

Teach Your Children

by Bill Willis

Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward. As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth. Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them: they shall not be ashamed, but they shall speak with the enemies in the gate.
(Psalms 127:3-5)

Most Christians know how Jesus felt about children from the accounts that we read in the Gospels. In this psalm, though it is easy to see how God the Father feels about children. He considers them a heritage – a reward. Since they are so important to Him, it is very important that we take special care in their upbringing.

Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.
(Proverbs 22:6)

The word used here is train – not teach. However, in all training, there is an education component. How we train and teach our children will determine the kind of person that they grow up to be. America's founding fathers recognized the importance of child training. They included in the Constitution of the United States of America, the requirement that Americans are responsible to educate their children.

I will open my mouth in a parable: I will utter dark sayings of old: Which we have heard and known, and our fathers have told us. We will not hide them from their children, shewing to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, and his strength, and his wonderful works that he hath done.
(Psalms 78:2-4)

The alternative given in that document, though, is delegation of that responsibility. Throughout the history of this great nation, this responsibility was taken very seriously by parents, until the 1900s. Then the government-controlled public school system was expanded, ostensibly so that all children would have access to education. This same battle cry (equal access) has been used to advance nearly all of the social programs that have choked this country in the last half century – programs that were more 'socialist' than 'social.'

One of the most sinister of these programs was the implementation of the public school system. Although seemingly a good idea, this system grew to be an institution that seeks to usurp the rights and responsibilities of the parents concerning the education and in many cases, the raising of their children. It wouldn't be so bad if children were educated the same way they were in the time of our founding fathers. The Bible was the accepted textbook and Americans were taught morality. Now, though, the Bible has been removed and the schools push the religion of secular humanism. Other doctrines that students are required to believe in include homosexuality, premarital sex, evolution, witchcraft, globalism and atheism.

But whoso shall offend one of these little ones which believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea.
(Matthew 18:6)

As a result of this ideological assault on our youth, America is academically embarrassed and underage sex, crime and drug use has increased exponentially. Christian morals are considered to be bigotry and the name of God is outlawed. Witchcraft is taught to elementary school students and hatred is taught under the notion of tolerance. Even patriotism is seen as narrow-mindedness.

So how do Christians protect their children from this onslaught? The answer is simpler than you might think. The public school system would have you believe that the answer is to work hand in hand with school faculty and administrators so that your child will get the most from his/her educational experience. Meanwhile, the school board, along with the administrators and faculty will continue to push their agenda on your children, no matter how you feel about it. No amount of cooperation with this Godless institution will fix their system.

What, then, is the answer? Remove your children from the public school system and home school them.

And all thy children shall be taught of the LORD; and great shall be the peace of thy children.
(Isaiah 54:13)

If you are unwilling to home school, at least put them in a private school where they will receive a Bible-based curriculum. Either way, your child will receive a quality education that is just not available in the public schools and without the anti-Christian agenda.

And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes. And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates.
(Deuteronomy 6:6-9)

Because of interaction with a larger cross-section of people, they will enjoy superior social development and peer pressure will not hold much weight.

If you choose to home school, as I believe that every parent should, you very well could find resistance from the government-run public schools. They do not want to lose the opportunity to train the mind of even one child. They will come up with all kinds of reasons why you are not qualified or allowed to educate your own children. For this reason, it is very important that you learn your rights before you take your kids out of the government system.

One of the first steps to take when preparing to home school is to join the Home School Legal Defense Association. If the public school system attempts to take action against you for removing your children from their system, the Home School Legal Defense Association will fight for you. You have the right to educate your children and they will help you to claim that right.

Another important step is to select a good curriculum. While it is possible to develop a curriculum on your own, there are many established home school curriculums that are proven to be of high quality. Our son was home-schooled from first through twelfth grade using the Alpha-Omega curriculum. Other friends and family have used Beka Books and there are many other wonderful Bible-based programs. Whichever curriculum that you choose, just make sure that you and your home school student are comfortable with it.

This is only one step that you can take to protect your children from the Godless forces that are gaining strength in our country and in the world. There are a number of attacks that are being directed at our children. Prayer is essential and I call on every Christian to pray for the protection of our children. However, since faith without works is dead, find out what you can do to fight the programs and agendas that are aimed at your children. Keep fighting the good fight.