

TOOLS FOR Motherhood

NEWSLETTER



October 2009

The Word: *POPPERTUNITIES* By Val Barkley

Upcoming Events

Sept.. 9 - Nov.. 11th
TFM 7-Week Study

Oct.. 20 MOPS Topeka
Covenant Baptist Church

Oct.. 26 MOPS-
Western Shawnee
Westside Family Church

Nov.. 4 MOPS Missouri
Oakgrove, MO



Here is an adorable picture that was sent in from one of the TFM students... or should I say adoring Grandmothers!!! Lilly is Kathy P's granddaughter. Kathy is the Administrative Assistant for Tools for Motherhood. Thank you, Kathy, for sharing this precious picture with us!!

Listen, my son, to your father's instruction and do not forsake your mother's teaching. Proverbs 1:8

At times, like most mothers, I have felt like a failure. I think, "I should have taken that opportunity as a teaching moment, but now it is gone." However, recently an opportunity to give came up, and I grabbed that moment. We have had some issues with giving away some of the girls' things. They want to hang on to them, and I have been struggling with it, too. However, it just so happened that our church is going to do a clothing drive for Guatemala. We have an adorable neighbor girl who was adopted from Guatemala. It was time for an incredible teaching moment. I walked my three girls into my bedroom to where my laptop sits. We looked at many pictures of children from Guatemala, and discussed how they had so little, including clothes and shoes. I also reminded them that our little neighbor friend is from where these kids in the pictures were living. It moved them. They went on into their room and quickly filled a box of clothes for the clothing drive. They are still pulling out items that they want to give. I was amazed and grateful for that time to teach them about giving, just as God wants us to.

I am in awe almost every day that God blessed me with three little girls. They are precious to me, and I thank him always. On the other hand, I have asked, "Why me, Lord? I'm a mess...how can I have three little ducklings following their clumsy mother duck?" I have so many areas of life that I struggle with, and I pray that I will be the mom that God wants me to be. But, God is teaching me to let go of those lost opportunities, and to look for the next teaching opportunity that comes along. They pop up often, just like a bag of popcorn popping in the microwave. There are always situations that we can "train our children up in the way of the Lord." We should grab every chance we can to fill them up with teaching and experiences so that when we have to face the moment to open the door and let them go, they are full of God's word and experiences, just like the bag of popcorn was full when we opened it, fresh out of the microwave. Be encouraged, you are your child's best teacher. Pray for "poppertunities" to share with them and teach them about anything and everything. They will pop up!

"Can I Just Shave My Legs?"
www.canijustshavemylegs.com



The Activity:

Not only can we look for "Popper-tunities" or teachable moments with our children, we can also create eatable popcorn balls to enhance the lessons of life... Check the TFM web site for the fun fall Popcorn Ball Recipe, (www.toolsformotherhood.org). What is your favorite Popcorn ball memory? Did you ever make them as a child growing up?

Check out all the great resources on our website:
www.toolsformotherhood.org

"Train up a child in the way
he should go..." Proverbs 22:6