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TRAINING UP A CHILD

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Penned by: The Preacher

And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes. And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates. (Deuteronomy 6:6-9)

THE BASICS

According to God's word, we should be teaching our children God's truth and educating them to be fruitful and productive individuals. Young boys at a very early age should be nurtured and guided for a future career that will help them be able to support a family as well as be beneficial to their society. Likewise, young girls should be taught what it takes to be a good wife and how to raise a family. But most of all, we should be teaching them about our Awesome God and Creator, showing them at a very early age what Christianity is all about. This can start when they're still in the womb, singing and reading the bible out loud to them, covering them in God's prayers too.

But, what are we really doing? Well let's see, there's mindless video games and action movies that puts nonsense and violence into our children's heads. And then we wonder why our youth are numb to violence and are killing each other in schools. Also, there are those nonsense cartoons kid shows, Disney movies, foolish games that are kids our being entertained with. Aren't these things teaching them to be a bunch of goofballs? Thus, we're raising a bunch of goofballs so that they can pass on to the next generation they're nonsense as well. For I see our world starting to reflect what

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we're making our children into? For already our young adults who were raised on foolishness are producing even more foolishness on a more grander scale. And let's remember that God's word says to: ¹*Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.* Yes parents, it's your job to raise your children to be respectable, God fearing citizens. ¹(Proverbs 22:6)

LOOKING AT THE PAST

Consider the child Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (whom we know as Mozart): who even at the age of four, not only already knew how to play his first instruments, the piano and the violin, but he now composed his first piano concerto. Leopold Mozart his father and teacher, regarded the blots of ink put down on paper by the unskilled hand of a child with disbelief, realizing that all notes were correctly arranged following contemporary musical rules. From this time on he also taught his son the art of composing: Wolfgang played the melodies on the piano and his father put the notes down on paper. Wolfgang also himself enjoyed singing, a passion that would be his companion for the rest of his life - religious hymns, canons and churlish songs with his friends.

So, I don't think this child was fed a bunch of nonsense like most kids get today (such as SpongeBob SquarePants), but was trained in the way to go as said above. And we can see this to be true with Johann Sebastian Bach and George Frideric Handel as well. All these men were not only musicians at a young age, but were involved with the church of their day.

IDOLATRY OF SPORTS

Are you one of those who is deceived in the lie of the devil and believes sending your child to soccer camp is going to make them a better person? And if so, in what way may I ask? Don't you realize that all sports are built on the pride of man, so by allowing you son or daughter to get involved is contrary to God's word. So again as said above, we are to: ²*Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.* And in what way is that, by building up their ego and pride? No, not at all. For God's word says that the older women should: ³*admonish the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, to be discreet, chaste, homemakers, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be blasphemed. Likewise, exhort the young men to be sober-minded, in all things showing yourself to be a pattern of good works; in doctrine showing integrity, reverence, incorruptibility, sound speech that cannot be condemned, that one who is an opponent may be ashamed, having nothing evil to say of you.* So that's what we should be teaching our children fellow Christians. ²(Proverbs 22:6) ³(Titus 2:1-8) For more info on this go to

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written2you.org and click on the article: Idolatry of Sports. All articles are downloadable for free.

And let's not forget how many of our youth have died in football alone. Here below are a few clippings from some articles.

- **Experts Alarmed Over 13 High School Football Deaths This Season:** For freshman Tyrell Cameron, it was a fractured neck after being hit during a punt return. Ben Hamm took a hit to the head. The same was true for Kenny Bui and Andre Smith. Cam'Ron Matthews felt woozy before he collapsed on the sidelines. Evan Murray also felt woozy, this following a hit to his stomach, while Luke Schemm collapsed on the sidelines soon after he got hit a final time. Within hours or days of their respective collisions or tackles, all seven of these high school football players were dead. In all, 13 high school and one youth football players have died since July 1, according to Doug Casa, Ph.D., the chief executive officer of the Korey Stringer Institute at the University of Connecticut, which researches sudden death in sport. Dr. Robert Cantu, who researches catastrophic sports deaths, tells PEOPLE, "Even one death is too many." Taken from the website -People at: <https://people.com/sports/experts-alarmed-over-13-high-school-football-deaths-this-season/> (or click here for downloadable PDF)
- **We Had No Idea This Many Kids Have Died Playing High School Football This Year:** Since the start of the high school football season, five high school football players have died following on-field injuries, matching both last year's total and the average number of football-related deaths since the late 1990s, according to the National Center for Catastrophic Sport Injury Research at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. Between 2005 and 2014, another 92 high school football players died indirectly from the sport, with causes ranging from heart-related issues to heat stroke and water intoxication. On October 5, for example, Roddrick "Rod" Williams, an offensive lineman at Burke County High School in Georgia, died two weeks after he collapsed during practice. Burke County Coroner Susan Salemi told WSB-TV that his death was due to a heart condition. Amid lingering unease over the long-term effects of concussions, some schools have considered getting rid of football altogether. A string of serious injuries at one Missouri high school—paired with diminished participation—led the school board to eventually shut down the football program in June. Taken from the website - Mother Jones at: <https://www.motherjones.com/media/2015/10/high-school-football-death-camron-matthews/> (or click here for downloadable PDF)

