

“TEACHING YOUR CHILDREN—PART II”

Correcting Children



By Bill Faith

Raising a family and guiding them in the direction that they should go is not necessarily an easy task. Often children are strong willed and resist being steered in the direction that they should go.

To bring things into perspective, perhaps we should consider the fact that God is also raising a family; and we, His children, are often strong willed and resist being guided in the direction that God would like us to go. Yet God as a loving Father is patient with His children, while at the same time we are told that He chastises those whom He loves (Heb. 12:6). This chastisement is for our own good. It is for, "Our profit that we may be partakers of His holiness" (Heb. 12:10).

In like manner, we should correct our children for their own profit that they might grow up to respect God and His way of life while also learning to respect others.

As children of God, we can look to our Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ, as an example of true righteous character. And we know that He does not expect any more from us than He is willing to do Himself. In other words, He set a perfect example for us to follow, while at the same time expecting us to follow in His

footsteps. Likewise, we should do the same for our children. Why should we expect more from our children than we are willing to do ourselves?

The fact is that God expects us to discipline our children while at the same time setting them a good example to follow. As we look into the Bible, we can see quite a sobering example of a parent, and priest, who allowed his sons to take advantage of God's people. The example is that of Eli and his sons.

From what we read in the Bible about Eli, we get the impression that he was lacking in one crucial area. He was guilty of not restraining his children. In

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Enjoy the Winter Season,
Spring will soon be here!

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Personal Note

Hello Everyone,

In this issue we continue Part II of "Teaching Your Children" by Bill Faith. This article goes into how important it is to discipline your children. God expects us to discipline our children and set the proper example for them.

Another column titled "Teach Him World" was first published about 60 years ago and written by Dan Valentine as he watched his son go off to school for the first time. His thoughts are shared with us and most of us can identify with his feelings as we watched our first child go out into the world for the first time. I found this newspaper clipping in my mother's personal things after her death. She had saved it all through the years and it must have meant a lot to her. I think she had those same feelings as each of her children went off to school, especially her small son, my younger brother.

We have included two activity sheets. One is titled "Where's Jonah" and is for the younger age group, page 4, and the other activity on page 5 is a word puzzle for ages 8 to 10, or a little older. Feel free to copy these pages and use them in your classes, at home, or for Sabbath School.

Also in this issue we have included a column titled "Pass It On", which discusses Psalm 32, written by Diane Kleeschulte. We hope to continue this in our coming newsletters as Diane finds the time for this study and discussion of the Psalms.

I hope that all of you had a great Feast of Tabernacles. Stay healthy this winter, and soon Spring will back to cheer us on. I look forward to the Spring Holy Days too.

Until next time,

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"Teach Him World" ...but gently if you can



(Originally written in 1944 by Dan Valentine as he sent his son off to school for the first time. Distributed that year by the North American Newspaper Alliance.)

My young son starts in school Tuesday...It's all going to be strange and new to him for a while, and World, I wish you would sort of treat him gently.

You see up to now he's been king of the roost...He's been boss of the back yard...His mother has always been around to repair his wounds...and I've always been handy to soothe his feelings.

But now things are going to be different. Tuesday morning he's going to walk down the front steps, wave his hand and start out on the great adventure...It's an adventure that might take him across continents...It's an adventure that will probably include wars and tragedy and sorrow.

To live his life in the world he has to live in will require faith and love and courage. So World, I wish you would sort of take him by the hand and teach him the things he will have to know. Teach him...but gently if you can.

He will have to learn, I know, that all men are not just, that all men are not true. But teach him also that for every scoundrel there is a hero...That for every crooked politician, there is a dedicated leader...Teach him that for every enemy there is a friend. It will take time, World, I know, but teach him if you can, that a nickel earned is of far more value than a dollar found...Teach him to learn to lose...and to enjoy winning.

Steer him away from envy, if you can, and teach him the secret of quiet laughter. Let him learn early that the bullies are the easiest people to lick...Teach him, if you can, the wonder of books...But also give him quiet time to ponder the eternal mystery of birds in the sky, bees in the sun, and flowers on a green hill.

