

Teach Your Children to Defend the Truth¹

Galatians 2:1-5

PROPOSITION: Part of a well rounded education for our children involves training to stand for right.

INTRODUCTION:

1. Children are a blessing from the Lord (Psa. 127:3-5).
2. Parenting should be viewed as a form of stewardship (Prov. 22:6).

DISCUSSION: In teaching your children to defend the truth, please consider...

I. The Purpose.

- A. Two important reasons why children should be trained to defend the truth:
 1. For the unadulterated truth to continue (cf. Gal. 2:1-5)
 2. Because youth are challenged by false philosophical systems and theories
- B. Parents who are concerned about the world their children will inherit will teach them to stand up for truth.

II. The Plan.

- A. Some basic information should be known by all.
- B. On this subject specifically, the following should be stressed:
 1. Sometimes a positive message should be suspended to give a defense (cf. Jude 3-16).
 2. A proper defense of truth is based on well-reasoned arguments.
 3. Souls are at stake (cf. Jude 22, 23).
 4. Standing for the truth is not popular (cf. Acts 5:25-42; Acts 7; 2 Tim. 3:12, 13).
 5. A defense of the truth must be with the proper attitude (Eph. 4:15; 1 Pet. 3:15, 16).
 6. There are matters of faith and matters of opinion (cf. Rom. 14; 1 Cor. 8; Jude 3; 2 John 9-11).

III. The Practice.

- A. Children tend to pattern their lives after the example of their parents.
- B. It is a spiritual tragedy when parents don't know the truth and how to defend it.
- C. For parents to provide the proper rearing of their children, they will have to provide them with the teaching of the Bible *and* the right example of standing for the truth themselves.

CONCLUSION:

1. Parents, until our children are grown, we are responsible.
2. Be faithful Christians in every way for the sake of the children we love so dearly.

¹ From "According to the Bible, Parents Should Teach Their Children to Defend the Truth" in *The Spiritual Sword* (Vol. 15, No. 4, July 1984), pp. 42, 43. Adapted by Andy Kizer (10/21/2010).