



# NEW HEART BEAT DEVOTIONS

*"If you train your children, they will at least be on the right track."*

## **Train up a Child**

*Our next-door neighbor recently had a baby girl. They brought the newborn over and she was so small and cute. After a few months, the mother returned to work. We told them that we would watch the baby for them at no cost. So, we got her two or three days, and his mother (a 45-minute drive one way) got her the other days. That child was a wonderful baby. She smiled and laughed most of the time. Her eyes would always be studying everything. When we would lay her down for a nap, she would immediately go to sleep. It was so cute watching her learn to crawl. Her hind legs would go up and then she would flop forward. I would play with her and take her for stroller rides. I loved that little girl. She would reach out to me every time she would see me. Her parents called me Grandpa and my wife would say she was my girlfriend. I pray for her and parents' salvation. They are the farthest you can get from believing in Christ, but they gave us children's Bible books to read to the child. They allow us to sing "Jesus loves me" to her.*

*I remember when my granddaughters were growing up. I remember how they learned to walk and talk. I would play Logos, playdough, Barbies, and dolls with them. We loved going to the park. My wife would teach them to bake. They would have sleepovers. They are now in high school and are good honor students. They obey their parents and do not get into trouble. The oldest has been a mentor to others in horseback riding and Irish dancing. The youngest has been given the honor of mentoring others in the Youth County Symphony. The youngest already got a small scholarship for college for her outstanding conduct.*

*Babies are born with a sinful nature because of Adam and Eve. But they do not yet sin by choice. They are so cute and innocent. You do not see newborns stealing, killing, swearing, or lying. To state that you cannot help yourself because you were born that way is false. All actions and attitudes, both good and bad, are learned.*

*Children learn actions, attitudes, and morals from their parents, friends, environment, and education. We are told to "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Prov 22:6 Children are getting worse today only because they are coming from worse homes. There is no parental discipline. (Spare the rod spoil the child.) There is no parental love, correction, or instruction. "And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord." Eph 6:4 There is no parental control over the TV, internet, friends, music, or education. As parents, we have an awesome responsibility that we need to take seriously. As relatives, friends, babysitters, teachers, and church workers, we must share this responsibility of molding young lives in a loving way. Many who accept Christ are children.*

*I do not know what my young neighbor will grow up to be like. Will she be a great person in history or be the wicked witch of the west? I pray for her protection, direction, and future. Pray with me for her and her parents' salvation.*



Me & neighbor

*Charles L Stambaugh Mt Wolf, PA*

*"But Jesus said, Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven." Matt 19:14*



My Granddaughters

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