

A Pastor's Heart

Encouragement from Pastor McGill

Educating Our Children

Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

Proverbs 22:6

We have heard that the children are our future. I believe that this is true. If we do not train them, what kind of future does it ensure for us? It certainly is the will of God for our children to be educated and instructed in the word of God. Today we see legislation and bills being voted on, discussed in congress and state legislatures that totally violate the principles of God. These policies would never have been proposed had the lawmakers been trained in the way they should go. As believers we have a responsibility to educate our children according to scripture. Our future will be drastically affected in the most horrendous way. We will find ourselves living in a country that has no fear of God. As parents and believers we must make sure that our children are educated. This education is not limited to public schools, universities or trade schools. They must be educated spiritually as well. They should know who they are, what they believe and be able to clearly articulate that to others. The word educate means to provide schooling for, to train by formal instruction and supervised practice, to develop mentally and morally, to provide with information. Finally, it means to persuade or condition to feel, believe, or act in a desired way. It is the parent's responsibility to make sure that every child is educated. Too often we depend on the school system, teachers, churches or pastors to do this. This is not what the word of God declares. The parents are to teach them diligently first. The church and school should reinforce what is being taught at home. I have found that many children are not being trained because the parents haven't been trained. If you fall into this category, there are training sessions every Sunday at Antioch Christian Church and many other churches that God ordained. As God-fearing parents who educate our children, we need a book. The bible is our training manual. You should own more than one. All of the other books come from this one. We need instructors that know the book, have read the book, have experienced the book and understand the book from a spiritual standpoint, not mundane theological head knowledge. In addition, we need to create an atmosphere in our homes that is conducive for our children to learn. It must be free of distractions, negative influences and drama. Finally, we need measurable goals or tests to ensure that the information is being absorbed and not just memorized. In the text the bible commands us to train our children in the way he SHOULD go. They may not go at first, but the scripture says that when they get old they will not depart from it. I have learned that old is not a particular age. It takes some of us longer to get old than others. Don't worry if you trained your children and they are still going in a different direction than they should, be patient they have not gotten old yet. Let's do our part for the hope of our future and train our children. Make it a great day.

Blessings and Peace

Pastor McGill