

## THE CONSCIENCE AND THE HOLY SPIRIT IN CHILDREN

The heart contains a number of internal prompters but some of them lead children in the wrong direction. For example, the heart contains emotions, but sometimes those emotions prompt children to act inappropriately. The heart contains desires but when those desires are wrong we call them temptations.

God has placed two governors in the heart to guide the internal motivations of a person. Those two governors are the conscience and the Holy Spirit. The conscience is a part of the heart. The Holy Spirit is a person. The conscience can prompt children to do right or avoid wrong, but the Holy Spirit can empower them to change.

As you help children develop a strong conscience you're making them more aware of internal promptings. In doing so, you'll be preparing them to learn to listen to the voice of God in their lives. We have no record of the conscience speaking in the Bible. Instead, it feels good or bad, but the Holy Spirit does speak.

Children can learn to listen to the voice of God in their lives. How does God speak to a child? Through his Word, through an internal sense of peace, through prayer, and even through parents.

Talk to your children about the internal prompters. When you do, help them to know what to do with those promptings. Just because you feel like doing something, doesn't make it right. We must always check our hearts against the scriptures. That's the only way to know what is truly the right thing to do.

To help your children understand the biblical concept of the conscience you might want to get Hero Training Camp, the Conscience Development Course for Kids. This is available at [www.biblicalparenting.org](http://www.biblicalparenting.org)