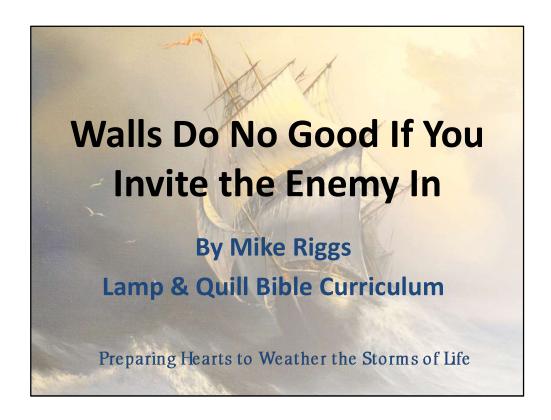


Initial screen while people are entering

Get handouts

Begin the study.



In this workshop we will **very briefly** talk about areas you already know are invading the spiritual training of your children Using that foundation we will then look at areas that may not be as obvious to you.

Parts of this workshop is interactive so don't be hesitant to participate we will all get a lot more out of it when you do.

A little bit about me, my focus grew out or my experience in military and college ministries. Two things happened there that directed this focus.

### Ministry Background

- 1. College Freshmen
- 2. Marriage to Carolyn the oldest of 8 children and a grade school teacher. Who is also a proliferous writer who needed a coauthor and a prolific editor.

# **Spiritual Rules - Protection**

# **Protection: Straight and Narrow**

#### **Matthew 7:13-14**

- broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it.
- 14 Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it."
- 15 "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves.
- <sup>16</sup> You will know them by their fruits.

Preparing Hearts to Weather the Storms of Life

Let's look at a passage that describes the challenge we have to stay on course. Mt 7:13 & 14

Circle of choices in life, our goal is to teach our children to make the right choices and to know when they are being led astray.

Our life can be like the USS Huron

It is important for everyone to learn to constantly adjust to stay on course and to recognize those that would lead us astray.

Part of protecting our life choices is to keep foreign objects out of our decisions. It is like the Trojan Horse which was used to protect them for 9 years from the Greeks until they let a small group inside their walls that resulted in their destruction in one night.

So the question is how do we get through the narrow gate?

#### **STOP**

B52 guidance. Just like that old ship, aircraft still use a compass system. For example the B52 in long journeys over 1000s of miles with refueling it used an Astrotracker that looked to the stars for directional correction. We have to do the same thing. Our compass system is compromised by our human nature and ignorance that is why we have to constantly look to the Heavens for God's guidance in His Word.

# **Trojan Horses in Our Lives**

- Matt 7: 13-14 and the Circle of Choices
- USS Huron
- Universities
- No TV for 11 years
- Scariest verse in the Bible, Matt 24:5 For many will come in my name saying ...
- Let's start by looking at what our foundational values should be in contrast to the world's values.

Preparing Hearts to Weather the Storms of Life

Matt 7: 13-14 - Circle of Choices **USS Huron** START

An example of what consistently happens over time is what has happened in some of our colleges and universities.

For Example Harvard > Yale > Princeton > Etc.

For me personally - No TV for 11 Years

Is it possible that we may have accepted gifts from the world that may be or will be undermining our Christian Faith and we don't even know it?

Scariest Verse in the Bible speaking of the end times.

<sup>4</sup>And Jesus answered and said to them: "Take heed that no one deceives you. <sup>5</sup> For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will deceive many.

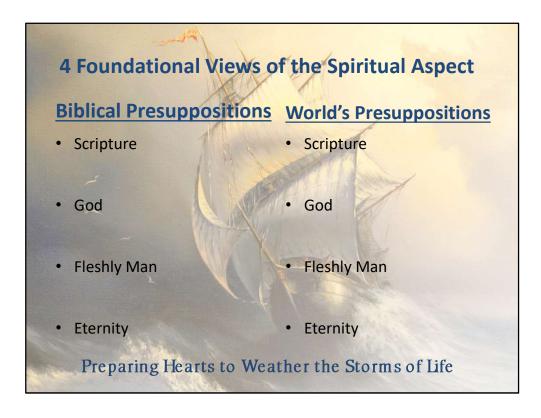
Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many.

For example, 50 new religions registered every year in the US

But, before we look a deviations from our Biblical direction, lets establish a baseline with which to measure our direction.

