

“Stewardship – Talents”

Even at very young ages parents can begin to see certain talents or leanings in their child. Perhaps they are very gifted at sports, singing, drawing etc. And, when you see that strong-willed child stomping their little feet perhaps you are witnessing a budding attorney. Or perhaps your child is good in math; you could be raising an accountant or an engineer.

We still remember our little girl as a toddler as she became absorbed in books that had to do with the human body. She liked learning about the skeletal system and blood vessels. Every trip to the local library would result in a bag of new books that she had selected on the topic. She would also select videos to watch that showed how all the systems of our body worked together. We talked about what a great Creator God we had to think of even the tiniest details. When she was in kindergarten, she dressed for career day in a doctor’s coat and wore a stethoscope around her neck. As she grew this interest continued and today, she is a surgeon. Yes, that interest and gift was there from early childhood. And it was our job as parents to provide resources and opportunities for our little girl to develop those interests and talents that God had given her.



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Here are some practical steps to help you discover and nurture your child’s God-given talents:

1. Discover your child’s God-given talents by listening and observing.

Giving your child opportunities to participate in different activities will help you uncover and develop their talents. Maybe it's a field trip to the local museum that will open your child’s eyes to a new activity they'd enjoy pursuing. Notice the books that they select on their own at the library or book-store. Do they seem to follow a certain theme?

2. Encourage, but don't push.

Helping your child discover his/her talents can be rewarding, but remember, they may resent it if you push too hard. While some children who are talented in music may aspire to be concert pianists, others may just enjoy playing music. Hour after hour of piano practice to the child who has other interests may only discourage them. Nurture their individual, God-given talents and you will discover that they will naturally have a desire to learn and do more in that area.

3. Provide resources.

Check out resources in your community to help develop your child's talent, visit museums, purchase books or DVDs. Chat with neighbors or coworkers who may also be talented in the same area as your child and may be willing to be a positive adult mentor.



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God has blessed every one of you and your children with varied talents. Keep your eyes open and look for those interests and talents He has placed in your child. Provide the resources and opportunities that your child needs to develop those to those gifts to their full potential. Then, help them look for avenues to use those gifts to glorify God.



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