

A Education in the family:

❖ The first family.

- Adam and Eve became the first teachers when Cain was born. The family unit became the heart of human education to this day.
- Children learn about Christian doctrine and values within the family. They learn about loving God and accepting Jesus as their Savior and Friend.

❖ The family of Jesus.

- God chose Jesus' parents very carefully, as they'd be responsible for His education:
 - (1) Joseph: A righteous and obedient man (Matthew 1:18-25; 2:13-15, 19-23).
 - (2) Mary: A spiritual, intelligent, determined, obedient, humble, and helpful woman. She trusted God completely (Luke 1:26-38, 46-56).
- Both were upright people. They knew how to educate their children in God's love and obedience.
- God became Jesus' teacher as He grew (John 12:49).

❖ Family today.

- The father is the head of the family (Ephesians 5:23), so he is responsible for representing Christ's character in the home (Ephesians 5:25).
- The mother has the greatest influence in the personality, character, and temperament of their children.
- Parents must work together in educating their children.
- In the Bible, parents are told to teach their children how to love God and obey Him (Deuteronomy 6:4-9).
- Children will be responsible for their actions once they become adult. However, parents are responsible for planting the seed in them that will grow for eternal life (Proverbs 22:6).

B How to educate:

❖ Communication.

- Appropriate communication is essential in education. Parents must devote time to communicate with their children (not just talking, but also listening to them).
- Communication must include an emotional side too. Parents should show love in every action.
- We should always ask God for wisdom on how to properly imprint Christian values on the hearts of our children, by use of our words and our example.
- The time we spend communicating with each member of our family will be well worth it.

❖ Organization.

- It's important to set a specific time apart for sharing God's wisdom and promises with our children.
- Pray with them and schedule a morning and/or evening family worship time.
- "Teach a child how to follow the right way; even when he is old, he will stay on course." (Proverbs 22:6 VOICE).