



## Will It Matter In Ten Years?

by Angie Kmitta

Instead of always stressing out over "small" details of life, I try to heed my mother's advise - "Will it matter in ten years?"

I have five children and work a full time secular job. I struggle with the daily things that need to be done such as laundry, dishes, and vacuuming. I feel like I'm always going full speed ahead but at the end of the day when I look back I don't feel like I've accomplished anything. By the time I get home and make dinner, look through each child's backpack and help with home-work, had family time, and put the kids to bed, it is usually after 9:00 pm. Then I'm rushing around trying to get the house in order before I go to bed so that when I get up in the morning we are ready to start the day -not trying to catch up from the day before. One night I was listing all the problems I thought I needed to deal with right then but also explaining why I didn't have time to do it all. At that moment my mom interrupted me and asked me, out of all of the things I was



listing, which ones were going to matter in 10 years. Perspective! I realized then that it wouldn't matter if the laundry didn't get folded as soon as the drier turned off or if the dishes sat in the sink overnight. It really didn't matter if there wasn't a vegetable with dinner one night because I hadn't made it to the grocery store or if the baby fell asleep for the night before I was able to give her a bath. None of those things will matter in 10 years. Nobody (but maybe me) will even remember those specific situations. Those words have taken a lot of

stress out of my life.

There are things that could make a HUGE difference in 10 years if we don't take the time to do them. Will it matter in 10 years if I don't....

- Read and study the Bible every day - **YES!**
- Teach my children respect and responsibility and to love the Lord - **YES!**
- Attend worship services regularly - **YES!**
- Live my life for the Lord - **YES!**



All of these things are what are going to matter in 10, 20, or 50 years

from now. I want my children to see me doing the things that will matter, things that are helping to mold them into responsible, God-fearing adults. I want them to see that it matters if we make it to services on time and not late because we were doing other things. I want them to see me reading my Bible every day and praying to God so they can learn by my example and not just because I tell them they should be doing these things.

**N**ow, having said all of this let me also say that it is important to keep a clean house, provide healthy meals for your family and do laundry, etc. There are valuable lessons that children learn from seeing these tasks performed everyday. My point is that we should be concerned with the Lord's work first and everything else will take care of itself.

