

Tips for Parents of Blended Families

- Your children need the *freedom* to love both parents and to celebrate the goings on in *both homes*.
- Your children need to hear only positive words from you concerning their other parent.
- Your children are not spies or messengers.
- Your children need hand overs to be *peaceful, safe, brief, and predictable*.
- Your children need a *transition* time between the 'backwards and forwards' of life between two houses which includes some downtime when they arrive or return to reconnect and re familiarise themselves with rules, routines, and family members.
- Your children need *stability and consistency* in your parenting.
- Your children have the right to have their room and possessions they've left behind 'out of bounds' to others until their return.
- Your children need you to be *organised* as to their schedule of coming and going.
- Your children need *quality time* with their biological parent.
- Your children in your blended family need you to create new traditions and see yourselves as a 'family' in your own right. Plan family holidays and special events with all members to create special memories.
- Keep the *Lord at the Centre* of your home, *praying daily* and intentionally and most importantly *Cultivating a Community of Grace* within.

