

KONOS Karats Support Group Meeting

Setting Goals for the "New" Year

June 8, 2006

A. Why Set Goals?

1. Talk about Vision from last month—"Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he." Proverbs 29:18 (KJV)
2. From *Alice in Wonderland*, Alice inquires of the Cheshire cat:
"Would you tell me, please, which way I ought to walk from here?"
That depends a good deal on where you want to get to," said the Cat.
"I don't much care where," said Alice.
"Then it doesn't matter which way you walk," said the Cat.
3. We need to have goals, a plan, for where our family is going. We need to evaluate what is most important to us as a family and then plan how we are to teach those things to our children.
4. If we have no goals, we will end up wandering aimlessly and then wonder whatever happened, how did we get here, I never wanted to be here!
5. So where do we start?

B. Your Family Mission Statement

1. A Mission Statement is a written declaration of your family's purpose. It is a clear and simple sentence or paragraph which even a child can understand.
2. Refer to *TH newsletter #80, part 1* for more details and read over steps and things to consider.
3. Sample Mission Statement: "Our family will love and serve God and others, and spread the Gospel."

C. Setting Goals

1. We need to take time to set specific goals for each year for each child.
2. These goals need to be (refer to *TH newsletter #80, part 2*):
 - a. Specific and Measurable
 - b. Obtainable
 - c. Reviewed and Revised
3. How to use your goals:
 - a. To remind you of your goals
 - b. To help you decide what to do
 - c. To help you decide what to do first
 - d. To govern the use of your time
4. Small goals—it is important to set reasonable goals. Small, daily goals can be reached by established routines, chores, and habits.
5. These smaller goals are the only way to reach your long-term goals and fulfill your family's mission statement.

6. We need to translate our Mission Statement into:
 - a. Specific goals
 - b. Plans for reaching the goals
 - c. Action
7. We must stop to consider how we want our children to be when they leave our homes (see *TH #80,p2*)
8. We must take time to think and pray about all aspects of our children's teaching and training and write out goals for each area. (see *TH #80,p2 for all the details*)
9. Different people suggest different areas to consider, but here are some of the basics:
 - a. Spiritual/Character Goals—teaching God's Word, character development
 - b. Academic Goals—learning related goals
 - c. Social Goals—relationship with family and others
 - d. Physical Goals—sports/exercise
 - e. Life/Work Skills—chores, small business work, etc.
10. Steps to take with the goals for each child:
 - a. Break these general goals down into objectives for each child each year.
 - b. Plan detailed objectives for each month or week close to the time for implementation.
 - c. Discuss these objectives with each child, and explain how they fit into the big picture of his future.
 - d. Revise goals and make them more specific as individual strengths or callings appear.
 - e. Set an example by working toward your own personal goals and welcoming evaluation.

D. Samples of General Goals for Children

1. From the KONOS Compass, pg. 39:

Rhett (age 6)

Character – orderliness

Academics – reading

Physical – gymnastics, soccer, T-ball

Work Skills – vacuuming, cleaning room

Carson (age 10)

Character – self-control

Academics – multiplication/division, language skills

Physical – soccer

Work Skills – pet care, child care, assembling Timelines

C.J. (age 13)

Character – honoring others (sensitivity, etiquette)

Academics – current affairs

Physical – basketball

Work Skills – paid work at apple stand, entering computer data for KONOS

2. My children for the summer:

Bethany (age 12)

Character – self motivation, awareness of others

Academics – Math, reading (book reports)

Work skills – home care, pet care

Spiritual – encourage quiet time/study, journal with mom

Social Skills – work on sibling relationships, handling challenging friends

Bryce (age 9 ½)

Character – responsibility—without reminders

Academics – Reading practice, handwriting practice

Work skills – home care, pet care

Spiritual – encourage reading/study of Bible with mom/dad

Social Skills – work on sibling relationships, handling frustrating situations

Kaitlyn (age 8)

Character – patience & self control

Academics – Reading practice, writing practice

Work Skills – home care, pet care

Spiritual – encourage study and prayer with mom/dad

Social Skills – work on sibling relationships, sharing with visitors

Zachary (age 6)

Character – self control & obedience

Academics – phonics & basic math

Work Skills – home care, pet care

Spiritual – encourage reading the Bible and prayer with mom/dad

Social Skills – work on siblings relationships, keeping hands and feet to self

****Resources cited in these notes:**

The Teaching Home E-Mail Newsletters, see more at:

www.teachinghome.com/newsletters

The KONOS Compass, by Carole Thaxton and Jessica Hulcy, pg. 39

A Field Guide to Homeschooling—A Practical Guide for Parents, by Christine Field

Our Family Mission Statement:

Goals for Our Children:

Spiritual –
Character –
Social Skills –
Academics –
Work Skills –
Physical –

Spiritual –
Character –
Social Skills –
Academics –
Work Skills –
Physical --

Spiritual –
Character –
Social Skills –
Academics –
Work Skills –
Physical --

Spiritual –
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