

TEACHING YOUR CHILD TO WALK WITH GOD

CHILDREN ARE A GIFT FROM GOD Psalm 127:3

- They are borrowed jewels, not ours to keep but ours to raise
- They are not given to us to mould into our image, but into Christ's image
- They are not tools for us to use, but tools for God to use

THE AIM FOR OUR CHILDREN

- A healthy self-image
- To walk with God

IT TAKES TIME TO TEACH OUR CHILDREN

- Jesus had a lot time for children Mark 10:14
- To teach them effectively requires:
 - Unconditional Love
 - Focused Attention
 - Eye to eye contact
 - Physical Contact

GOD'S COMMAND TO ALL PARENTS

- To bring children up in the training and instruction of the Lord Ephesians 6:4
- To train them up in the way THEY should go Proverbs 22:6

WHAT DOES CHRISTIAN TRAINING INVOLVE?

1. Teaching them God's truths
2. Leading your child to Christ
3. Setting the example

TEACHING THEM GOD'S TRUTHS

1. Informally in the daily course of life Deuteronomy 6:7
 - How to live a godly life
 - Showing love and kindness
 - Witnessing for Jesus
 - Stewardship of talent and possessions
 - How to cope with life's problems
 - Coping with disappointments, illness, accidents, etc
 - Maintaining healthy relationships with others
 - Overcoming fears and anxieties
2. Formally in family devotions Isaiah 28:10
 - Singing
 - Reading
 - Memorising
 - Quizzing
 - Dramatizing
 - Praying

LEADING YOUR CHILD TO CHRIST

GOLD PAGE - God's love

- Refers to heaven and God's desire to have us there Matthew 18:14 John 14:12

BLACK PAGE - The child's need

- Refers to sin which prevents us from entering heaven Romans 3:23 Romans 6:23

RED PAGE - God's way

- Refers to Christ's death in our place John 3:16 1 John 1:7

WHITE PAGE - Christ's cleansing

- Refers to the need for accepting Him as Saviour Revelation 3:20 John 1:12

GREEN PAGE - Spiritual growth

- Refers to the process of becoming more like Jesus in practice 2 Peter 3:18 Ephesians 4:15

- Steps in the growth process
 - Confess sin promptly 1 John 1:9
 - Talk to God Philippians 4:6-7
 - Listen to God Joshua 1:8
 - Obey God John 14:15
 - Worship God with others Hebrews 10:25
 - Talk about God Mark 16:15

SETTING THE EXAMPLE

Your personal commitment

- Regular Bible study and prayer
- Sharing what the Lord has taught you

Your relationships with others

- People in authority
- Relatives and friends
- Servants

Your Christian service

- Ministering to others in need
- Using opportunities to witness
- Involvement in church life

Your reaction to frustrations and problems

- Worry vs thanksgiving
- Anger vs acceptance
- Self-pity vs thanksgiving

IN CONCLUSION

Pray daily for your children

- Their problems
- Their opportunities
- Their spiritual protection

Obey God's commands in your own life

Trust Him to produce the fruit

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