

## **The Lessons I really want my kids to learn. (Before they launch)**

*The numbers are for reference only. There is no priority. They are all important.*

1. The importance of a personal relationship with God nurtured through Word and prayer.
2. Tithing - helps up your priorities in the right place, helps to keep your head on straight. God doesn't need your money, but your neighbor does and you need to trust God to take care of you on 90%.
3. The purpose of money is to help others. Take what gives you, use just what you need for yourself. Use the rest of it to help others.
4. God's laws are for our benefit. He made us and he knows how we work best. They aren't trip hazards, they lead us into health and highest function.
5. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength.
6. Inner beauty is more important than outer beauty. The difference between the two. What makes you beautiful on the inside.
7. Self-confidence comes from God. Be patient. Don't make bad decisions to rush blessings or to ease pain.
8. Persecution is an honor and you can take whatever comes your way because of the resurrection.
9. God created everything. Evolution is a hoax. Science cannot explain evolution any more than it can explain Creationism.
10. God created you, loves you and will never forsake you. Therefore, never let your fears make your decisions.
11. The key to good relationship with the other humans is to tell someone you are hurt, ask for an apology, and forgive them. Just like God does.
12. It is far more important to be humble than right. Err on the side of humility.
13. Honor and respect all authority. Even if you disagree. Your job is not to change the world, or the society, or the government. Your job is not to get unbelievers to change their behavior. Your job is to create disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. (Matthew 28:19) You don't have to be a pastor to do this. Anyone can do this no matter what career they have.
14. Share what you have with others. Develop an earnest desire for others to have more or better than you have.
15. Care about others, especially people who are most needy and vulnerable. Work hard to find them and help them.
16. Having a strong faith and trust in God from your heart is what matters. Doing "religious things" like going to church, giving to the church and the needy, serving the church and others, keeping the 10 Commandments, are all good things that will help your heart be in the right place, but they are not what really matters.

17. You can do anything you want with your life as long as it doesn't create for yourself wealth or power *at the expense of others*.
18. Good pride is called self-confidence.  
Bad pride is called arrogance.  
Arrogance is when you can't recognize your own faults and weaknesses and think that you are better than others.  
Self-confidence is when you know you are valuable and awesome *even though* you have faults and weaknesses and *even when* arrogant people try to put you down.
19. A girl/woman who dresses modestly is saying, "I demand to be valued for who I am (my inner beauty) not just what I look like." A girl/woman who dresses immodestly is saying, "I want to be valued first for what I look like."
20. If a guy goes for women who dress immodestly, you can tell that he has low self-esteem, and is just trying to look good next to a good-looking girl/woman. If a guy goes for a woman who dresses modestly, you can tell that he has great self-esteem, and that he doesn't need a hot girl next to him to be important and valuable.

For more on each of these, please watch the messages in the series, "Prepare For Launch" on St. John.tv. Click on Watch Church Now and then click on the Prepare For Launch logo under Recent Sermon Series