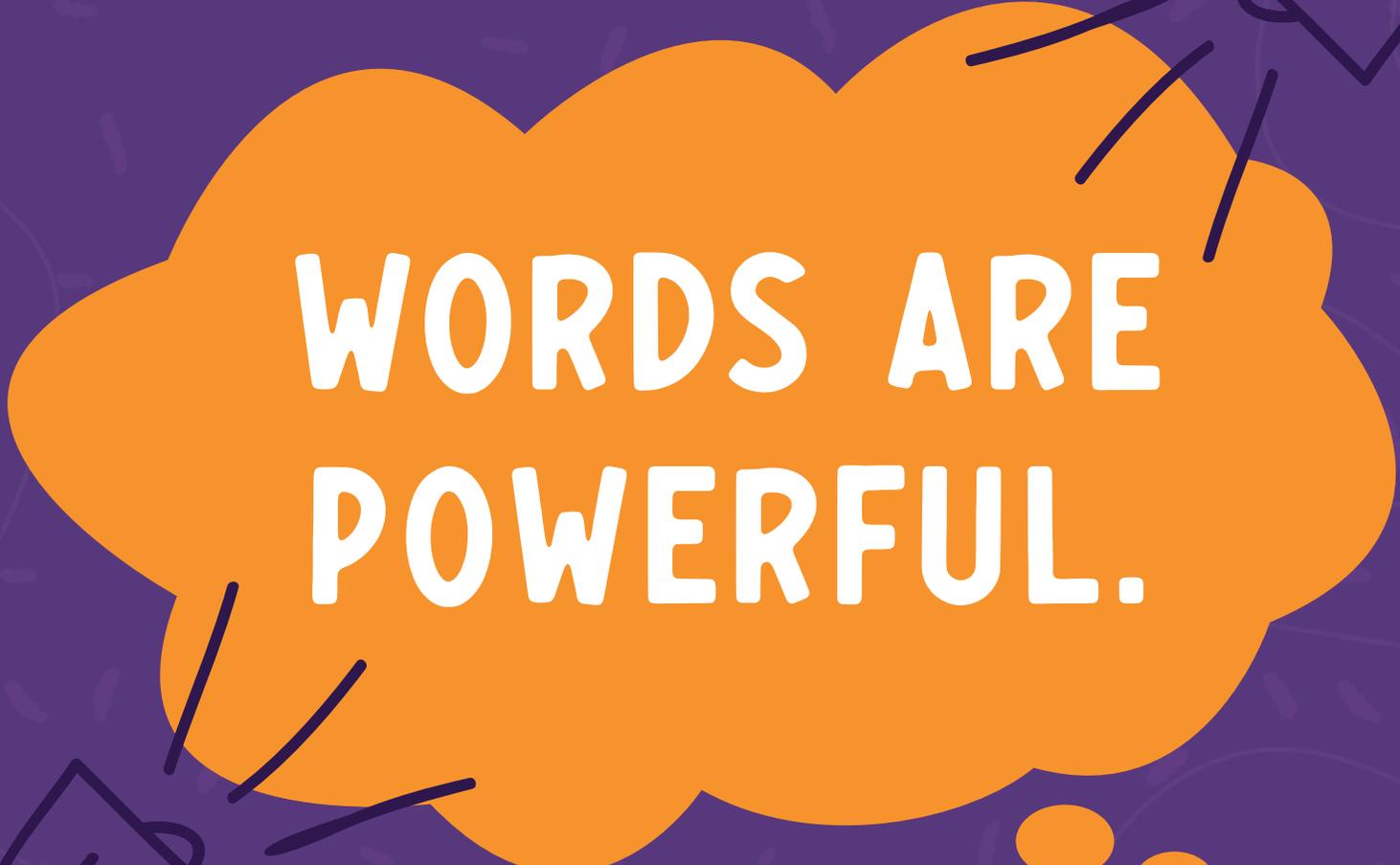




5

**MESSAGES
YOUR KID
NEEDS TO
HEAR**



WORDS ARE POWERFUL.

THEY MOLD, INSPIRE, HURT,
ENCOURAGE AND STICK WITH US.

AS A PARENT, YOU HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO
SHAPE YOUR CHILD THROUGH THE MESSAGES YOU
SPEAK TO THEM. CHILDREN HEAR MESSAGES
CONSTANTLY FROM THE WORLD AROUND THEM.
YOU MAY NOT BE THE ONLY VOICE SPEAKING INTO
THEIR LIVES, BUT YOU CAN BE THE LOUDEST.

HERE ARE FIVE MESSAGES EVERY CHILD NEEDS TO HEAR FROM THEIR PARENTS. THESE MAY SEEM SIMPLE, BUT IT'S EASY TO OVERLOOK CONSISTENTLY AND INTENTIONALLY COMMUNICATING THESE MESSAGES ON A DAILY BASIS WHEN WE GET CAUGHT UP IN THE FULLNESS OF LIFE.

I LOVE YOU.

I AM PROUD OF YOU.

YOU ARE SPECIAL.

YOU ARE IMPORTANT.

IT IS OKAY TO MAKE MISTAKES.

AS YOU READ THROUGH THESE, THINK OF A CONSISTENT TIME EACH DAY YOU CAN COMMUNICATE ONE TO YOUR CHILD. BEDTIME IS A GREAT TIME TO SPEAK MESSAGES OF ENCOURAGEMENT.

