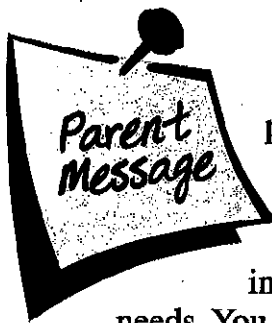


themselves. And yet even the best-dressed people in the world don't have clothes as beautiful as these flowers.

"If that is how God cares for the flowers in the field, then you can know for sure that God also cares for you. So don't worry about where your food or clothing will come from.

The people who don't know or trust in God worry about such things. God, your heavenly Father, knows everything you need, and he will take care of you.

"Put God and his forgiveness first in your hearts. Then God will give you all the earthly things you need as well."



Parents want to provide the best for their children. But what is the best? Too often the focus of our good intentions is on earthly needs. You cannot give your child the best—heaven. Jesus has already given him heaven, and the Holy Spirit has worked saving faith in your child's heart. But you *can* teach him about Jesus, take him to church and Sunday school regularly, and pray that the Holy Spirit strengthens his faith.

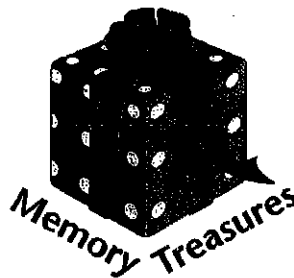
When you are providing for your child's earthly needs, why not buy him some items that teach him more about his Savior or praise his Savior? Christian bookstores have many items suitable for children. Here are some examples:

- Christian music and videos
- Bible story and prayer books
- Christian posters
- T-shirts with Christian messages
- wall crosses and plaques
- pencils, stickers, and toys inscribed with Scripture passages

Do not fret over the earthly needs of your family. After all, God not only rules in the believer's heart and forgives his sins but also provides all the earthly things he needs as well.

Prayer

Dear God, thank you for the many blessings you have given our family, especially the gift of heaven through faith in Jesus. Help us always seek heavenly treasures above everything else, trusting in you for every earthly need. Amen.



**** Matthew 6:33**

Seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

*** Matthew 7:7**

Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.

*** The Lord's Prayer**

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.