In school, World, teach him that it is far more honorable to fail than to cheat...Teach him to have faith in his own ideas, even if everyone tells him that they are wrong. Teach him to be gentle with gentle people and tough with

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I Sam. 2:12 we are told: "The sons of Eli were corrupt; they did not know the Lord." Eli's sons were guilty of abusing the sacrifice and offerings to God as well as committing sexual immorality with women who assembled at the door of the tabernacle of meeting (v. 13-15, 22). When Eli heard of the evil activities that his sons engaged in, he warned them that God would not tolerate such evil (v. 23-25). Yet Eli did not restrain their actions, he only warned them. As a result, Eli was judged along with his sons. In I Sam. 3:11-13 we read, "Then the Lord said to Samuel: 'Behold, I will do something in Israel at which both ears of everyone who hears it will tingle. In that day I will perform against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. For I have told him that I will judge his house forever for the iniquity which he knows, because his sons made themselves vile, and he did not restrain them.'"

The footnote on verse 13 in the Ryrie Study Bible reads, "The epitome of a tragic family situation: rebellious children and the failure in the area of parental discipline."

Evidently, the disciplining of children is not only expected it is a requirement. But it must be remembered that parents are to correct in love and not in anger. Too often parents put off correcting a child until they become angry. By then it's difficult to correct in love.

It should be remembered that the purpose of correction is to keep the child on the path of life that will eventually lead to eternal life with God in His kingdom. After all, is this not the same reason that God chastises us, His children?

"You shall also consider in your heart, that as a man chastens his son so the Lord your God chastens you."
Deuteronomy 8:5

"For whom the Lord loves, He chastens and corrects every son whom He receives. "If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chastens not."
Hebrews 12:6-7

“PASS IT ON”

By Diane Kleeschulte

Psalm 32

Don't you just love opening your Bible to the book of Psalms? One day I opened my Bible and was not really certain what it was I wanted to read. With no real thought in mind, I opened to Psalms and began thumbing through the book. I stopped when I read Psalm 32. Actually what caught my eye was the summary line under the heading of Psalm 32, "The Joy of Forgiveness".

Now I have to tell you that this is a very powerful psalm by David. As I read his words I found such reassurance and conviction in what I believe to be true about our loving and faithful God. These words, "Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered". Verse 1 is like a warm blanket on a cold night.

Forgiveness for all the terrible things we have said, done, or thought? "Blessed"? Yes, there really is joy in forgiveness. It's hard for some to believe but if you read David's words carefully in this psalm, he tells you that once you have confessed your sin God will forgive your transgression. Then, according to David you should pray.

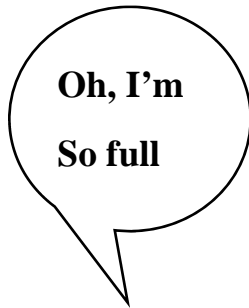
Continue to let God guide you, David says, instead of acting mulish. Trust in the Lord! Be glad! Shout for joy!

These are powerful instructions to all of us and important words to share with others who may not know who God is and what kind of God is waiting for them to hear the Word, repent and be changed into a trusting believer.

Do you know anyone who needs these words of comfort? *"I acknowledge my sin to You, and my iniquity I have not hidden. I said, "I will confess my transgression to the Lord, and You forgave the iniquity of my sin...he who trusts in the Lord, mercy shall surround him."*

(Psalm 32:5,10 NKJV) Read and contemplate the words of David's psalm and then, be a good steward of the word, pass it on!

WHERE'S JONAH



Youth Bible Study: Ages 4-7

Jonah is hiding in the picture above. Where do you think Jonah is?

Draw a picture of Jonah and show where you think he is.

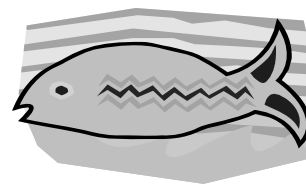
How can Jonah get out? What does Jonah have to do before he can get out of his trouble? Circle one of these words for the right answer:

SLEEP

PRAY

EAT LUNCH

Jonah and The Big Fish



Youth Bible Study: Ages 8-10

Fill in the blanks below. Look up the answers in the Book of Jonah or choose from the word pool below.