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Dare to Discipline

Now let's not forget discipline (spanking your children). It seems our society today thinks it knows better than God on how to correct our children. For His word tells us not to spare the rod of correction, for in applying it you're actually showing more love than you would if you withheld it. But unfortunately, you can get into big trouble if you take a belt to your child these days. Again, this is all about our corrupt way of thinking that we know better than God, but the truth of the matter is, we don't. For we must remember from the womb we were born sinners. That is why God's word says that: *"Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him."* So that being said, let's stop encouraging our children in the ways of foolishness and instead make them sound Godly people. ⁴(Proverbs 22:15)

Sex Education

Now, there is one last thing I do want to touch on, and that is sex educating our children. I believe we as parents have failed our children in this area by giving them the impression that sex is evil and nasty and must be hidden from them. But I ask you, was it not God who ordained it in the first place? So, why do we find it so difficult to educate them in this very important part of life? And the truth is, they're going to find out about it one way or another. So it's best that you teach them the do's and don'ts of sex while they're still young, and especially before they learn the hard way on their own.

So, am I suggesting that you set your child next to you while you and your spouse get intimate? Well, even though I heard people going that route, this may not be the best thing to do. For you could end up having your children taken away from you. However that being said, I do believe the worst thing for a couple to do is to panic when their child does happen to walk in on them doing their act. For this will only convey the false message that this is wrong. Just consider it sex education up front and personal, and a good time to have some explaining to do.

In the past and I'm sure in the present, children who have grown up on farms were able to witness some farm animals in their act of mating. This would naturally allow them to ask and learn that this is how creatures, including humans, make babies. So it would be learning sex education through nature itself. Unfortunately however, children these days don't have this convenient way of learning the facts of life. So it's you the parent that needs to step up and teach them God's truths on this before they learn it outside the home environment. And please don't rely on our corrupt school system and those of this world teach them this very important part of life. To fail them could only bring hardship upon you the parent and on them as well.

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So, in conclusion to all this

Let's dare to stand on God's word and not on man's. Let us use God given wisdom and discernment in everything we do, relying on His Holy Spirit to be our teacher. We can always trust in Him for guidance. Amen

Article Notes and scripture references:

- the older women likewise, that they be reverent in behavior, not slanderers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things-- that they admonish the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, [to be] discreet, chaste, homemakers, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be blasphemed. Likewise, exhort the young men to be sober-minded, in all things showing yourself to be a pattern of good works; in doctrine showing integrity, reverence, incorruptibility, sound speech that cannot be condemned, that one who is an opponent may be ashamed, having nothing evil to say of you. (Titus 2:3-8)
- The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame. (Proverbs 29:15)
- Withhold not correction from the child: for if thou beatest him with the rod, he shall not die. Thou shalt beat him with the rod, and shalt deliver his soul from hell. (Proverbs 23:13-14)
- He that spareth his rod hateth his son: but he that loveth him chasteneth him betimes. (Proverbs 13:24)
- According to Fox News Latino - In Corpus Christi Texas, A mom was sentenced to probation and has lost custody of her children for spanking her daughter. The article said: Rosalina Gonzales of Corpus Christi pleaded guilty on Wednesday to injury to a child for swatting the 2-year-old on her buttocks. According to prosecutors, Gonzales in December hit the girl with an open hand, leaving red marks. Police arrested Gonzales after the child's grandmother reported the injuries and took the child to a hospital. Gonzales will serve five years' probation, take parenting classes and follow guidelines laid out by Child Protective Services. KZTV10.com reports that the ruling judge in the case make it clear that spanking is a crime. "You don't spank children today." Judge Jose Longoria is quoted as having said. "In the old days, maybe we got spanked, but there was different quarrel. You don't spank children." Published June 21, 2011 / Fox News Latino

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- Seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the LORD, to do justice and judgment; that the LORD may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him. (Genesis 18:18-19)
- Only take heed to thyself, and keep thy soul diligently, lest thou forget the things which thine eyes have seen, and lest they depart from thy heart all the days of thy life: but teach them thy sons, and thy sons' sons; Specially the day that thou stoodest before the LORD thy God in Horeb, when the LORD said unto me, Gather me the people together, and I will make them hear my words, that they may learn to fear me all the days that they shall live upon the earth, and that they may teach their children. (Deuteronomy 4:9-10)
- Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it. (Proverbs 22:6)
- And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes. And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates. (Deuteronomy 6:6-9)
- Give ear, O my people, to my law: incline your ears to the words of my mouth. I will open my mouth in a parable: I will utter dark sayings of old: Which we have heard and known, and our fathers have told us. 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. For he established a testimony in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers, that they should make them known to their children: That the generation to come might know them, even the children which should be born; who should arise and declare them to their children: That they might set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments: And might not be as their fathers, a stubborn and rebellious generation; a generation [that] set not their heart aright, and whose spirit was not stedfast with God. (Psalm 78:1-8)
- And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord. (Ephesians 6:4)