

God's Plan of Salvation:

1. Hear - Romans 10:17
2. Believe - Mark 16:16
3. Repent - Acts 2:38
4. Confess - Romans 10:10
5. Be baptized - Acts 22:16
6. Live faithfully - Revelation 2:10

Announcements:

Sick: Mrs. Calvert, Mrs. Maggie Dowling, Mr. Hadley, Ashley Law, Ms. Kim (Ashley Law's mother), Lamar Mathis, Mr. and Mrs. Pete Newsome, Mrs. Owens, Ms. Sowder, Ms. Ward, Mr. Winns.
Out of Town: Justin Law.

If you would be interested in any of the following ways to study the Bible, feel free to let us know:

- Home Bible Study - We will come into your home or other place you feel comfortable and study the Bible with you. Bible questions are welcome in these studies and we will seek to give a Bible answer.
- Correspondence courses - We will be glad to mail you a correspondence lesson that you can fill out and mail back to us and we will send you the next lesson.
- Call us with your Bible question - #503-707-6014.
- Visit our website: www.oakgrovechurchofchristjenningsflorida.com
- Come and visit - We always strive to have good, practical Bible instruction at each of our assemblies.

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Thoughts on Teaching Children the Bible

By Derek Long

God places the responsibility for teaching children about Him upon the parents. In the Old Testament, God commanded His people, "And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates" (Deuteronomy 6:6-9, NKJV). The New Testament places the responsibility for the spiritual training of children upon fathers (Ephesians 6:4) and at the same time points out the important influence a mother can have in developing faith in her child (2 Timothy 1:5). God expects the home to be the primary place where children receive their spiritual training and parents need to take their job of training their children in the ways of the Lord seriously. Good training can have a lasting impact in the child's life. What are some practical tips for making sure our children are taught God's word?

- In order to teach our children the word of God, we must have knowledge of the word of God ourselves. God anticipated the children of the Israelites asking their parents questions

about the law of God (Deuteronomy 6:20). God also expected the parents of the children to have an answer for their children's questions (Deuteronomy 6:21-22). As a parent, we need to make sure we are growing in our knowledge of God's word so we can impart that knowledge to our children (2 Peter 3:18). Children may be able to ask questions we find challenging to answer even if we study the Bible often. If we fail to study the Bible regularly though, we will certainly be unprepared to teach our children God's word and answer the questions they ask us (1 Peter 3:15).

- In order to teach our children the word of God, it is best to give them an orderly account of God's word. Sometimes people have a tendency to study one story of the Bible from one period of Bible history, jump to another period of Bible history, and back to another period the next time. If we want our children to have an accurate picture of the overall story of the Bible, it is helpful to give them the Bible stories in an orderly manner.
- In order to teach our children the word of God, we will need to eventually expose them to all parts of the Bible. Paul told the Ephesian elders, "I have not shunned to declare to you the whole counsel of God" (Acts 20:27, NKJV). All Scripture is profitable and needed for the child of God to become all they should be (2 Timothy 3:16-17). In the beginning of instructing a child in God's word, one may pick out certain key events and slowly add more and more details as time progresses. However, parents need to make sure their children are acquainted with the contents of all the Scriptures because all of them have valuable information for helping us live our lives today.

- In order to teach our children the word of God, it is important to give them the tools they will need to study the Bible for themselves one day. Paul told Timothy, "Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (2 Timothy 2:15, NKJV). Our children need to be taught how to rightly divide the word of truth. It is possible for people to twist the Scriptures (2 Peter 3:16). Parents need to help their children learn how to avoid twisting the Scriptures and recognize when others they hear teaching something false are twisting the Scriptures. Parents need to help their children learn Bible concepts like examining the context of a passage, distinguishing between the Old and New Testaments, examining everything the Bible says upon a subject before drawing a conclusion, the need for Bible authority and how to establish authority for a practice from the teachings of the Bible.

Teaching our children the word of God takes diligence and is something we cannot afford to grow slack in (Romans 12:11). Hopefully these thoughts will help us in our efforts to teach our children the word of God.