

Staying Connected To Be Respected

To be respected, you must respect yourself. You must live the life that's upright and honorable to the Lord.

Matthew 6:33 (NIV) *But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.* In other words, put Christ first in your life and things will basically fall in place and he will meet your needs and that's what you have to do as a believer.

To be respected *you must give* your kids reason to hold you in high esteem. At all stages and ages your children are always taking notes on how you live your life. They *need* to be able to look back and see the admirable qualities in you. They *need* to see that you treated your spouse with respect and kindness. They *need* to see that you're a good Samaritan type of mom or dad. They *need* to see that you were a natural helper.

Staying Connected

Staying connected with your children requires that you show a genuine interest in what is important to them. Think twice before discounting their preferences, style, and language. Do not get hung up on the outside, pay attention to your child's heart. The more you tune into their heart, the easier it will be for them to tune into yours.

When your child talks, listen and respond without asking a million questions. Draw on your kids opinions, advice and tastes. Ask for their opinion, even if you don't need it. Let them know you care about what they think.

Show your children that it means the world just to be with them.

Showing Respect to Your Children

- Never do for them what they could do for themselves
- Don't repeat instructions
- Keep your expectations reasonable
- Encourage your children - don't praise them - praise God
- Encourage them to be different from others

If you want to be respected by your kids, you need to start today.