convinced that all they had to do was be good Christian parents and their children would follow suit. Well that was until they hit Chapter 5 of GKGW, which speaks of "Your Child's Conscience!"

Wow what a reaction. I had so many 'but's it just wasn't funny. You see this couple thought that if they set the example (which we should all do) the kids would follow

suit, but we know that it doesn't. As Garry Ezzo so wonderfully teaches from Deut. 6:6-9 - we have a duty to teach our children - they don't get it by osmosis - it has to be taught - and that is how we establish the moral warehouse in their hearts and we begin to deposit wisdom in that warehouse so that when they are away from us, their moral search mechanism will search up and down till it finds that which we, (as the parent) have put there by instruction and example. Remember please and don't ever forget to teach the Practical and Moral Reason WHY! Build their moral warehouse and enjoy the fruits of that labour.

Our next Newsletter will (can you believe it?) be our Christmas edition! Where has 2008 gone? We on the GFA Qld State Team hope that our newsletters are informative, enjoyable and interesting. Please remember that we are here to assist you so if you have a question - let us fill your moral warehouse too - ask us what you want to know and we will do our very best to answer - either personally or via a special section in our newsletter.

Until next time, may God bless you and your families!

Sean

On behalf of the GFA Qld State Team

What's Happening in Queensland?

(Please send your details into qld_enquiries@gfi.org.au to have your local event or course listed here)

GKGW training day	27th Nov '08	Eatons Hill	3325 3787
National Conference - Stanwell Tops	16 - 19 Apr '09	www.familiesoffire.gfi.org.au	
Queensland State Camp	14 - 16 Aug '09	Watson Park - Dakabin	3325 3787

Want your Course Advertised Here...

Then email or call us on qld_enquiries@gfi.org.au or 07 3325 3787



Play in the Park

The Lord faithfully answered the prayers of the Bongers children - rain to fill the dams during the week and a sunny day for the day in park. It was fantastic time of playing, eating and talking. The children had fun kicking balls, making "Sand Sundae's", eating chips and sharing a great time together. As for the adults it was a nice quite time of talking and catching up with an agreement that we should do this again.

GKGW
information at
GrowingKids.org

This site is directed toward parents specifically interested in the Ezzos' core curriculum, Growing Kids God's Way. The history, biblical foundations, Ezzos' teachings and beliefs, and much more will be found in this very practical forum.

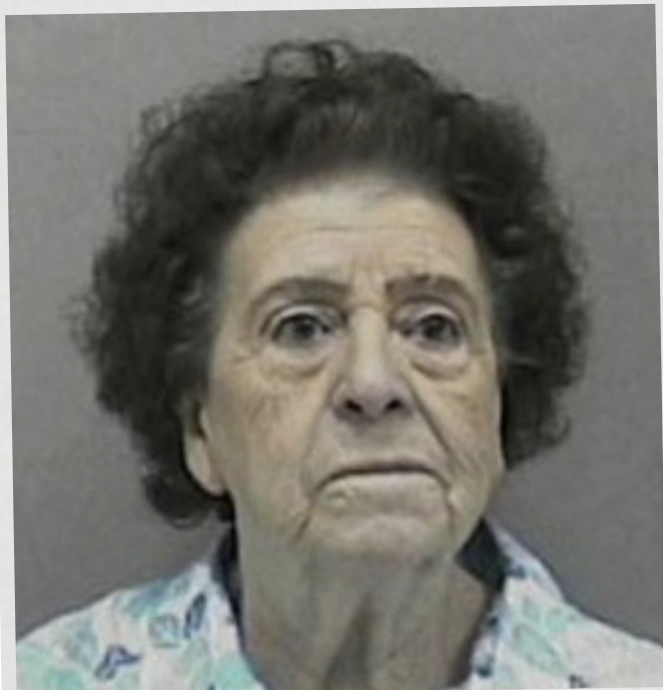




Character training is important... knowing the moral reasons why

When Grandma goes to court

Lawyers should never ask a Mississippi grandma a question if they aren't prepared for the answer



In a trial, a Southern small-town prosecuting attorney called his first witness, a grandmotherly, elderly woman to the stand. He approached her and asked, 'Mrs Jones, do you know me?' She responded, 'Why, yes, I do know you, Mr Williams. I've known you since you were a boy, and frankly, you've been a big disappointment to me. You lie, you cheat, and you manipulate people and talk about them behind their backs. You think you're a big shot when you haven't the brains to realise you'll never amount to anything more than a two-bit paper pusher. Yes I know you.'

