



WEEK ONE

GENESIS 37; JEREMIAH 1:5

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SAY
THIS

WHO HAS A PLAN FOR YOU?
GOD HAS A PLAN FOR ME.



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DO
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MORNING TIME

When you go into your child's room this month say, "Good morning, [child's name]! I'm so glad God's plan was to give you to me. I love hanging out with you!" Give child a big hug.

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REMEMBER THIS

"The plans of the Lord stand firm forever."
Psalm 33:11, NIV

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BASIC
TRUTH

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THINGS YOU'LL NEVER REGRET AS A PARENT

By Carey Nieuwhof

We will all have regrets as parents, but the flip side is also true. We will all have things we'll never regret doing. If you think about doing things you'll never regret, you can actually do them more often. Here are four things you'll never regret as a parent:

1. TAKING FAMILY VACATIONS

It can be so hard to find both time and money to get away, but it's one of the best things you can do as a family. While staycations are decent, a vacation moves everyone out of their native environment and into new experiences together. If you don't have a ton of money, go camping or borrow someone's house for the weekend. Moments away will become some of your family's fondest memories.

2. INCORPORATING GOD INTO THE RHYTHM OF FAMILY LIFE

Yep, life is busy. And talking about God can be . . . well, awkward. But making God a natural part of the conversation when your kids are young, makes it easier when they're older. In the baby and toddler years, start with morning and bedtime stories and prayers. In the elementary years, mealtime is a great time to talk about God and life.

3. SETTING BOUNDARIES

So much of the conflict between parents and kids happens because boundaries

aren't clear. Boundaries and limits are something we both crave and resist. We think freedom resides in having no boundaries and limits, until we have none. Then we crave them. Kids are masters at pushing the boundaries. If you can set and agree on boundaries ahead of time, life becomes so much simpler. Then you have a solution to a problem before it arises.

4. PUTTING EACH OTHER BEFORE THE KIDS

If you're married, it's as important for your child to know you love each other as it is for your child to know you love them. Modeling a healthy marriage is a wonderful gift to give them. So, go on a date. Hire a sitter or enlist the grandparents, and get away. Also, your kids will eventually move out (really . . . no lies!) and all you will have left is each other. It works way better when you still like each other.

This list could be way longer, think about something you do as a family that you know you will never regret. Now, keep doing it!

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