

9. I NOTICED TOO THAT DAVIDA, WHO WAS BOTTLEFEED beginning at 2 months old, pretends to bottlefeed her dolly, yet Tech at only 1-year old, lifts her dolly to her teeny 1 1/2" breast & makes slurping sounds--so cute!--since she was breast-fed primarily.--isn't that amazing? And when 3-year old David saw Maria nursing baby Tech, she asked several times if she could suck either my or the other GF's breasts--so she did for just a few seconds to her contentment.

10. DAVID, HOWEVER, RARELY SEEMED TO SHOW ANY "OUTWARD" REACTIONS TO Mommy expecting another baby, & we decided not to "rub it in", either. I often noticed how sweet Mommy never told him she was too tired to play or read with him, or why she'd sit down to play with him & not run around a lot with him, etc.--She was extremely considerate of his feelings, much more so than of her own, something we all marvelled over & admire in her greatly! Dad has often said of Maria, "You're such a good soldier. Honey, always willing & ready for anything, always smiling--never complaining--a real trooper! It's one thing I love about you!"

11. LITTLE DAVIDA IS QUITE WELL KNOWN TO HAVE "FOOD TRIALS" & never seemed at this



Freedy--& a rare ice cream treat!

age to have quite her fill of food. She always was as round as a ball & she just has to be told very often that it isn't time to eat & that she didn't need more food! We were always quite concerned that eating would just become a greedy habit with her. Our family meals are always scheduled & Dad has taught us not to allow snacks to ruin a good appetite by eating close to mealtime.

12. THE KIDS ALWAYS SEEM HUNGRY FOR BED-TIME SNACK, though & this time together proves helpful for verse review & discussion time.--They enjoy making their own snacks too.--One evening in the kitchen at bedtime snack, I heard David to exhorting David, "You know the Bible says, 'Man shall not live by bread alone', so I think we should always put something good on your bread for snack", ha! He often also tells her what food is not good for "diet girls" to eat, since he's heard us big girls in the house discussing the same taboos!

13. WHEN DORA WAS A NEWCOMER TO DAD'S HOME, she said she'd noticed how cautious & protective David was with David & how



With David's help & boldness, David again attempted the carnival rides, the first time since he was a toddler.

he tries to teach her himself. She thought it interesting when on an outing together & the kids were allowed to each pick out a little surprise, how David decided very hastily, wanting the first thing she saw, which was a little package of 3 bouncy balls. But Davidito spent a good ten minutes making up & changing his mind about which item he wanted, & thought to ask what the price was, too. In the end he chose the exact surprise David had chosen anyway, but he was more wise & cautious about making his own decision!

14. IT'S SO CUTE HOW DAVID'S SO FAITHFUL



TV Time: "David, what's that mean, huh? David, you don't listen to me!"

TO TEACH DAVIDA the things he has learned such as school projects, puzzles, cleaning up, etc.--Maybe he's even a little sorry for her slowness & therefore tries to help her along, & thus has become her hero forever! He's sometimes tried to help her finish eating when she's taking a long time, & just to make her happy, he'll whisper to David at the table, "If you don't like it, just go get a banana!" but then of course she's distracted & doesn't want to finish her meal. Most of all, David likes to watch her amusing antics. (It's like a comical release for him in a way & even fun to tease her, like a big brother he is!)

15. WE'VE HAD TO OPENLY EXHORT DAVID, FOR DAVIDA'S BENEFIT too, that she must learn to eat her whole meal & put that big appetite to good use, not fill up on snack or bananas, which Dad says are full meals & should not even be served as dessert: "If you're still hungry, eat more meat or vegetable, & save snack for later on when you're hungry!"

16. DAVIDA BEGAN TO STAND UP IN HER CHAIR ONE NIGHT at the table so Davidito did the very same thing, to mimic her. I have noticed many times how he just watches her wide-eyed & begins to follow what she does. I said "Davidito, if the blind lead the blind, they'll both fall in the ditch" & he immediately sat down in his seat real quick, with big surprised eyes. I explained to him then what the

verse meant & that if he sees Davida doing unwise things, he should certainly pray & ask the Lord for wisdom for the right direction & not always do just what she does. "A word to the wise is sufficient," but with chubby, Bunglesome Davida, who will fall with every frequent daring attempt, I cannot simply warn her once, as we are accustomed to doing with Davidito.

17. I MUST ACTIVELY DEMONSTRATE THE WARNING OR LESSON with melodramatics, almost "scaring" her into reality of what "sad story" could happen from her careless behavior.



18. PLAIN & SIMPLE REASONING JUST DOESN'T ALWAYS SINK THROUGH HER AILES HEAD, as it always did with David, so if consequences are dangerous, I've learned the extra time involved overdramatising usually pays off--because she will attempt it otherwise! Thank God for David's precautionary protective care of her for me, when I'm not watching her myself! (He's certainly acquired a Shepherd's Heart from looking after both his little sisters now!)

19. ON THE OTHER HAND, DAVIDITO HAS BENEFITED IN SOME WAYS from David's character by gaining more boldness, enjoying