

BABY STEPS 1 SAMUEL 1:20-28

1. The Bible assumes developmental stages.

1 Samuel 1:21 And the man Elkanah, and all his house, went up to offer unto the LORD the yearly sacrifice, and his vow. 1 Samuel 1:22 But Hannah went not up; for she said unto her husband, **I will not go up until the child be weaned**, and then I will bring him, that he may appear before the LORD, and there abide for ever. 1 Samuel 1:23 And Elkanah her husband said unto her, Do what seemeth thee good; tarry **until thou have weaned him**; only the LORD establish his word. So the woman abode, and gave her son suck **until she weaned him**. 1 Samuel 1:24 And **when** she had **weaned** him, she took him up with her, with three bullocks, and one ephah of flour, and a bottle of wine, and brought him unto the house of the LORD in Shiloh: **and the child was young**.

Galatians 3:24 Wherefore the law was our **schoolmaster (παιδαγωγός)** to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.

Galatians 3:25 But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a **schoolmaster (παιδαγωγόν)**. Galatians 4:1 Now I say, That **the heir (ὁ κληρονόμος)**, as long as he is a **child (νήπιός)**, differeth nothing from a **servant (δούλου)**, though he be **lord (κύριος)** of all;

Galatians 4:2 But is under **tutors (ἐπιτρόπους)** and **governors (οἰκονόμους)** until the time appointed of the father.

2. These developmental stages are common - sense observations.

The issue revolves around:

- A time / ages
- Transition

Examples: (0 -2) , (3-4) , 1st-2nd grades) (3rd – 4th grades), (5th-6th grades), (7th-8th grades), (9th-10th grades), (11th – 12th grades)

3. This information was traditionally handed down **through** the family & one's community / church.

Titus 2:3 The **aged women (πρεσβύτιδας)** likewise, that they be in behaviour as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things; Titus 2:4 **That** they may teach **the young women (τὰς νέας)** to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children, Titus 2:5 To be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed.

4. Obviously today many competing visions / viewpoints are regularly being spread!

TV is famous for this:

- Sad stories
- Video
- Photos
- An expert
- Some new / crazy idea
- On to the next story!!!
- On to the next crisis!!!

5. Biblical principles & practices must **now** be transferred intentionally !

2 Timothy 2:2 And **the things** that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, **the same** commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.

Titus 2:3 The aged women likewise, that they be in behaviour as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things; Titus 2:4 **That** they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children,

Titus 2:5 To be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed.

1 Corinthians 11:23 For I have received (παρέλαβον) of the Lord that which also I delivered (παρέδωκα) unto you, That the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread:

1 Corinthians 15:3 For I delivered (παρέδωκα) unto you first of all that which I also received (ὃ καὶ παρέλαβον), how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;

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The ideal circumstances: Mom takes on the nurturing role, Dad the supporting role. Dad makes sure Mom can fulfill her initial role and of course joins in the nurturing.

Basic activities:

Feeding / clothing / washing	Holding	Rocking
Singing / humming	Loving	Talking / conversing
Connecting : eye-to-eye	Touching	Smiling & laughing
Cuddling / hugging This is a must during feeding	Affirming (this starts minimally at birth)	Playing
Reading books		

It is important to remember that all of these are **activities – what we do!**

Basic ideas:

Early childhood development is about some very simple, yet profound ideas.

Attachment / Detachment / Reattachment

Bonding / Boundaries / Bonding

Connect / Disconnect / Reconnect

Ages 0-3 is mostly positive & only so.

For me this is more or less true until 18 months.

No spanking of any kind at all before 18 months & then **only if done properly, on a baby's bottom.**

Remember: the word “no” is a great form of discipline.

Plus the firm voice of mom and dad

Plus you can remove the temptation

Summary: all attachment and then very small windows of detachment and then immediately back to reattachment! Gradually more detachment

No screen time for a child under 2!!!