**PAUL ENCOURAGES US IN HIS LETTER
TO THE CHURCH AT THESSALONICA TO**

**ENCOURAGE
ONE ANOTHER
AND BUILD
ONE ANOTHER UP.**

(1 THESSALONIANS 5:11)

**LET'S USE OUR WORDS WISELY
TO IMPLANT LIFE-GIVING MESSAGES
INTO OUR CHILDREN'S HEARTS AND MINDS.**



I LOVE YOU

THIS MAY SEEM LIKE AN OBVIOUS MESSAGE, AND YOU MAY SAY IT OFTEN. IN THE RUSH OF LIFE, IT'S EASY TO SAY IT IN PASSING INSTEAD OF PAUSING TO LOOK YOUR CHILD IN THE FACE AND TELL THEM HOW MUCH YOU LOVE THEM.

TAKE TIME TO COMMUNICATE THIS MESSAGE INTENTIONALLY. WE ALL GIVE AND RECEIVE LOVE IN DIFFERENT WAYS. STUDY YOUR CHILD AND LEARN THE SPECIFIC WAYS THEY RECEIVE LOVE. THIS BOOK IS A GREAT RESOURCE TO HELP YOU LEARN ABOUT THE WAYS CHILDREN GIVE AND RECEIVE LOVE.

HERE ARE A FEW WAYS TO SAY,
I LOVE YOU.

#1.

**I AM SO THANKFUL
TO BE YOUR PARENT.**

#2.

**OUR FAMILY WOULD
NOT BE THE SAME
WITHOUT YOU.**

#3.

**THE DAY YOU WERE BORN
WAS THE BEST DAY
OF MY LIFE.**



**YOU ARE
IMPORTANT**

YOU MAY COMMUNICATE THIS PHRASE MORE WITH YOUR ACTIONS THAN SPOKEN WORDS. WHEN YOU LOOK YOUR CHILD IN THE EYES AS THEY TALK TO YOU, PUT DOWN THE PHONE, OR CLOSE THE LAPTOP, YOU COMMUNICATE THEIR WORTH TO YOU. CHILDREN ARE EGO-CENTRIC AND WANT TO KNOW THEY ARE VALUABLE. COMMUNICATING THEY ARE IMPORTANT TO YOU BUILDS THEIR CONFIDENCE AND SELF-WORTH.

HERE ARE A FEW WAYS TO SAY,
**YOU ARE
IMPORTANT.**

#1.

**I ENJOY SPENDING
TIME WITH YOU.**

#2.

**I LOVE HEARING
ABOUT YOUR DAY.**

#3.

**BEING WITH YOU
IS THE BEST PART
OF MY DAY.**



IT'S OKAY TO MAKE MISTAKES

**WE ALL HAVE A BUILT-IN SHAME RESPONDER.
WHEN WE MAKE A MISTAKE IT GOES OFF.
YOU CAN RESPOND TO YOUR CHILD'S MISTAKES
WITH LOVE AND ENCOURAGEMENT,
KNOWING THEY ALREADY FEEL ASHAMED.**

**COMMUNICATING THAT IT'S OK TO
MAKE MISTAKES HELPS THEM (AND US)
LEARN TO LAUGH AT OURSELVES AND
NOT TAKE EVERYTHING SO SERIOUSLY.**

#1.

**I LOVE YOU
NO MATTER WHAT.**

#2.

**EVERYONE MAKES
MISTAKES.**

#3.

**IT'S OKAY—
I DID THAT ONCE TOO.**

**HERE ARE
SOME PHRASES
THAT COMMUNICATE:**

**IT'S OKAY TO
MAKE MISTAKES.**



**I'M PROUD
OF YOU**

**PARENTS TEND TO BE THE PRIMARY SOURCE
OF CORRECTION IN A CHILD'S LIFE.
IT'S EASY FOR PRAISE AND ENCOURAGEMENT
TO GET LOST IN THE NOISE OF DISCIPLINE.
LOOK FOR OPPORTUNITIES TO PRAISE
YOUR CHILD AS OFTEN AS YOU CORRECT THEM.**

**LET THEM KNOW YOU ARE PROUD OF THEM,
EVEN IN THE SMALL THINGS,
LIKE SHARING A TOY WITH A SIBLING.**

#1.

**I'M SO PROUD TO BE
YOUR MOM/DAD.**

**HERE ARE WAYS YOU
CAN COMMUNICATE:**

**I AM
PROUD
OF YOU**

#2.

**YOU MAKE ME
SMILE WHEN...**

#3.

I LOVE WATCHING YOU...

YOU ARE SPECIAL

**IN A CULTURE FULL OF COMPARISON
YOU HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO CELEBRATE
THE UNIQUE WAY GOD CREATED YOUR CHILD.
THE VAST UNIQUENESS OF THE HUMAN RACE REFLECTS
A GOD WHO NEVER RUNS OUT OF CREATIVITY.
THERE IS NO OTHER CHILD EXACTLY LIKE YOURS.
HELP YOUR CHILD LOVE THE
UNIQUE WAY THEY ARE MADE.**

**TAKE A MOMENT TO WRITE DOWN
ALL THE THINGS YOU LOVE ABOUT YOUR CHILD
AND A FEW INTENTIONAL WAYS YOU WANT
TO COMMUNICATE THEM.**

HERE ARE SOME WAYS TO SAY,

YOU ARE SPECIAL.

#1.

YOUR [EYE COLOR]
REMINDS ME OF...

#2.

I LOVE YOUR...

#3.

I LOVE THAT YOU ARE THE
ONLY PERSON I KNOW WITH...