1. Jonah was told by God to go to the City of _____.
2. Instead Jonah fled to _____.
3. Then God sent a great _____ in the sea.
4. Jonah was _____ down inside of the ship.
5. The men cast _____, and it fell on Jonah.
6. The men cast _____ into the sea and it became _____.
7. The Lord has prepared a great _____ to swallow up Jonah.
8. Jonah was in the _____ of the fish _____ days and _____ nights.
9. Jonah _____ to God out of the fish's belly.
10. God heard Jonah's prayer and caused the fish to _____ Jonah up on _____ land.
11. Jonah arose up and went to Nineveh, which was three days _____.
12. Jonah told the people that in _____ days Nineveh would be destroyed.
13. The people turned from their evil _____ and God did not _____ them.

WORD POOL

wind fish journey lots spit forty
 Tarshish three asleep Nineveh ways
 Jonah calm dry belly prayed destroy

“Teach Him World” — Con’t. from Page 2

tough people.

Try to give my son the strength not to follow the crowd when everyone else is getting on the bandwagon...Teach him to listen to all men but teach him also to filter all he hears on a screen of truth and take only the good that comes through.

Teach him, if you can, how to laugh when he is sad...Teach him there is no shame in tears...Teach him there can be glory in a failure and despair in success.

Teach him to scoff at critics and to beware of too much sweetness...Teach him to sell his brawn and brains to the highest bidder but never to put a price tag on his heart and soul...Teach him to close his ears to a howling mob and to stand and fight if he thinks he is right.

Treat him gently, World, but don't coddle him because only the test of fire makes fine steel...Let him have the courage to be impatient...Let him have the patience to be brave.

Teach him always to have sublime faith in himself...Because then he will have sublime faith in mankind.



This is a big order, World, but see what you can do...He's such a nice little fellow...my son!

(Note: The following has been added by the Editor)

Teach him also to love abundantly and to be merciful and kind even when others are loveless and cruel...Teach him that even when the world seems cold and bare, he can find warmth and comfort within the circle of his family and friends...And teach him, World, to dream big dreams but be satisfied with small successes...Teach him to hope for the best but be content with what life gives him...And teach him, please, that no matter how tough the going gets or how dark the path, there will always be some place he can go for help and there will be a torch to light his path...Remind him gently, World, of all these things as he grows up and becomes a husband and father, and maybe one day you can teach his son...gently, World, please!



THE RESOURCE CORNER

(Compiled by Shelby Faith)

TALK SHEETS, (By David Lynn) Published by Zondervan Publishing House (Sold at Christian Bookstores) **Review:** Contains fifty instant discussions for teens covering a variety of topics that young people want to talk about. These are reproducible, and have simple step-by-step instructions on how to use them. They can be utilized for large or small groups, Sabbath school or bible study. Encourages young people to discuss topics they want to talk about.

YEA SABBATH SCHOOL BOOKS, Published by Christian Education Ministries (CEM), P. O. Box 560, Whitehouse, Tx. 75791. Phone: 1-903-509-2999. Email: adm@cemnetwork.com. **Review:** Sabbath school lessons available for youth of all ages, including intermediates (ages 12 – 15), and seniors (ages 16 – 19). You can order a book for every child in your home or Sabbath school class and teacher's guides also available. Nominal cost.

SABBATH KEEPING YOUTH (SKY), Catalog of resources and lessons available from Church of God, International, P.O. Box 2525, Tyler, Tx. 75710 Phone: 1-903-825-2525. You may view SKY at www.cgi.org. **Review:** At this site youth may chat, ask questions, contribute bible stories, etc. Includes teen articles and Newsletter, which can be downloaded. Lesson plans available at the Parent/Teacher Connection Resources at this site also. No cost.

YOUTH WEB SITES: www.ucgyouth.org Articles, lessons, question and answer features, youth magazine for teens, can be downloaded. “Vertical Thought” Magazine for young men and women. Go to the website for more information.

NEW TESTAMENT BIBLE ACTIVITIES Published by Rainbow Published, Div. Of Success with Youth, P. O. Box 261129, San Diego, CA 92126 **Review:** Activities for ages 8—14. Can be reproduced for class use. (Sold at Christian bookstores)

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And YOU!!