The lawyer was stunned. Not knowing what else to do, he pointed across the room and asked, 'Mrs Jones, do you know the defence attorney?'

She again replied, 'Why yes, I do. I've known Mr Bradley since he was a youngster, too. He's lazy, bigoted, and he has a drinking problem. He can't build a normal relationship with anyone, and his law practice is one of the worst in the entire state. Yes, I know him.'

The defence attorney nearly died.

The judge asked both counsellors to approach the bench and, in a very quite voice said,

'If either of you idiots ask her if she knows me, I'll send you both to the electric chair.'

Mr Williams should have had Proverbs 10:23 in his heart. Mr Bradley may have wished he had followed the advise of Solomon in Proverbs 23:20 - 21. Now the Judge (while his motive may have been questionable) certainly followed Proverbs 17:28. But what of Mrs Jones... while speaking the truth is indeed an honourable defence for her actions (Proverbs 24:26), she should have considered what the wisest man of all time had to say in Proverbs 15:23 or Proverbs 15:28.

Pr 10:23 - a fool finds pleasure in evil conduct, but a man of understanding delights in wisdom.

Pr 23:20-21 - do not join those who drink too much wine...

Pr 17:28 - Even a fool is thought wise if he keeps silent, and discerning if he holds his tongue.

Pr 24:26 - An honest answer is like a kiss on the lips. **Pr 15:23** - A man (or woman) finds joy in giving an apt reply...

Pr 15:28 - The heart of the righteous weighs its answers, but the mouth of the wicked gushes evil.

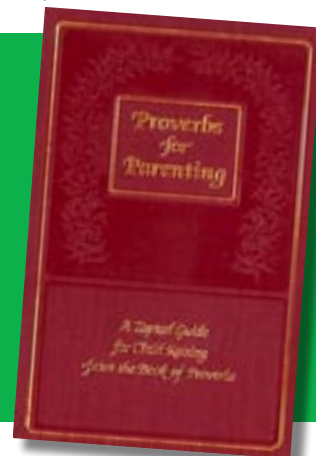
Book Review - Proverbs for Parenting A Topical Guide for Child Raising from the Book of Proverbs

One of the greatest things we can do for our children is to teach them God's Word. The words we speak help build our children's consciences, their understanding of God, and their view of life and the world about them. The proverbs are categorised into many helpful areas where children need correction. As a parent you will benefit as much as your child will, you too will

increase in your knowledge and application of them. A well presented, quality, hardcover book of 326 pages.

For GKGW leaders, alert your class to the gems in this book at week 1 when discussing the moral reason why and where to find some easily...

You can get this from GFA for **\$26.40**.



Quality time

A quality time person loves "just spending time together". Try walking together, shopping together - anything together - EXCEPT for watching TV together...

Gift giving

Bring something home that says - while we were apart I thought of you. Try small treats - Caramello Koalas are great for the whole family. The longer you are away the greater the appreciation is likely to be.

What they said ...

The simplest things of God sometimes escape man... *Russ Taff*
Remember to marvel at creation and show how GREAT your God is to your children... *Geoff Bongers*

Families of Fire



GROWING FAMILIES AUSTRALIA
NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2009

16th - 19th April 2009 | Stanwell Tops NSW



If you weigh it all up can you afford not to get to the conference and be encouraged by a like minded community - come on Queenslanders - get organised, register TODAY and save up to join us!

