

To Those Expectant Moms

We here at Lilac Road are blessed with expectant parents. This is a time of excitement and perhaps a little apprehension. When Regena and I married the question, "When are you going to have a baby?" came up very quickly as various families told us the joys of parenthood and what we were missing. Then, almost miraculously, they found out we were expecting they told us the horrors of having children. Regena and I made it a point to never do that to new parents.

You are about to embark on an amazing journey. One which will redefine the word "love" to you. I am not saying every mom or dad immediately bond with their child but once you do, you know some of the depth of God's love for His.

Yes, there will be sleepless nights and exhaustion but those times are brief when compared to the days of hugs and growing together. Speaking of growing together, it is amazing the what children teach their parents. Things such as how little it matters if you have a new shirt when your little one falls and bleeds. You don't mind that the blood stain may not come out, what matters is comforting the child. They teach you joy when you come home and they run to you saying "mommy is home" or "daddy is home." You learn how hard it is to walk, tie your shoes, and pick up your room.

As a parent you need to trust and listen to God. His Book gives good instructions on child rearing, read it and apply it the best you can. Proverbs is good place to start but there are many other passages on this subject.

Hannah made a promise to God, "O LORD of hosts, if You will indeed look on the affliction of Your maidservant and remember me, and not forget Your maidservant, but will give Your maidservant a male child, then I will give him to the LORD all the days of his life," (1 Samuel 1:11a). Teaching your child about God is simply the most important act you can do for them. Being godly parents will give them a big advantage in their growth.

Finally, enjoy your time together. Enjoy the silly songs, the hugs and kisses, learning to play catch or playing other games. Enjoy seeing them grow a little each day and know they are a product of your love. - Dennis Tucker