

Teach Your Children about the Church

Proverbs 22:6

PROPOSITION: The church is extremely important to God's way for man, and children should know about it at an early age.

INTRODUCTION:

1. It is a very serious matter to bring children into the world.
2. Some say children should not be prejudiced for or against a particular doctrine; but God says that children should be taught truth at an early age (Prov. 22:6; Eph. 6:4; Eccle. 12:1).
3. Parents should be a blessing to their children, not a curse!

DISCUSSION:

I. What Should Be Taught

- A. The principle of authority must be impressed upon young minds.
 1. Parents are the authority in the home (Eph. 6:1-3).
 2. As Creator, God has authority over all lives (Psa. 100:3), and authorizes through His written word (2 Tim. 3:16, 17; cf. 1 Cor. 4:6).
- B. Children must learn that the church is the way to heaven.
 1. Jesus is "the way" (John 14:6).
 2. The church is His body (Eph. 1:22, 23; Col. 1:18).
 3. The church is "the Way" (Acts 19:8, 9; 22:4; 24:14).
- C. Young children should learn that good behavior brings rewards.
- D. We must teach our children about the exclusive nature of the church.
 1. The church is the body of Christ (Eph. 1:22, 23), and there is one body (Eph. 4:4).
 2. Do not cause them to hate those in false religions. Instead, help them to appreciate the salvation that is available only in Christ (2 Tim. 2:10).

II. How It Can Be Taught

- A. By regularly and faithfully attending Bible classes and worship services
- B. By discussing other religious groups with children
- C. By providing an atmosphere where the church is viewed as vital, where its welfare is pursued, where dangers to it are viewed with great concern, and where prayer is offered on her behalf
- D. By discussing the rich, historical heritage of the church

CONCLUSION:

1. The more important principles are the fundamentals of religion.
2. Truth is accumulative. Start with simple basics and, by word and deed, build on the foundation.

--from lesson by Mac Deaver in *The Spiritual Sword* (15:04). Adapted by Andy Kizer.