REMINDER



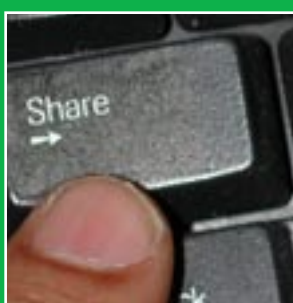
How about this week during couch time

Discuss the state of your child's heart and how you think you are going as a father or mother and as a team. You may even talk about what courses you may have to do to refresh...



Make a gift - teach your child to knit

Christmas is not far away and both my mother and mother in law have made a lambie just like the one pictured. The wool purchased at Spotlight or Crazy Clarkes for about \$2 and not much for the stuffing, the face and feet were "left overs" The pattern is available free along with a range of other patterns (www.sullivans.net). So if you can knit - this may be a just what you need.. Do you need to teach one of your children how to knit - your child could begin this at about 9 years of age. If you can't knit yourself - you may wish to find a grand parent who can. More than likely they will be more than happy to pass on the skill and over the school holidays it may be a great time of bonding of parent or grand parent to child.



Next Newsletter please share!

Have you anything you'd like to share in the next newsletter? We are looking for tips, anecdotes, questions and any other contributions we'd love to hear from you! Contact us on qld_enquiries@gfi.org.au.



Emergency Telephone Numbers

These are more effective than 000 when -

- You are sad phone John 14
- You have sinned phone Psalm 51
- You are facing danger phone Psalm 91
- People have failed you phone Psalm 27
- It feels as though God is far from you phone Psalm 139
- Your faith needs stimulation phone Hebrews 11
- You are alone and scared..... phone Psalm 23
- You are worried..... phone Matthew 8:19-34
- You are hurt and critical..... phone 1 Corinthians 13
- You wonder about Christianity phone 2 Corinthians 5:15-18
- You feel like an outcast phone Romans 8:31-39
- You are seeking peace phone Matthew 11:25-30
- It feels as if the world is bigger than God phone Psalm 90
- You need Christ like insurance phone Romans 8:1-30
- You are leaving home for a trip..... phone Psalm 121
- You are praying for yourself phone Psalm 87
- You require courage for a task phone Joshua 1
- Inflation's and investments are hogging your thoughts phone Mark 10:17-31
- You are depressive phone Psalm 27
- Your bank account is empty phone Psalm 37
- You lose faith in mankind phone 1 Corinthians 13
- It looks like people are unfriendly phone John 15
- You are losing hope..... phone Psalm 126
- You feel the world is small compared to you phone Psalm 19
- You want to carry fruit phone John 15
- Paul's secret for happiness phone Colossians 3:12-17
- With big opportunity/discovery phone Isaiah 55
- To get along with other people..... phone Romans 12

ALTERNATE NUMBERS

- For dealing with fear call Psalm 47
- For security call Psalm 121:3
- For assurance call Mark 8:35
- For reassurance call Psalm 145:18

ALL THESE NUMBERS MAY BE PHONED DIRECTLY. NO OPERATOR ASSISTANCE IS NECESSARY. ALL LINES TO HEAVEN ARE AVAILABLE 24 HOURS A DAY. FEED YOUR FAITH, AND DOUBT WILL STARVE TO DEATH

TRAINING WORKSHOP



The leadership training seminar is for those who are interested in leading a GFA group or those who wish to learn about running GFA classes more effectively... This is also an opportunity to connect with like minded people seeking to parent from a biblical perspective... Come and be encouraged and be an encouragement to others. The session starts at 7:00pm on the Thursday the 27th of November.

Topics to be covered include:

What does the full range of GFI look like and
what fits where

What to do before you run a class

Running a Growing Kids Class

Do's & Don'ts of class leadership

When: Thursday 27th November @ 7:00pm – 10:00
with a prompt start required

RSVP: by the 24th by mail, phone or email

Where: 47 Snow Wood Dr, Eatons Hill

Cost: \$15 pp

Contact: Alicia 3325 3787, bongers.family@bigpond.com