

Checklist for Spiritual Training

Concept 1: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart” (Mark 12:30)

- Is your child learning of the love of God through the love, tenderness, and mercy of his parents?
- Is he learning to talk about the Lord and to include Him in his thoughts and plans?
- Is he learning to ask Jesus for help whenever he is frightened or anxious or lonely?
- Is he learning to read the Bible?
- Is he learning to pray?
- Is he learning the meaning of faith and trust?
- Is he learning the joy of the Christian way of life?
- Is he learning the beauty of Jesus’ birth and death?

Concept 2: “Love your neighbor as yourself” (Mark 12:31)

- Is he learning to understand and empathize with the feeling of others?
- Is he learning not to be selfish or demanding?
- Is he learning to share?
- Is he learning how to be kind to others?
- Is he learning to accept himself?

Concept 3: “Teach me to do your will, for you are my God” (Psalm 143:10)

- Is he learning to obey his parents as preparation for later obedience to God?
- Is he learning to behave properly in church – God’s house?
- Is he learning a healthy appreciation for both aspects of God’s nature: love and justice?
- Is he learning to cooperate with and submit to authorities outside of self: parents, teachers, and police et/ cetera?
- Is he learning the meaning of sin and its inevitable consequences?

Concept 4: “Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man” (Ecclesiastes 12:13)

- Is he learning to be truthful and honest?
- Is he learning to keep the Sabbath day holy?
- Is he learning the relative insignificance of materialism?
- Is he learning the meaning of the Christian family and the faithfulness to it that God intends?

Concept 5: “But the fruit of the Spirit is . . . self-control” (Galatians 5:22-23)

- Is he learning to give a portion of his allowance (and other money) to God?
- Is he learning to control his impulses?
- Is he learning to work and carry responsibility?
- Is he learning to tolerate minor frustration?
- Is he learning to memorize and quote Scripture?

Concept 6: “He who humbles himself will be exalted” (Luke 14:11)

- Is he learning to be appreciative?
- Is he learning to thank God for the good things in his life?
- Is he learning to forgive and forget?
- Is he learning the vast difference between self-worth and egotistical pride?
- Is he learning to bow reverently before the God of the universe?