

One of the biggest deceptions the enemy of our souls whispers is that we parents don't need to tell our kids that part of our story. Without question, we must use wisdom in what details we keep from them, what timing is best for their ages, what warnings we might add to discourage our children from repeating our mistakes. Our greatest fear as moms and dads is that telling our kids about our past mistakes will encourage them to copy our behavior. If we glory in our past, then perhaps our children will desire to imitate us. But if we appropriately regret our past sins, as did John Newton who wrote "Amazing Grace," then the telling of our redemption will bring glory to God and will inspire our children to believe God for their own deliverance from sins. Our children don't need parents who pretend to be perfect. The best way to invite your children to share your faith is to let them see your changed life.

Jesus told this man, who was delivered from demon possession by the power of Jesus' command, "Go home and declare how much God has done for you." Be a witness! Be an evangelist at home, telling your family and all who will listen what God has done for you.

The psalms repeatedly urge us to tell of His wondrous works, "Not conceal them from their children, but tell to the generation to come the praises of the Lord" (Psalm 78:4). God doesn't mean just tell your kids about Noah and Moses, but tell the miracles of grace in your life. Any change He works in your heart is a miracle. Tell your kids God healed your angry heart toward your coworker. Proclaim how He gave you the courage to forgive your parents.

- What has God done in your heart recently that you can share over dinner this week?
- What if every day your family recounted all God had done? Might you become a more grateful people?

Return to your home, and
*declare how much God
has done for you.*

Luke 8:39