STOP - NEXT SLIDE

My job moved me to CA in January of 1990 and we lived there for 25 years. Getting half the house for twice the money and other high expenses caused us to be very money conscience. When we first moved there we found out that in our valley and because of the mountains around us, we were not able to get TV with our rabbit ears as we had before. Partly because of finances and partly because of my obstinance we didn't get cable TV for 11 years. We used the local video store for Friday night movies, that's it. But after 11 years we moved to a different location in the area and got TV. It was a shock to me and my family when we looked at how TV commercials and shows had change in 11 years. They showed things and talked about things that we had not seen when we previously had TV. We realized that for most people it was the frog in a pot syndrome.



I am going to need your help here.

Lets talk about the different perspectives between the world and the biblical perspective. Our objective is to establish a benchmark.

If we are going to protect our children from the world's values, we must be acutely aware of the differences and how they play out.

So, lets look at the handout on page 4 of the 4 Basic Views and the differences?

Our spiritual perspective determines what directs our lives, who we follow, how we respond to others and many other areas. But most importantly, how we respond to God.

#### Scripture:

•Inspired by God Full of Errors

•True from beginning to end •Tells us about God & Jesus Christ

Profitable for spiritual trainingTells us how to live

Out of Date for todays world

•It is the primary way God speaks to us today

God:

•Father, Son & Holy Spirit •Creator

•Master of the Universe

\*Character - Holy, Loving, Merciful, Gracious, Hates Sin
 \*Knows everything we do and think
 \*Savior – Jesus Died for our Sins

Judge

Fleshly Man:

•Created by God •Separated from God by Sin

•Condemned because of Sin

•Sinners by nature •We have an eternal spirit or soul

Eternity: There is an eternity

•There is a Heaven

 There is a Hell •God determined what happens in our eternity

Stephen Hawking famous physicist dead at 76. Recently claimed he knew what happened before the big bang. He said there was nothing.

Stephen Hawking quotes (showing 1-30 of 438) "One, remember to look up at the stars and not down at your feet. "We are just an advanced breed of monkeys on a minor planet of a very average star. "Quiet people have the loudest minds." "Life would be tragic if it weren't funny." Sad comment on a man who was famed for his intelligence but never knew the Lord.

Full of Contradictions Unimportant Uninspired

#### What Can a Preschool Child Learn? FROM THE WORLD IS ME BY E. C. MURPHY. DAVID C. COOK PUBLISHING 1979, 1982 **About the Bible? About God?** The Bible is a special Book. God made all things. The Bible is God's Book. God made me. The Bible tells about God and Jesus. God loves me. The Bible is a Book of true stories. God cares for me. The Bible tells me how to do right. God uses people to care for me. God is with me all the time. **About Pleasing God?** God hears me when I pray. God wants me to be kind. God knows what is best for me. God wants me to share. God is in Heaven. God wants me to love everyone. I can sing and talk to God. God wants me to obey my parents. God forgives me when I am sorry. God wants me to be a helper. **About Jesus?** And more... Jesus is God's Son. About the Church? God sent His Son to earth. **About his Home About Reaching Others with the Gospel?** Jesus was once a child, growing a other children do. Jesus is now in Heaven with God.

Now that we have explored the differences between lets look at some possible examples.

#### List:

Take a look at the list on page <u>3</u> of your notes and tell me whether this is what you want your children to know and believe in each of these areas. Especially think about the gospel and whether there is anything important left out about the gospel.

Let's look at an example. The top of Page 3 in your hand out.

# **Trojan Horses in Our Lives?**

#### Questions to Ask and Answer

- Why are important items missing?
- What do these missing items tell you?
- What are the Underlying Values?
- Where do they come from?
- How did these values get into our children's
- Christian Education?
  - Preparing Hearts to Weather the Storms of Life

**List, Secular Influence in CE.** What is this List Teaching? How did this list get created? How do you get a decent doctrinal statement with content that does not match? Doctrinal Statement is by Biblical Scholars vs Content by Educational Specialists or Curriculum Experts, Psychologists, Sociologists: Trained by the world.

#### So, How did we get here? –

Problem is 3 vs 4 buckets. The world can only accept the physical, mental, emotional. They do not have a biblical spiritual bucket for interpreting observations because they have rejected God and Jesus Christ as God in the flesh.

1 Cor 2:14 – But the natural man receives not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness to him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

Fransis Shaffer used the word **Synthesis** – Describe. There is no synthesis with God's word, as soon as you compromise the truth, it is no longer truth. When we compromise with the truth, we compromise with the devil. You don't compromise with the devil.

