

INTRODUCTION: PROVIDENTIAL OPPORTUNITY

I. WHAT: DEFINITION

A. EDUCATION: TRAINING IN TRUTH & RIGHTEOUSNESS (Mt.22:37f; Rom.1:20f; 2:12f; Phil.4:8; 2Th.2:17; 2Tim.3:14-17; all revelation to the whole person)

B. CHRISTIAN: FROM & THROUGH & TO (Heb.1:2,3; Col.2:3; Prov.1:7; 2:6 & Ps.36:9(Jn.1:4); Ex.36:1; 1Kngs.4:29; Lk.24:45; Eph.4:17 & Rom.11:33-36; 1Cor.10:31; Col.3:23; 2Cor.10:5; all versus Rom.1:21f)

II. WHO: PARENTS IN COMMUNITY (Dt.6:6f; Ps.78:2f; Prov.1:8,etc.; Eph.6:4; 2Tm.3:14f; see Josh.8:35; Ps.34:11; 1Chr.27:32; 1Cor.4:15; Gal.3:24; Phil.4:8,9)

III. WHEN: FROM BIRTH TO MATURITY AND BEYOND (Prov.22:6; Lk.15:11f; Gal.4:2f; 2Tim.3:14f; Heb.13:7)

IV. WHERE: EVERYWHERE (Dt.6:7; see Mk.1:21; 4:1; 6:34; 10:1)

V. WHY: LOVE GOD & YOUR CHILDREN (Eph.6:4&1f; Heb.12:5f,10; 2Tm.3:14f; see Mt.22:37,39)

VI. HOW: WITH SACRIFICIAL DILIGENCE AND PERSEVERANCE (Eph.6:4; Prov.1:8,etc.)

A. TAKE FULL RESPONSIBILITY (Dt.6:6; Ps.78:1f; Eph.6:4; 2Tm.3:14f)

B. POUR OUT YOUR LIVES (Mk.10:45; Jn.10:11f; see 2Cor.12:14(1Tm.5:4); 4:15; 6:11; see Lk.15:11f)

C. TEACH YOUR CHILDREN FULLY & WELL (2Tm.3:14f; Ex.36:1f; 1Kngs.4:29f; Rom.1:20f; 2:12f)

D. BRING YOUR CHILDREN WITH YOU IN LEARNING (2Tm.3:14f; see Dt.6:6; Josh.8:35; Lk.9:18; 11:1; Phil.4:8,9; see Acts 2:42; see Ex.36:1f)

E. HELP YOUR CHILDREN DISCERN THEIR GIFTS & CALLINGS (desires, abilities, opportunities; see Ex.36:1f; Rom.11:29)

F. HELP YOUR CHILDREN DEVELOP AND DEPLOY THEIR GIFTS IN THEIR CALLINGS
(Prov.6:6f; 24:30f; 26:13f; Eph.6:4; Heb.12:5f; 1Cor.9:25; 2Pt.1:5f)

G. IDENTIFY AND USE THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES THAT ARE MOST APPROPRIATE TO YOUR CHILD'S GIFTS & CALLINGS (see 1Chr.27:32; 1Cor.4:15)

H. CHILDREN, HONOR YOUR PARENTS IN THEIR EFFORTS TO TEACH YOU (Eph.6:4,1f; Heb.12:5f,10; see Lk.2:51f)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR PRIVATE, FAMILY AND SMALL GROUP FELLOWSHIP

*Suggestions: Don't feel obliged to use every question or every part of every question. Go through and discuss those that are of greatest **interest** to you. Then consider going back and discussing those that may also be **useful**, including those that may have seemed a bit difficult. In all questions, keep the outline before to identify entries relevant to the question and to look up appropriate verses listed.*

1. What most surprised, puzzled or impressed you from this sermon?
2. What was most helpful? Why? How will you apply it in your daily life?
3. What Scripture references were most helpful and why?
4. What are the primary *doctrinal* points of this passage? Do you *believe* these things?
5. What are the primary *practical* points? Do you do *these* things?
6. What is education?
7. What is Christian education? What are its subjects? What are some of the distinctive attributes of Christian education?
8. Who is primarily responsible for Christian education?
9. When and where should Christian education take place?
10. Why is Christian education an important duty?
11. What does it take to do this work?
12. In what ways is Christian education distinctively personal?
13. What are the immediate objectives in Christian education?
14. How do you go about choosing the best resources to use in Christian education?
15. Why is this question mistaken: "What do you want to be when you grow up?" What is the right question?
16. What is a child's or student's duty in Christian education? Who was the perfect example of this?
17. Read and discuss:
 - a. *The Testimony of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America*, p.A-84,85 on *Education of Children*. This document is found in our *Constitution* which is available at www.reformedprebyterian.org Click the *Convictions* tab, then the *Constitution* link.
 - b. *What is Christian Education?* By J.G. Vos This is available in our library and from Crown & Covenant Publications (www.psalms4u.com)
 - c. *Foundational Concepts* of Geneva College This is available at http://www.geneva.edu/page/foundational_concepts