

Teach And Pray For The Children

Deuteronomy 11:18-21 [NIV] *“Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds; tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Teach them to your children, talking about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Write them on the door-frames of your houses and on your gates, so that your days and the days of your children may be many in the land that the LORD swore to give your forefathers, as many as the days that the heavens are above the earth.”*

Obviously, God considers teaching our children a vitally important parental responsibility.

Proverbs 22:6 [NIV] *“Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it.”*

If a child is taught the proper way of life from the time they are young, they will **not** cast aside the training as they grow up.

Especially emphasise to your children the overall principle of life; obedience to the Creator God and His laws for life, as found in His Word, the Christian Bible, produces happiness and brings many blessings.

Disobedience and rebellion against God’s laws, His way of life, will bring unhappiness and punishment.

By making sure your children understand that the only way to be truly happy is by pleasing, praising and thanking the Creator God, this will also develop their sense of morality.

When you teach your children, make sure you tell them exactly what the Christian Bible says. Do not fictionalise about the Biblical characters just to hold their interest. Give them realistic, mature, serious views of God’s Word.

It is best **not** to use story books about The Bible but teach from The Bible itself, for such books many times place false concepts about the Creator God and His Word, the Christian Bible, into children’s minds.

Nor will these other sources teach the true purpose for human life, because the authors do not understand themselves so they ignore the subject.

Try to relate the lessons learnt from the Word of God to everyday life.

Examples, especially in the area of relationships, will promote understanding, especially in younger children.

Set a regular time for teaching your children from the Christian Bible and stick to it.

If family discussions are interesting, the children will look forward to Bible Study time.

Keep sessions short enough so your children do not get tired.

As children mature into adolescents and teenagers, you can introduce them to more complicated concepts and encourage them to begin to study the Christian Bible on their own.

Studying the Christian Bible as a family group will strengthen the picture of God’s created family in the world tomorrow, after the Second Coming of Jesus Christ, this time as King of kings and Lord of lords.

Pray for our children; Jesus Christ certainly set us an example, [**Matthew 19:13; Mark 10:13-16; Luke 18:13-17**].

From time to time our prayers need to focus on long-term concerns and character qualities of our little children and teenagers.

Picture them 5, 10 or 15 years from now. Ask the Creator God to provide for situations and insights that will fashion good strong characteristics daily.

Pray that they will **not** live accidental lives, but organised, Godly lives.

Pray for wisdom for yourself to advise and encourage, **not** dictate.

No matter what choices our children make in years to come, ask that God's will for them will be accomplished.

Pray especially that through your own example that God will call your children to conversion when He sees is the best time for them.

Pray for your child's future spouse, asking God's hand to be involved in the selection.

In this degenerate age of disease and illness, pray for your children's health, physically and mentally.

As parents we should consider not so much what the child is today as what they may become in the future as a result of our teaching and prayers.

Parenting is **not** easy, we have to work hard at it.

Teach and pray for your children; the rewards will be great.