#### So, how do we deal with this?

Matt 7:15-20 Describes what we are dealing with.

# **Beware of Wolves**

Matthew 7:15-20

15 "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. 16 You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles? 17 Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. 18A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. 19 Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 20 Therefore by their fruits you will know them.

Preparing Hearts to Weather the Storms of Life

Notice that it does not say be aware, a passive word, but beware, an active word.

Let's look closely at other examples you may not be all familiar with.

**NEXT Slide** 

But we are homeschooling, we are removing ourselves from that compromise. Right?

We'll look at 3 areas. Let's start with history

#### **NEXT SLIDE**

#### History's Natural Progression:

In earlier years of our country at least before public education, the literacy rate was almost 100% because most families had a Bible or at least part of a Bible and used it to teach children how to read. In contrast, the public education movement was initiated by humanists such as Horace Mann who succeeded in establishing laws to prohibit teaching any belief held by one group and opposed by another. As such, its creation contained rules that have been used to outlaw teaching the Bible or anything relating to biblical teaching in the public educational domain, i.e. separation of church and state. It was not an issue at first because of the Bible's significant influence in teachers and administrators. However, over the years atheistic legal challenges have slowly eroded biblical influence and standards in public education. And just like the colleges of Harvard, Yale, Princeton and other seminaries public schools have moved away from any semblance of Christian thinking or values to becoming the opposition to the faith. But, I have also seen a similar movement within the Home School movement over the last 30 years.

Homeschooling in the past was a reaction to the removal of Christian values, teaching and prayer from public education. However, the sad performance of our public education system has motivated more and more people to home school to avoid the public cauldron of mediocre education. This is not to say that individual public teachers are the problem so much as to say our society has demanded changes that undermine the education process. As a result, we are seeing a new population of home educators whose objective is to get a quality secular education. To respond to the new breed of home educators, homeschool curriculum has been morphing to become more like the public education homeschoolers originally fled. With that trend in mind, it is important that Christian home educators take on the biblical training and interaction with their children.

That means we must know our biblical values and know them well, and we must do our research. It takes work to make good choices. You may decide the selection from the colorful, fun options from the secular curriculum is the best choice. If the secular material is the best for the subject you want to teach, make sure you deal with the biblical issues separately with your children. Remember, whatever you choose your children's spiritual training is your responsibility.

#### **History's Natural Progression**

#### **Public Education:**

In earlier years of our country at least before public education, the literacy rate was almost 100% because most families had a Bible or at least part of a Bible and used it to teach children how to read. In contrast, the public education movement was initiated by humanists such as Horace Mann who succeeded in establishing laws to prohibit teaching any belief held by one group and opposed by another. As such, its creation contained rules that have been used to outlaw teaching the Bible or anything relating to biblical teaching in the public educational domain, i.e. separation of church and state. It was not an issue at first because of the Bible's significant influence in teachers and administrators. However, over the years atheistic legal challenges have slowly eroded biblical influence and standards in public education. And just like the colleges of Harvard, Yale, Princeton and other seminaries, public schools have moved away from any semblance of Christian thinking or values to becoming the opposition to the faith. But, I have also seen a similar movement within the Home School movement over the last 30 years.

#### **Home School Education:**

Homeschooling in the past was a reaction to the removal of Christian values, teaching and prayer from public education. However, the sad performance of our public education system has motivated more and more people to home school to avoid the public cauldron of mediocre education. This is not to say that individual public teachers are the problem so much as to say our society has demanded changes that undermine the education process. As a result, we are seeing a new population of home educators whose objective is to get a quality secular education. To respond to the new breed of home educators, homeschool curriculum has been morphing to become more like the public education homeschoolers originally fled. With that trend in mind, it is important that Christian home educators personally take on the biblical training and interaction with their children.

#### **Biblical Education:**

That means we must know our biblical values and know them well, and we must do our research. It takes work to make good choices. You may decide the selection from the secular curriculum is the best choice. Remember, whatever you choose your children's spiritual training is your responsibility.

#### **Protecting Your Mindset:**

The second caution is more subtle and devious because it works on our children's mindset. My wife and I have heard too many stories recently about homeschooled children leaving home and leaving the church. I believe this area is one of the primary reasons for this sad story. I want you to understand exactly what this risk is and what it can produce in your children.

