

Do your children, grandchildren, or students know basic Bible principles? Download a short course to ensure they learn some basic biblical teachings at: <http://openthoumineeyes.com/devotional/Devotional.html#Basics>

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THE BIBLE VIEW

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Teach Your Children God's Truths

Bill Brinkworth

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

Being a Sunday school teacher for more than 35 years, I have seen many changes in our young people. One change in particular has me very concerned.

In the past, the majority of children in my classes had a basic understanding of some biblical truths. They knew who God was, and where He dwelt. They knew about Satan, and where those that do not go to Heaven go — Hell. Most knew who Jesus was and what Christmas and Easter were really about. They knew about sin, what it was, and that it did not please God. Most knew about the Bible, and that it was God's Word. However, that was then; but today is nothing like the past.

Many children now come to my classes, some even in the fourth and fifth grades, and do not have a clue about what

was once the basics. When asked about who God is, who Jesus is, to name some sins, or what the Bible is the newcomers look back at me with glazed looks. They do not know what I am talking about. Each year the numbers increase of those that do not know the above basics.

Who is at fault for this great lack of understanding in our young people? Certainly some of the blame must fall on the schools they attend. No longer are they allowed to pray in most schools. The Bible is no longer read, as it had been for over 100 years. God is rarely discussed positively in schools, although He is mocked and often cursed. Moral truths are also questioned, forbidden, and are now replaced with positive input on what once were moral taboos.

Although too many churches have a long time ago fled from preaching biblical truths, they cannot receive all the blame for people's ignorance, as fewer people are attending them. Television programs and other worldly influences also share some of the blame, but not all. "Well then, where does the blame for our young people's ignorance of biblical teachings really lie?" It lies squarely on their parents.

Moral training has always been the responsibility of the children's parents. It is the parents that should be instilling into their children what is right and wrong. It should be the home where the children are instructed what the Bible teaches, and where its principles are practiced. These life-directing moral teachings should not be entrusted to

complete strangers, of whose morality, beliefs, and practices are usually unknown.

Why is it so important to know the biblical basics, one may wonder? One important reason is that a society cannot exist together unless there are moral boundaries. The Bible is the only source that relays the mind of God, and what He knows we should do or not do. It reveals that lying, adultery, stealing, disobeying authorities, deceitfulness, fornication, murder, unkindness, covetousness, and a host of other sins are against a Holy God and have severe consequences for those committing them and also for others in society. Removing the Bible and its teachings remove those protective borders. This is why most are not bothered by sin anymore. They do what they think is right. That thinking leads to ever increasing anarchy, and ungodly behavior.

Teaching and practicing biblical principles also are important in having a successful life. God warns us not to commit sin, because he knows it will ruin the sinner's life and others around them. God's Word also reveals the only way one can go to His Heaven one day, which is the most important decision any person will ever make.

The moral boundaries and biblical truths have been hidden and beaten down, and if a brighter and safer future for your young people is wanted, then biblical principles must be taught at home. Have daily Bible devotions; read portions of the Bible. Find a church that believes and practices the whole Word of God. Consider putting your

children in a good Christian school, or homeschool them if it is discovered that the school they are attending is teaching principles contrary to what the Bible teaches. Go to school meetings, sit in on classes, and review your children's school books to see what they are being taught. Your children are your responsibility, and your most important treasure. See to it that they are not ruined by teachings contrary to what God wants them to learn.

“And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.”

Eph. 6:4

“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.”

Psalm 78:4

“What the world needs is child control, not parent control!”

A Mother's Love

Deb McCoy

Mom, throughout my life you taught me by example every
step of the way,

Though many times I stumbled and fell you continued to
love me as I began to stray.

I remember your bravery when dad took his life,
I became angry and rebellious, as it pierced through me
like a knife.

Our lives changed forever at that moment in time,
But the choice you made was to keep going onward no
matter how steep the climb.

I promised to take care of you the rest of your days,
Though it was your unconditional love for me that always
paved the way.

No obstacle was insurmountable regardless of how hard,
Each one had a lesson though we struggled and were left
scarred.

We poured out our hearts to one another during our time
of grief,
Unanswered questions of why a husband and father could
take his life and leave us in disbelief.

Mom, it was during those times that I saw the depths of
your love,
Your inspiring example to set my sights up above.
Brokenness was upon us as a missing link in a chain,
But tragedy led to triumph through all the suffering and the
pain.

I was miserable and in need of peace as everywhere I did
search,
Then you asked me to consider my first ever visit to
church.

It was then that God did tug at my heart,
Born again I became salvation to impart.

It wasn't long after that we did learn of your cancer,
Looking to God in prayer for a miracle to answer.

Mom your strength and courage throughout your life left a
godly legacy,
You taught me that dying to your own desires and pouring
your life into someone else is how to live most blessedly.

It is through selflessness that we become truly fulfilled,
How blessed I was to care for you, because helping others
is the message you instilled.
My heart was broken to see you suffer in torment and
anguish,
Seeing you deteriorate how I felt hopeless and did
languish.

Though a burden you did not wish to be,
Love is deeper than any encumbrance you see.
You never complained and you fought to the end,
I miss you so much and each day together we did spend.

Mom, your inspiration will guide me all the days of my life
on earth. I cannot wait to see you again. I'm so thankful for
Christ's death on the cross, for saving me, and giving me a
new birth.

Mom, I would like to think the doorway to Heaven would
open for you to see this. How I wish you could have a
glimpse into my heart as I have written this in dedication to
you. Thank you for everything Mom. I love you always.



**“One good mother is worth a hundred
schoolmasters.”** — *Herbert*

A Mother's Wrong Decision

D. L. Moody

I remember one mother who heard that her boy was impressed to be saved at our meeting. She said her son was a good enough boy, and he didn't need to be converted. I pleaded with that mother, but all my pleading was of no account. I tried my influence with the boy; but while I was pulling one way, she was pulling the other, and of course her influence prevailed. Naturally, it would.

Well, to make a long story short, sometime after, I happened to be in the county jail, and I saw him there. "How did you come here?" I asked, "Does your mother know where you are?"

"No, don't tell her. I came in under an assumed name, and I am going to Joliet for four years. Do not let my mother know of this," he pleaded. "She thinks I am in the army." I used to call on that mother, but I had promised her boy I would not tell her, and for four years she mourned over that boy. She thought he had died on the battlefield or in a southern hospital.

What a blessing he might have been to that mother, if she had only helped us to bring him to Christ. But that mother is only a specimen of hundreds and thousands of parents. If we would have more family altars in our homes, and train our children to follow Christ, the Son of God would lead them into "green pastures," and instead of having sons who curse the mothers who gave them birth, they would bless their fathers and mothers.

“O fathers and mothers, the ruin of your children or their salvation, will, under God, very much depend on you.” — *Spurgeon*