

Children First

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By

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“Working with education leaders to keep children first.”

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Ideas About Money

This Completes Our First Year

What a delight it has been to share messages on parenting skills for the last year. I hope each of you have found the information valuable as you go about doing the most important task we have—raising children.

Thanks for your past loyalty. There is always room for more subscribers so pass the message on to your friends. If each of you would commit to add just three new subscribers, the enrollment could triple in one month. Please take the time to think of others who might benefit from this monthly message. If they have an interest, ask their permission to send their email address to me or simply have them contact me directly @ barcement@eatel.net.

Put Together A Binder

When you receive this newsletter each month, print out a copy and place it in a three-ring binder. That allows you to periodically review the content again and eventually build a volume of information. Certainly, feel free to copy or forward the newsletter via email to your friends and family so long as you maintain the contact information.

It's Never Too Early To Start Talking About Money

One of the most important skills you can transfer to your children is the ability to successfully handle their personal finances. There are more difficulties within our life that pertain to money than probably any other we might face. The basic problem is that we really never learn how to properly save, invest, and earn money. Three important lessons both parent and child should master are:

1. Save a portion of every dollar earned throughout your life.
2. Save first and live on the rest.
3. Save and never touch your investment.

By incorporating these practices into our life skills, we are able to reduce much daily stress while building a secure future. Some will say they don't earn enough to save anything. I've told myself this lie but thankfully I eventually learned the truth. Saving is a habit coated with personal discipline that cannot be ignored.

Start a savings account as soon as your child is born. Even if it is only \$ 10.00, it's a start. Whenever friends and family give your children money, save a portion. As

they grow older, take them to the bank and let them make the deposit. Discuss the value of this habit and make having a few dollars in the bank a very important activity. When they get their first job, continue the practice. Strive for initially saving as least 10%. Periodically, raise the percentage until you max out every discretionary dollar. Your child will get along with less and get comfortable with the discipline of saving.

Please take this lesson seriously. If this practice is not yet in place, start with the next dollar your child earns or is given and teach them to save. Eventually your child will be very grateful for having been taught the discipline and value of saving no matter much they might protest when you start. This is a responsibility you cannot neglect.

Education and Earning Power

I hope you're a parent who stresses the importance of learning. One can never know too much. There is a universe of learning available and most of us fail to tap a molecule of the knowledge available to us. Then, as we progress through life, we complain that few opportunities are available to make a decent living.

Everyone is not college material. But there are many excellent crafts that earn skilled craftsman a very good living. The point here is that your children need skills beyond what a high school education can teach. Today, just finishing high school is like digging a hole out of which we can never crawl.

Invest in learning and increase the earning power of your children. It's one of the wisest uses of your money that pays a lifetime of benefits.

Checkout Billy

Billy Arcement, MEd. brings "wisdom that makes a difference" to your meeting or organizational training session. Corporate and education leaders appreciate the quality of his messages and recognize that improvement results from implementation of the knowledge shared. He blends thought provoking ideas with his "Cajun Stories" to bring audiences a winning combination guaranteed to make your event a success.

Call. We'd love to help! Go to <http://www.searchingforsuccess.com> to learn more about Billy's programs and services. Our results are guaranteed!

Build Your Success Library

Searching for Success is a great book for parents to use to build a strong value system within their children. The content can also help make them better students. Why not make it part of your training process with your child? Send your \$ 15.00 check now and receive a signed copy in the mail within a few days.

You Can Only Teach What You've Learned

Like any skill, the proper handling of money is best taught by one who has mastered the basics. In other words, parents, if you have trouble handling money, why not shore up your skills so you can do a better job of teaching your children. Our learning is developed by being exposed to information. We process the ideas and either adopt them or make the decision not to do so. Thus, children will either repeat the

mistakes of their parents regarding money or they will commit to not fall into the same trap.

Money worries rank high in the minds of most people. Do a real service to your children by sharing with them the lessons you've learned—good and bad. Being honest on this topic can be one of the most valuable truths you share with your children.

There's Another Newsletter for You

Some of you may not be aware that we publish a second monthly newsletter, *News from the Swamp*. It is filled with practical ideas on personal and organizational leadership topics. You'll find value to help with your career and personal success strategies. Subscription information follows.

Let's Put Money In Perspective

Let me close my discussion on money by putting it in perspective relative to other things in life. First and foremost, understand that money is the result we get from performing some activity. One needs to bring value to the marketplace. The more critical and needed the value, the higher the payoff potential. Provide a service of high value and the price will follow.

There is an important distinction between the love of money and the love of family. If you love family, you work hard to provide the best opportunities you can. One need not be rich with money to be rich with family. What does it profit a man if he gains the whole world and loses his family? Having money beats not having it. But it should not be worshiped as a god nor overshadow our commitment to family.

Priorities in life are best when we start with a strong spiritual and family focus. Then we can focus on career choices that bring strong personal satisfaction. Get these priorities in the right order and you will achieve the satisfaction you seek in life. Money is not the root of all evil. It is the love of money that can be evil. Love God, family and job in that order and the payoff will be more than adequate to bring happiness and prosperity.

Value Added Ideas

You may reprint content from this newsletter or from past issues. We're also happy to provide you with articles from our archive of previously published articles to add value to your publications. Send an email request to barcement@eatel.net and specify your needs.

This newsletter was sent to you because of a request or because you were a participant at a conference where Billy Arcement was a speaker. It is being sent to you for educational purposes. Should this newsletter have reached you in error and you do not wish to continue receiving it, see the "unsubscribe" message below.

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