
BIBLE TALK

This week the question is: **What should parents teach their kids about school?**

School will begin soon. Summer vacation is about over. The stores already have their “back to school” items out for sale. It’s time for kids to begin classes for a new school year.

As our kids begin another school year, there are some things every parent should teach their children about school.

FIRST: Parents should teach their children about authority.

We are living in a time when very few young people recognize any authority. The government has outlawed corporal punishment. In other words, it wrong for the school officials to physically punish a child. The government has a policy of, “*No Child Left Behind*,” which makes it virtually impossible for any child to be expelled from school. Most kids realize that, whatever they do, there will actually be no consequences for misbehavior. Little by little the “inmates are running the prison” – so to speak – and they know it.

When a few students do not want to learn and begin disrupting class they prevent other students from learning – students who want to learn something. Some young people realize that one day they will have to earn their own living and they want to prepare themselves, but a few bad apples keep the learning from happening.

2 Timothy 3:1-5

¹ But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come:

² *For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,*

³ *unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good,*

⁴ *traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God,*

⁵ *having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!*

We are living in a time described by this passage.

If parents do not teach their children respect for authority, they will not learn respect for authority. Parents and parents alone are responsible for teaching their children respect for authority.

This cannot be delegated to someone else. Fathers, especially, must take the responsibility of teaching respect for authority.

Proverbs 20:30

³⁰ **Blows that hurt cleanse away evil,**
As do stripes the inner depths of the heart.

KJV

³⁰ **The blueness of a wound** cleanseth away evil:
so do stripes the inward parts of the belly.

This is speaking of a whipping which is so strong it leaves a bruise. This passage also speaks of stripes which means whelps.

Now I say this with caution, because if any parent whips their child and leaves a bruise or a whelp, that is considered child abuse in this day and time, but the scriptures say this is not child abuse.

I can testify that when I was a child, I received whippings from both my parents and from school officials. Some of the whippings I received left marks on my body. I did not die from any of these whippings. I'll tell you what I did learn though: **I learned to respect the ones who were in authority over me.**

A student who grows up without learning respect for authority will eventually find himself in prison or an early grave.

Proverbs 22:15

¹⁵ Foolishness is bound up in the heart of a child;
The rod of correction will drive it far from him.

Children are not born sinners, but they are born ignorant. As the child grows they exhibit foolishness. Foolishness is not driven out by negotiations. Foolishness is not driven out of a

child by restricting privileges. Foolishness is driven out, according to the Bible and according to history, by a “rod of correction.” There is no other solution to the problem of authority.

If a tree is pulled straight and tied off while it is young, the growth of the tree will be corrected and it will grow straight up. But if the tree is allowed to grow for a long time without correction, it will be impossible to correct the growth which has set in.

SECOND: Parents should teach their children about God.

There are good school teachers in the school systems who believe in God and would teach young people about godly living, but the government has outlawed God. No one is allowed to say anything about God – even though the majority of parents would like for their children to hear about God.

If students ever learn about God – it will have to be parents who teach them – because the school system cannot teach this.

Ephesians 6:4

⁴ And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.

Students need to learn that God expects them to control their desires. This is called “*self-control*” and it is possible to control oneself (1 Cor 14:32).

Rather than being taught sex education by people who have no regard for morals, parents must teach their children God’s standards for sex. God expects young people to remain virgins until marriage (1 Cor 7:1-2). He expects young people to remain pure in every sense of the word until marriage – in other words, not improper touching or handling of each other (Gal 5:19-21).

Students need to learn where they came from, why they’re here and where they’re going. Because some do not know these things, they turn to drugs, alcohol, gangs, violence, and suicide. Students need to know:

- They came from God (Gen 1:26-27).
- They were created to glorify God (1 Cor 10:31).
- They will eventually stand before God in judgment.

Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 (KJV)

¹³ Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.

¹⁴ For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.

When students are taught they evolved from lower life forms, when they are taught they are nothing more than a very intelligent animal, they begin to act like animals. It is any wonder.

These are two important principles which parents must teach their children. These principles cannot be delegated to others. If you are a parent, stop giving your children things only and begin to give them some instructions which will help them later in life.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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