

Lynette L. Tucker

STORIES THAT ENGAGE & INSPIRE

Thoughts for Parents & Caregivers: Why Words Matter in Our Children's World

- Words are powerful. We can use them to build up or to tear down. Encourage your child to use words to build up and encourage others.
- The words we use set the tone.
- Gently redirect when necessary, point out that there was a better way to express that thought. Give an example that the child can understand; use it as a teaching moment. For example, "Please may I have that?" is a kinder way of conveying what you wanted, rather than saying 'Give me that!'"
- Adults should model proper expectations in the home, whether speaking to the children or grown-ups in the room. I like to use the guide "True, Kind, and Necessary." (This guide didn't originate with me, but I have found it helpful over the years). If our speech doesn't pass all 3 of these tests, then we need to either re-word what we were going to say or don't say it.

If you find value in these kinds of free resources, "hop" on over to my private Facebook support group where I'll be sharing more character-building stories with the Bunny family and their friends in Carey's Station, as well as bonus activities for the short story, Papa's Surprise Supper, where we talk about the importance of keeping our promises.

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