To understand this risk, I need to lay some conceptual groundwork. To make sure we are on the same page, I will define 3 concepts that are building blocks to this next risk. They are:

**NEXT SLIDE** 

Presupposition – Starting Mindset
Empirical Reasoning – Personal Observational Authority
Begging the Question or Circular Reasoning – Assuming the Answer Up Front

#### **Presupposition:**

We have already talked about this concept but haven't named it. Remember the list of what a preschool child can learn? Well certain concepts such as sin, consequences, God's judgement, penalty for sin, sacrifice to pay for our sins, etc. were left out because the writer of the list could have believed the children would not understand these concepts or possibly because she held a conflicting belief. Maybe she didn't want to tell children they are sinners because her psychological belief was that it would ruin the child's self-image and that was a higher priority her. We don't know for sure but somehow her preconceived ideas and values rejected the idea of including these concepts.

We also saw it in Matt 7: 13-20 where it talks about beware of wolves in sheep's clothing and a tree bearing the fruit of it's kind whether good or bad. The next verses give an example of wrong presuppositions and how it affects even our eternity.

**NEXT SLIDE** 

Matt 7: 21-23

# **Dealing with Trojans**

#### Matthew 7:21-23

<sup>21</sup> "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. <sup>22</sup> Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' <sup>23</sup> And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'

Preparing Hearts to Weather the Storms of Life

#### Matt 7: 21-23

<sup>21</sup> "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. <sup>22</sup> Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'

When that time comes, those people will find out too late that they had a disastrous presupposition about what God wants, and it will cost them for eternity. Our presuppositions are very important and impacts how we live and what we say or teach.

#### **Empirical Reasoning**

Dictionary Definition:

**Empirical** em·pir·i·cal (ěm-pēr'ĭ-kəl) adj. Relying on or derived from observation or experiment. Verifiable or provable by **means** of observation or experiment.

In other words, an empiricist relies on their own observation, intelligence and reasoning to determine what is true and right. **They are the ultimate authority of truth.** 

#### **Begging the Question or Circular Reasoning**

In philosophy or logic, it is a fallacious argument. Stated, it is a fallacy that attempts to prove something when it has first assumed some aspect necessary for the conclusion in the argument. Here is an example where we put all three of these concepts together:

Before I went back to college, I had been taught about the importance of presuppositions in what I was going to get from professors. It was a valuable concept for me to survive the views I was presented at a very liberal university. I had a professor in a logic class who had been a religion professor and acknowledged that he had become an **empiricist**. In other words, he had rejected anything he could not prove by his own observation and reasoning. i.e. Empirically.

We were taught types of arguments and types of fallacies. Sometimes in class we would sit in a circle and he would call on one of us to give an example of a fallacy he named. One time, I was asked to give an example of Begging the Question. I said empiricism or Empirical Reasoning. He agreed. So, even though he was an empiricist, he agreed that it was based on a fallacious argument.

So, what was it that he had presumed in his belief in Empiricism that made it a fallacy?

**The Answer:** The fallacy was that even though the empiricist's has limits of his intelligence, learning, observation skills, and authority, he is asking us to accept him as qualified to be sufficient proof of his conclusions about what is truth. His belief presumed that he was able and qualified to determine truth. That is the risk of relying on logic and debate. We aren't all knowing. Jesus said in John 1: 18 "No one has **seen God** at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared *Him.*"

# **Dealing with Trojans**

#### **Matthew 7:21-23**

<sup>21</sup> "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. <sup>22</sup> Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' <sup>23</sup> And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'

Preparing Hearts to Weather the Storms of Life

The Platonic Method assumes that the one who wins the argument determines the truth. The problem with that thinking is that it assumes we are qualified to determine truth. Remember the verses in Matt 7 where people have made assumptions about what is true and right but didn't check with and get to know the judge well enough to understand that they were wrong, eternally wrong.

Jesus said in John 14: 6 that "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No man comes to the Father except through Me."

John 1: 18 "No one has **seen God** at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared *Him*.

So, don't expect to secure your eternity based on your judgement. It is not your judgement to make, it is the Lord's. And if you or your child forgets that truth and we learn to look to ourselves and our own wisdom, we will be lost if for no other reason than that we trusted ourselves rather than looking to the Lord, the author and finisher of our faith. Remember, God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble and we desperately need God's grace to truly open our eyes to the truth of His Word and draw our humbled and desperate hearts to His saving mercy.

