

Love is patient.

Am I patient with my child who is so different than I am?

Love is kind.

Am I kind when it takes my child twice the amount of time to do something than I think it should?

Love does not envy.

Do I wish my child was more like this mom's son or that mom's daughter?

Love does not boast.

Am I quick to share what my child does well or to hide where they don't seem to measure up?

Love is not proud.

Am I hesitant to share how I'm really doing or how my child is really doing out of a fear of what people will think?

Love does not dishonor others.

Do I ever dishonor my child, demanding they be someone other than the unique person God has made them to be?

Love is not self-seeking.

Am I ever selfish in my interactions with my child?

Love is not easily angered.

How much energy do I waste being angry at my child?

Love keeps no record of wrongs.

Do I have an on-going list in my head about everything my child has done wrong?

Love does not delight in evil but rejoices in the truth.

Do I keep my mind focused on God's truth about my child?

Love protects.

Do I protect this unique human being God entrusted to me even when he challenges my authority?

Love trusts.

*Do I trust that God has a bigger picture in mind for this child's life?
Do I believe that God knows what his or her future holds and I don't?*

Love hopes.

Do I hope and believe the best in this child or do I dread what tomorrow will bring?

Love perseveres.

Do I keep my mind on the future possibilities rather than focusing on the difficulties and challenges I'm dealing with today?