
Pleasant View church of Christ
2500 Highway 49 East
P.O. Box 189
Pleasant View, TN 37146

Sunday School: 9:30
A.M. Worship: 10:30
P.M. Worship: 6:00
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00 pm
Phone: 924-9714

Psalm 100:3
“Know that the Lord Himself
is God; it is He who has
made us, and not we
ourselves. We are His
people and the sheep of His
pasture.”

*“I have a strong feeling that the opposite of love
is not hate—it’s apathy.”*

Leo Buscaglia

*“Science may have found a cure for most evils;
but it has found no remedy for the worst of
them all—the apathy of human beings.”*

Helen Keller

What Does “Train Up A Child...” Mean? Pt. 2

The proverbs are rarely strict commands with specific promises. They are usually general principles with underlying truths. In the original Hebrew language, the “way he should go” is a phrase that has more to do with the personality of the child than the parents setting the child on a godly path. Any parent can attest to the varied personalities of their children. “One size fits all” is good for hats and gloves, but it’s not an effective parenting philosophy. This verse recognizes the need for parents to use proper training for each of their children.

But someone says, “Ok, but the verse says that when he is old he will not depart from it. How do you ex-

plain adult children who have rejected their training?” I explain it this way: They might have rejected their training, but their training hasn’t left them. Show me a “prodigal son,” and I’ll show you a young man who can tell you about how he was raised. Even though he has committed himself to “riotous living,” he knows that he wasn’t reared that way. His godly parents taught him to love God and the church, to worship with Christians, to serve his neighbor, and to love Jesus with all of his heart, soul, strength and mind. Those teachings are still with him even though he is living in contradiction to that training. It’s that training that will con-

tribute—hopefully—to his return to God one day. Without godly parents who trained him in the way he should go, that turn would be highly unlikely.

The misinterpretation of this verse shouldn’t be used as a tool to keep otherwise qualified men from serving as elders. What if the child goes through many phases of faith throughout his or her life? Do we remove the elder and then add him again based on the stages of the child’s faith? The issue is simple: Did the child obey the gospel while in the household of his father (I Tim. 3:4-5)?

James Hayes

Pleasant View Proclaimer

Pleasant View church of Christ

What Does “Train Up A Child...” Mean? Pt. 1

November 4, 2012

Issue 85

“Train up a child in the way he should go, even when he is old he will not depart from it” (Prov. 22:6). Unfortunately, this verse has created more guilt than inspiration for parents because many have a faulty understanding of its meaning. The general interpretation of this verse goes like this: If parents train their children in the ways of God, then the children will always be faithful. If the parents fail to train their children correctly, then the children will wander away from God as adults. But there are biblical and logical problems with this interpretation.

First, from a biblical standpoint, this interpretation

leaves no room for free will. Christians know that once someone has reached an age where he or she can understand the reality of sin and God’s plan for redemption, he or she is responsible for their own faith. This free will doctrine applies to all people regardless if they had good or bad parents. Good parenting does not create spiritual robots. Each person will appear before the judgment seat of Christ to give an account of their actions (II Cor. 5:10). Parents will not be held responsible for the decisions of their adult children.

Second, this interpretation fails to explain how people who were raised by godless

parents found their way to Christ. If faithful parenting produces faithful children without exception, then poor parenting *must* produce unfaithful children without exception. But anyone who has lived more than five minutes knows that such a proposition is not true. Famous, godly preachers have had unfaithful children. Conversely, there are elders in the church who were raised by unfaithful parents. In other words, there is no direct correlation between Mom and Dad’s parenting skills and the life choices of their adult children.

(continued on back)

James Hayes

Items of Note:

- November and December are busy months for families and churches. We have many things going on here at Pleasant View—church Christmas dinner, fruit baskets, nursing home service when we hand out gift bags, etc. Make plans to participate in all of these events as well as our worship services and Bible studies.
- Remember Nathan Goad, Carsyn Thornton, and Addie Farmer.

**Thanks To Everyone Who Participated In Trunk Or Treat
Many People From The Community Participated As Well!**

THOSE WHO WILL SERVE THE CONGREGATION

Sunday School

Read: Reed

Pray: E. Walker

Morning Worship

Wait on the Table: M. Newell

Serve: Demonbreum, J. Walker, J. Newell

Pray: Rose