

Joy! April 2000 – Home schooling

Educating children in the safety of the family unit

There are many reasons why our children's education is important. The first, and obvious, is that it's become one of the greatest needs in our society today. The Bible says: "Sons (daughters) are a heritage from the Lord, children a reward from Him (Psalm 127:3)."

Children, and problems surrounding them, don't have to ruin our lives. They're a gift from God. He wants them to be a joy and it's our privilege to raise them well and to see that they get a proper education. If we want to be wise in the way we raise our children, we should not gather the latest psychological information, but read the Bible and live by it.

"The family is a microcosm of what God intended the Church to look like."

God didn't plan chaos for the family. It was never His intention for marriages to break down, for the children to be rejected and unsafe, or for the family unit to fall apart at the seams. He is for the family, and has been from the beginning. His Word tells us that He "sets the lonely in families (Psalm 68:6)." This verse alone tells us that God is committed to the family unit.

In His Word there are 1314 passages that speak about parents and children.

Concerning a father's relationship to his son, there are 2208 verses; and there are 1426 passages that have instruction to

fathers. The portions of Scripture that deal with passing the torch from one generation to the next number 180 (Don Nori: No more sour grapes, 1999).

If an educational system is falling apart, then there is a challenge for every Christian parent: Do we raise our children according to the philosophy of this world, or do we teach them at home, according to the Word of God?

This article is for those who are facing a situation where their children's future in education and their destiny as children of God is at stake.

Though there is hope, there is also a cost involved – but it's worth counting that cost, because God's way is the only way that works. You'll go through inconvenience and pain, but at the end of the day you'll have great children. Other parents will look at the result and will wonder how you did it. And you'll be able to tell them that this is what happens when you build your family life on the Word of God.

Our children don't decide how they're going to be raised. That's up to their parents. We must take full responsibility for the way we bring up our children. We're the key to what they become.

What is the cost?

Training by example

"The lives of children are intended to be primarily moulded by what they experience at home."

"The behaviour and lifestyle we model to our children will have the strongest impact on who they become. Parents' influence in the home will absolutely overpower the influences on our children

at school; it will nullify the most deliberate secular brainwashing. Children were constructed by God with their hearts open to their parents. They learn from us first.” “If we will train our children from the womb to understand that God has a destiny to their lives, the result will be confident young people who know who they are. And once we recognise how our present decisions affect our children’s future, we will find that we use a lot more caution and wisdom in our daily lives (Don Nori: 1999).”

Pouring yourself into your children

Children respond to love. That is why mentoring works. That is why government – controlled systems, schools, and boarding schools will not work. In the life of a child, instruction from a book is not the primary influence; it is the touching of heart to heart.

You can touch the heart of your children by providing them with a safe place to learn.

As the world’s systems decline, society has no hope. Our children are our hope. God’s dream for them is their hope of a meaningful and fruitful life. If we will yield ourselves to Him and pass the torch of His presence to our children, our sons and daughters will be the next generation of world leaders.

All we have to do for this to happen is to change the world around us – not the whole world. “Our children have destiny. It is up to you and to me to understand this and to prepare our children to fulfil their destiny (Nori).”

If you are in a hopeless situation regarding the education of your children, Dynamis can help you.