

The Powerful Six List

- 1. Relax.* Make an allowance for your kids' faults because you love them (Ephesians 4:2). They are going to mess up, and it's okay. Jesus already knows, and that's why He came! Lead them to the One who gives them the power to overcome sin.
- 2. Be humble.* Don't parent out of pride. If your kid misbehaves in public or acts up around your friends' kids, smile and tell them, "So sorry, we're trying to work on this right now." Admit it when your kids are wrong, but don't shame them.
- 3. Be gentle.* Proverbs 15:1 (nkjv) says, "A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger." Try not to raise your voice, and instead, try to speak gently. This totally works!
- 4. Be patient.* James 1:19 (nlt) says, "You must all be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry." Hear with your heart, not your head, and filter, filter, filter with love.
- 5. Be led by The Holy Spirit.* Galatians 5:18 (nkjv) says, "But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law." Wow, think about this! In the middle of a conflict, pause for a while and ask God what He thinks. Carefully listen and then obey. The Spirit gives life, but the law strengthens sin.
- 6. Choose to live in peace* (Ephesians 4:3). Don't be worried or troubled—instead, trust God with your kids. Let the shalom of God reign in your heart!