

Psalm 127 NLT

## 1. Don't take yourself to Seriously

Every time I take myself too seriously on the golf course & think I'm pretty good, I get stiff & rigid and play horribly. The truth is... I'm not very good... so why not relax and have fun?

The same is true with parenting...

Don't lose sight of having fun... Laugh a lot... relax & take a chill pill. Learn the value of playing with your kids.

*(Deuteronomy 16:11 NLT) "Celebrate with your whole family..."*

## 2. Don't let the first-hole Ruin your game.

During that recent day on the golf course... I was on the green in regulation... then 6 putted

- Parenting can be that way!
- You can become cynical & sarcastic.
- A bad attitude will cause things to get worse NOT better... shake it off!

## 3. Remind yourself that everyone was a Beginner once.

Someone once said; *"being a perfect parent isn't hard... it's Impossible."*

God will teach you how to be a great Parent (If you will get desperate and seek Him).

## 4. Learn to play the hole that you're on.

- Don't regret over past failures, learn from them and move on!
- Punch the reset button – enjoy the hole... enjoy your kids!

*(Philippians 3:13) Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead...*

## 5. Learn to play the Wind.

There is one thing for certain in life, golf, & parenting... Change is inevitable. Plan on it, anticipate it and deal with it... or it will destroy you & your family.

Adapt to changes, it will help you play better.

Changes is NOT the end of the road... unless you fail to make the turn!

## 6. Be The Ball.

In sports terminology it means to "connect" with the shot.

Become a part of the experience.

Make the ball an extension of you.

We need to connect with our kids in an intimate way and become a part of their experiences!

*(Mark 10:16) "And he took the children in his arms, put his hands on them and blessed them."*

## 7. Have a good Pre-shot routine.

There are certain things that you need to do before you swing your club to strike the ball well.

Line up your body to the target (Think... Distance & Direction)

The same is true with parenting:

Daily disciplines are important.

Daily devotions – spend time with God.

*(Proverbs 14:26 LB) "Reverence for the Lord gives a man deep strength; his children have a place of refuge and security."*

## 8. The key to good golf is picking the right team.

Build a team of people around you that you "trust & respect" and give them permission to correct your kids and tell you if they see something wrong... don't get defensive... thank them and discipline your kids!

It's one thing for "you" to love being around your kids, the true test is do "OTHERS" ...love being around your kids?

*(Ecclesiastes 4:9 Msg) "It's better to have a partner than go it alone. Share the work, share the wealth."*

## 9. Don't be moved by bad Bounces and Bunkers.

Sometimes our best efforts aren't good enough. Difficult moments will happen --- Stuff Happens

Learn to have the "right attitude" when things go wrong (and they will)

Don't freak out or blow a gasket.

Negative comments... don't make a child positive!

## 10. Keep your Knees bent, Head down, and Arms extended.

Prayer changes things! Prayer is the "Best Gift" you can give to your kids!

*(James 5:16b) The earnest, heartfelt, continued prayer of righteous man makes tremendous power available – dynamic in it's working. (AMP)*