CHM LEADERSHIP CERTIFICATION Level III, Course #5

Fostering Kid's Time Alone with God Sally Lam Phoon, NSD Children's Ministries (Handouts)

What is this Mother thinking?

What Research says

- More than half of our teens leave the church after high school.
- Christian young people today don't know the Bible as they used to.
- They are not transferring their Biblical knowledge into a biblical worldview
 *Josh McDowell 15% have a biblical worldview
 *Barna thinks it's less than 10%. (Larry Fowler, *Raising a Modern-Day Joseph, pp. 27, 28*)

Home, School, Church, and the Community Interaction

Home Influences — Mother, Father, Grandparents, Uncles/Aunts and Relatives

Questions to Ponder

- Am I saved by grace through faith in Jesus Christ?
- Do I experience the joy of a new life in Jesus?
- Am I am growing every day in my relationship with Jesus?
 *Do I have time alone with God myself?
 *Do my children know that I read the Bible and pray daily?

Questions to Ponder

- Do I believe that God has dreams for my children?
- Am I intentional about my children's spiritual growth and development as much as their physical, academic and social development?
 *Do I teach my kids to love God's Word?
 - *Do I lead my kids to worship God?
- Do I recognize the importance of helping our children become God's children, not His grandchildren?

Questions to Ponder

- Do I have the skills to be a spiritual mentor for my children?
- Is my family comfortable discussing spiritual things?
- Is family worship an important part of our family life?

Questions to Ponder

- Do I walk the talk?
 - *Are you positive in your outlook?
 - *Do you worry and lose your temper when something goes wrong?
 - *Does God's love shine through your behavior everyday, not only on Sabbath?

Questions to Ponder

- In my relationships
 - *Am I involved with my spouse?
 - *Do the children feel secure with the connection and love between both parents?
 - *Are you involved intimately with your children (fathers especially)?
 - *Are you involved with your close relatives & church family?

Questions to Ponder

- Am I active in sharing my faith in God with others?
- Am I active in leading my children in serving others?

Home, Church, School & Community Interaction

Counsels on Sabbath School Work, p. 20

"Fathers and mothers, we entreat you to take up your long-neglected duties. Search the Scriptures yourselves; assist your children in the study of the Sacred Word. Make diligent work because of past neglect. Do not send the children away by themselves to study the Bible, but read it with them, teach them in a simple manner what you know, and keep in the school of Christ as diligent students yourselves."

TAG—Time Alone with God

- Preparing the heart with prayer
- ACTS
 - *Adoration
 - *Confession
 - *Thanksgiving
 - *Supplication

TAG—Time Alone with God

- Connecting with the Word
- What does this mean to me today?
- Praying the Word
- Application in real life

Drawing Deep from the Word of God & Prayer

"The lily on the lake strikes its roots down deep beneath the surface of rubbish and slime, and through its porous stem draws those properties that will aid its development and bring to light its spotless blossom to repose in purity on the bosom of the lake." *Ellen White, My Life Today, 263*)

Prayer

"Christian parents, morning and evening, by earnest prayer and persevering faith, to make a hedge about their children. They should patiently instruct them, kindly and untiringly teach them how to live in order to please God." **{1T 397}**

Prayer

"Could our children learn these lessons of finding at dawn and twilight a quiet season for communion with their Father in heaven, in the morning of their years, what freshness and power, what joy and sweetness, would be brought into their lives!" – CG 525

How do we foster TAG at the different ages?

0 – 5 years 6-10 years 11-15 years

"Give Study to the Early Training—The early training of children is a subject that all should carefully study. We need to make the education of our children a business, for their salvation depends largely upon the education given them in childhood. Parents and guardians must themselves maintain purity of heart and life, if they desire their children to be pure. As fathers and mothers, we should train and discipline ourselves. Then as teachers in the home, we can train our children, preparing them for the immortal inheritance.6The Review and Herald, September 8, 1904."

"The youth should be carefully and judiciously trained, for the wrong habits formed in childhood and youth often cling to the entire life-experience. May God help us to see the necessity of beginning right.8The Gospel Herald, December 24, 1902."

"The Plant—An Object Lesson in Child Training—The gradual development of the plant from the seed is an object lesson in child training. There is "first the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear." Mark 4:28." (CG 27)

"Children should not be forced into a precocious maturity, but as long as possible should retain the freshness and grace of their early years." (Ed 107)

Making Disciples

The K.I.D. Movement