



The development of hearts (young and old) matters to God ([Deut 29:29](#)). Children don't come into this world as believers. They must be taught, molded, equipped, and led to form faith of their own ([Prov 1:2-3, 8-9](#)). In [Psalm 144:12](#), God has given parents two powerful, everyday metaphors to understand what we're aiming for:

"May our sons in their youth be like \_\_\_\_\_ full grown, our daughters like corner \_\_\_\_\_ cut for the structure of a palace."



**Trees** and **pillars**: rich metaphors used throughout the Bible for health and strength:

- [Psalm 1](#) - "...he is like a \_\_\_\_\_ planted by streams of water"
- [1 Peter 2:4-5](#) - "...you yourselves like living \_\_\_\_\_ are being built up as a spiritual house"

### What Do Our Children Need "Inscribed" on the "Tablets" of Their Hearts?

- ❖ A grasp of the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Bible ([Acts 8:30-31](#))
- ❖ Respect for \_\_\_\_\_ ([1 Pet 5:6](#))
- ❖ A sincere commitment to personal \_\_\_\_\_ ([1 Cor 6:19-20](#))
- ❖ Solid reasons for \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_ ([1 Pet 3:15](#))



- ❖ The ability to make wise \_\_\_\_\_ ([Prov 3:13-14](#))
- ❖ A "\_\_\_\_\_-first, \_\_\_\_\_-next" way of thinking ([Matt 22:37-39](#))
- ❖ A developing connection with \_\_\_\_\_ ([John 15:4-5](#))