You should also know that understanding the risk doesn't remove it. But by the grace of God, you can help at the appropriate time to teach your child to humbly go to the Lord for the wisdom from above and to trust that above all else despite what is being taught today.

# **Priority**

"Teach them diligently" – Tell The Story

It comes from Deut 6.

**NEXT SLIDE** 

Deut 6: 4-7 - SLIDE

# **Dealing with Trojans**

# **Deuteronomy 6:4-7**

4"Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD *is* one! [b] 5 You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.

<sup>6</sup> "And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. <sup>7</sup> You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up.

Preparing Hearts to Weather the Storms of Life

#### So who or what is THEM?

#### So, keep this in mind

Many home education organizations are not inherently Christian. Their primary focus is to replace public education and that is OK. Some are labelled Christian and some are not but some curriculum subjects don't need to be "Christian". However, if it is labelled Christian, it should be consistent with the Biblical world view. If it is teaching you about Jesus but not teaching you how to KNOW the Lord, then it is missing the most important part of the equation and you need to supplement your training.

Regarding priority, does it leave you enough time and better yet, even encourage you to spend time with the Lord each day. Are we guarding your children's time and teaching to help them know the Lord or just teaching them Christianity? There is a big difference.

Here is the point regarding your priorities.

I don't care who created the material or how it is labelled, if they don't place the same priority on spending time in the Scripture as the Scripture does. Then you are going to miss the biblical mark if you follow their guidance.

#### **NEXT SLIDE**

If you are taking a complete dive into a program, the question to ask is whether it is intended to be secular education but with a favorable Christian perspective. If it is designed specifically for your child's Christian education, ask this of it. Which side of the equation from Matt 7:20 will it put you on? Is it teaching you about Jesus or is it teaching you how to know Jesus personally. If it is teaching you about Jesus but not teaching you how to KNOW the Lord, then it is missing the most important part of the equation and you need to supplement your training.

# **Trojan Horses in All Our Lives**

# **Example of the Trojan Horse we still confront**

#### Genesis 3:1-7

- 1 Now the serpent was more cunning...
- 4 Then the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. 5 For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."
- 6 So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.

Preparing Hearts to Weather the Storms of Life

These verses highlight some things that are critical to protecting ourselves and our family spiritually.

Read Verses: You have the complete text in your handout. And your Bible.



Here's your test: What kind of logic or reasoning was she using? What was her presuppositions? What was different about this tree?

What is the one attribute of the fruit that was different than any other trees in the garden? To make one wise

Your child should first know, really know, that the beginning of Wisdom is the Fear of the Lord! Prov 1:7

Our enemy is cunning
Our enemy denies God's Word
Our enemy knows what will entice us to stray
We can rationalize our sin
What is it that Satan enticed her with?

a) Her independence from God
b) Her equality with God
c) She could trust her own wisdom above God's

#### She brought her family into the same sin

In the Fall of Man in Gen 3, what was the enticement and what did it actually do?

3 Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said to the woman, "Has God indeed said." You shall not eat of every tree of the garden?"

2 And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden; but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God has said, "You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die."

- He initiated a bating conversation He disputed what God said He gave a sales pitch for disobedience

- She demonstrated that she knew God's command and warning She listened to one who disputed God's command and instruction She wanted to be wise like God She to she wanted to be wise like God She god She wanted to be wise like God She ignored God's command and warning Ps1 What is the warning in these verse? Is anyone here telling you that you don't need to spend anymore time in the scriptures? She listened to a stranger that disputed God's instructions She trusted a stranger above God She took it upon herself that she could be wise like God She took it upon

#### What should Adam have done?

- He should have said, Whoa down there. Let's check with the Lord first He should have obeyed the Lord first and always.

# Dealing with Trojans in our Lives Where Do We Go From Here? Rule: Don't Invite the Enemy In But this is just part of the story How do you know who or what is the Enemy? And how do you protect yourself and family?

Rule is don't invite the enemy in, but how do we stop that from happening? How do you know if it is happening?

One way is the **chewing gum** on the telephone pole.

**Consider the source**. It you don't know about it, find out all you can.

And don't do what too many people do. My friend says it's OK.

