



mothers of teens
Lesson 6

Spiritual Training for My Teenagers

by Becky Rush

You, however, continue in the things you have learned and become convinced of, knowing from whom you have learned them, and that from childhood you have known the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness.

2 Timothy 3:14-16

He (a true Christian) must train with an eye to his children's souls. He must not be ashamed to hear his training called singular and strange. What if it is? The time is short, the fashion of this world passeth away. He that has trained his children for heaven, rather than for earth, for God, rather than for man,—he is the parent that will be called wise at last.

J. C. Ryle

Reasons I Should Spiritually Train My Teens

1. Negative reasons

- Pride
- Parental happiness and comfort

2. Positive reasons

- Children lack wisdom.
Hear, my son, your father's instruction and do not forsake your mother's teaching. Proverbs 1:8
- God commands me to do this.
These words, which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your sons and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up. Deuteronomy 6:6-7

Which we have heard and known, and our fathers have told us. We will not conceal them from their children, but tell to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, and His strength and His wondrous works that He has done. For He established a testimony in Jacob and appointed a law in Israel, which He commanded our fathers that they should teach them to their children, that the generation to come might know, even the children yet to be born, that they may arise and tell them to their children, that they should put their confidence in God and not forget the works of God, but keep His commandments. Psalm 78:3-7

Methods I Should Employ to Spiritually Train My Teens

1. With the Scriptures

- The Bible is necessary for salvation

“Your mission, dear mother is not to make your children happy, but to prepare them for eternity.”

Mark Chanski

So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ. Romans 10:17

“The knowledge therefore of the Bible is of supreme excellence; and the earliest possible attainment of it is of unrivalled importance.”

Charles Simeon

- The Bible is necessary for discipling.

Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age. Matthew 28:19-20

Only give heed to yourself and keep your soul diligently, so that you do not forget the things which your eyes have seen and they do not depart from your heart all the days of your life; but make them known to your sons and your grandsons. Remember the day you stood before the LORD your God at Horeb, when the LORD said to me, ‘Assemble the people to Me, that I may let them hear My words so they may learn to fear Me all the days they live on the earth, and that they may teach their children.’ Deuteronomy 4:9-10

Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord. Ephesians 6:4

2. With prayer

But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him. James 1:5

- Praying for my teens
- Praying with my teens



Goals I Should Attain As I Scripturally Train My Teens

1. So they know God's Wisdom.

And that from childhood you have known the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. 1 Timothy 3:15

For the Lord gives wisdom; From His mouth come knowledge and understanding. Proverbs 2:6

- Teach them Biblical facts
- Teach them Bible doctrines and commandments (Inspiration, virgin birth, bodily resurrection)
- Teach them Biblical views regarding issues in our culture (Abortion, homosexuality, moral purity, alcohol, modesty)
- Teach them to reason biblically (to think God's thoughts)

*"For My thoughts are not your thoughts,
Nor are your ways My ways,"
declares the LORD.*

*"For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
So are My ways higher than your ways
And My thoughts than your thoughts."
Isaiah 55:8-9*

- Teach them how to use biblical principles
- Teach the "why" behind the choices your family has made (Lifestyle choices: music, entertainment, dress)

2. So they trust God's Word.

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight. Proverbs 3:5-6

3. So they love God's Word.

(training their heart to love the Bible)

O how I love Your law! It is my meditation all the day.

Psalm 119:97

4. So they allow God's Word to richly dwell in their lives.

Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God. Colossians 3:16

5. So they will obey God's Word.

I delight to do your will, O my God; Your Law is within my heart. Psalm 40:8

*I have no greater joy than this,
to hear of my children
walking in the truth.
3 John 1:4*

O my God, with fear and trembling would I bow before Thee, the righteous God, who wilt not give Thine honor to another, nor suffer sin, even in Thy servants to go unpunished. Impress deeply upon my heart, O Lord, the solemn lessons Thou dost teach Thy Church by the terrible sight of Thy judgment on the house of Eli, Thy servant.

Not to rule and restrain our children, to give them their own way, is to honour them more than Thee. . . .

O God, have mercy upon us! Let the thought of Thy command to rule our home, of Thy judgment on disobedience, of Thy promised grace to those who give themselves to obey, of Thy blessing on a home ordered in Thy fear, stir us with our whole heart to fulfill our holy calling. And let us, above all, believe that as we and our children fulfill Thy will, we are in the path of true blessing for this life and the life to come.

Amen.

Andrew Murray