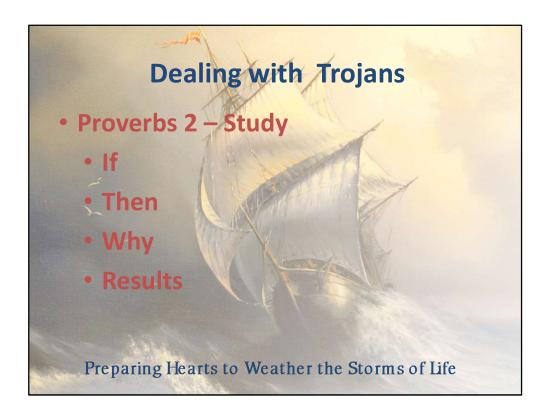
Matthew 15: Jesus said:

<sup>14</sup>Let them alone. They are blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind leads the blind, both will fall into a ditch."

But you say, she's my best friend. Then you need too watch out for your friend and do the research she didn't. Make sure you have not delegated the leading of yourself or your children to a blind person or a fad. Everyone's doing it. You are responsible for your children and will be held accountable. And dads, you need to help in this area. Help with the research or help guide it.

Let's see where the research starts.

#### **Next Slide**



Remember the College Freshmen? They may have been ready academically for college, but not spiritually. How you respond in the next 10 minutes will reveal to you one of the reasons why they ended up that way.

And, rather than tell you what is here, I am going to give you a chance to let the Lord show you what needs to happen from this passage. So for the next 10 minutes I need you to work on the study in your handout. The Proverbs 2 passage is in your handout.

#### After Study

So how did you feel when I told you to do some work? Did you feel cheated? Did you expect me to give you some quick easy things to fix the spiritual training of your children? From Prov 2, is it going to be quick and easy?

So, How do we protect our family spiritually according to this Proverb?

#### **Next Slide**

# **Dealing with Trojans**

1st Objective: Salvation

#### 1 Corinthians 2:14

- But the natural man receives not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness to him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.
- 2 Corinthians 5:17
- Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

**Romans 10: 17** 

Preparing Hearts to Weather the Storms of Life

These two verses highlight something that is critical to preparing your children spiritually.

#### **Read Verses:**

We must recognize that without Christ and the Lord's spirit to teach us and open our hearts and minds to the truths of God's word, we will not understand or see the value in filling our lives with a focus on pleasing the Lord according to His Word. It just won't happen.

We must be born again just as Jesus told Nicodemus in John 3. So it is with your children.

#### So, where do we start?

#### Romans10:

<sup>17</sup> So then faith *comes* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Word of caution: Begging the question or circular reasoning. I learned this in a Logic/Debate class in college.

Dialectic or Rhetoric is based on Empirical reasoning. But there is something sinister about teaching someone Empirical reasoning.

It contains a dangerous fallacy called Begging the question or circular reasoning because it assumes the person doing the Empirical Reasoning is able to know truth. The truth apart from God. I'll give you an example of that later from the scripture.

#### 1 Corinthianes 3:

<sup>7</sup> So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase.

# **Protection: Beware of Wolves**

# **Know Scripture - the Best Protection**

#### Psalm 1:2

#### Blessed is the man

- Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly,
- Nor stands in the path of sinners,
- Nor sits in the seat of the scornful;

#### But his delight is in

- the law of the LORD, And
- · in His law he meditates day and night.

Preparing Hearts to Weather the Storms of Life

We all are constantly exposed to the world's values and beliefs; we cannot go to the grocery store, watch TV or commercials, everywhere we go we are constantly being exposed to the world's values and propaganda.

The question is how we deal with it? Will we choose the straight and narrow? Our kids will know what we choose. It will come out in our behavior to them and the world.

Are we so exposed to the world and it's thinking that we will even recognize when we have strayed from the truth?

# The alternative to walking in the counsel of the ungodly is to walk in the counsel of the Lord each day.

<sup>3</sup> He shall be like a tree Planted by the rivers of water, That brings forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also shall not wither; And whatever he does shall prosper.

And we definitely want our children to prosper spiritually!

<sup>4</sup> The ungodly *are* not so,

But are like the chaff which the wind drives away.

<sup>5</sup> Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, Nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.

<sup>6</sup> For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, But the way of the ungodly shall perish.

# **Protection: Beware of Wolves**

## **Teach Children to Detect Counterfeits**

- Know Scripture
- God Evolution
- Teach Them to Think
- Chewing Gum on the Telephone Pole

Preparing Hearts to Weather the Storms of Life

We have talked about the contrast between the World's views and Biblical Christian views. We have also provided an example of how the secular has infiltrated some Christian Education, but what about our Homeschool movement or our homes?

Just as we just saw in Sunday School curriculum, secular thinking and emphasis has infiltrated the homeschool movement. Having been involved in the homeschool movement for over 30 years, I have seen what used to be primarily a Christian movement has become more and more secular and many don't even know it.

Read the slide only

How do you detect a counterfeit? Know the real thing!

Your children need you to protect them in this area, it is dependent on you and here are some of the things that are important for you.

Counterfeit Detection & Ps 1: 2&3

Know their Bible

40 to 50 new religions are started every year. Any one of them could cause them to lose their way. Be grounded in the Scriptures. That is the main reason we have written Lamp & Quill Curriculum. We want them to really know the Scriptures. We want God's Word to be in both their thinking and in their hearts starting even at the Toddler age.

# **Trojan Horses in Our Homes**

#### Here are some Biblical Benchmarks

- 2 Tim 3:16-17 The authority of Scripture
- Rom 3:23 & 6:23; Isa 53:4-6 Our Sin & Redeemer
- John 3:16 God's love & Our required response
- Deut 6:4-7 One God where our heart should be
- Luke 9:23; Mt 6:33-34 Our Priority in Life
- Psalms 1:1-3, Josh 1:8 The Priority of God's Word
- 2 Pet 1:3&4 God's Provision for Believers
- Mt 7:13-16 Only one way, the narrow gate
- Mt 7:15-23; 13:49-50; 25:31-46 Eternity

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The Bible says they will come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. You will know them by their fruits.

Here are some benchmark verses to know and heed.

# **Parental Responsibility - Prayer**

# Prayer

- Jesus prayed for us and His Disciples, John 17:15
- Our prayer life reflects our true faith
- We are told to put our care on Him in prayer, Phil
   4:6
- The Lord Answers Prayer

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Jesus gave us an example when He prayed for us and His disciples.

Our prayer life reflects our true faith. If we truly believe that the Lord hears and is able and willing to answer prayer as His Word says, then we would spend much more time in prayer.

#### Psalms 127

1. Unless the LORD builds the house, They labor in vain who build it; Unless the LORD guards the city, The watchman stays awake in vain.

2. It is vain for you to rise up early, To sit up late,
To eat the bread of sorrows;
For so He gives His beloved sleep.

The Lord wants us to bring Him our cares. Why? Because He cares for us and can do something about it.

The Lord answers prayer.

# Walls Do No Good If You Invite the Enemy

#### **Final Words**

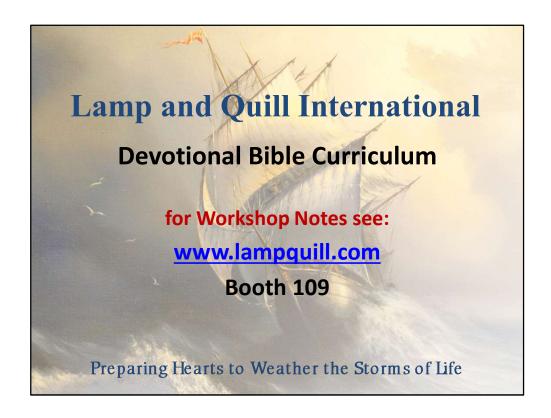
Philippians 3:13, 14

- <sup>13</sup> Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing *I do*, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead,
- <sup>14</sup> I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

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I have told you a lot of things and I did not do them all. Even today if I had a chance to start over, I would still not do them all, however, my children are walking with the Lord today in spite of my mistakes.

We rely on the Lord more than we offend realize, but don't take Him for granted, you have your responsibility to lead and train your children so take one or two areas I have mentioned and take them into your home.



#### Website for notes

There is huge difference between Bible Curriculums in terms of what they are trying to accomplish. Most are trying to fill their heads with knowledge about our faith. That is not the purpose of the scriptures. It's purpose is to commune with the Lord. To learn to love and walk in a manner well pleasing to the Lord. To teach us to love the idea of spending an eternity with the Lord. To help us make Him as real as our hands and feet.

That is the objective of the Lamp & Quill Bible Curriculum and we have the testimony of many who have used it to tell us that if accomplishes these purposes. It is truly unique in that way.

# Walls Do No Good If You Invite the Enemy In

Mike Riggs
Saturday, 4:00
Room 102

GHC June 17, 2018

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