

---

## Biblical Watershed Issues: Who Teaches the Believer? #6

---

The Bible gives commands and parameters to different groups to teach believers.

- PASTORS Teach Believers** (Eph 4:12): Pastors are given to equip the *saints* – all believers, male and female, young and old. Pastors are appointed by God to oversee *local* assemblies and are required to be men.
- BELIEVERS Teach One Another** (Col 3:16; Heb 5:12-6:2): We are all to teach and admonish one another. These passages direct all believers to be teaching. In light of James 3:1, this pertains primarily to passing on what we have been taught by our pastors.  
**With this category of teaching:**
  - There is **no specific qualifications or skills**.
  - There is also **no formal appointment**.
  - There is **no elevated accountability**.
  - This implies only **informal teaching** while interacting with one another
  - The content concerns learning and passing on (six) **basic truths**.
- THOSE GIFTED WITH THE GIFT OF TEACHING Teach Believers** (1 Cor 12:28; Rom 12:6-7): These are some (a few?) that are given an enhanced ability to teach. This teaching would be done within the bounds of all other Biblical restrictions (1 Cor 14:34; 1 Tim 1:3-7; 2:11-14; James 3:1).
- OLDER WOMEN Teach Younger Women** (Titus 2:3-5): This single passage seems to suggest informal older-to-younger, woman-to-woman instruction. It is assigned to (all) older believing women, and deals specifically with **womanly conduct & attitudes** regarding womanly roles and responsibilities.

### Observations of This Assignment:

- GENERAL:** All older women teaching younger women.
  - GENDER-SPECIFIC:** Only woman-to-woman (cf. 1 Tim 2:11-15)
  - GENERATIONAL:** Older women teaching younger women.
  - GUIDED:** What is taught are specific, gender-role related topics.
- HUSBANDS Teach WIVES** (Eph 5:25-27): This passage seems to primarily relate to applying the Word to the situations of daily life. i.e. Leading biblically by actively using the Word of God in day-to-day life.

### Eph 5:25-27 – The Responsibility of the Husbands to Teach

- The **PROCESS:** “Word” translates *rhema* (spoken word, applied word), as opposed to *logos* (message).
- The **PURPOSE:** Sanctifying and cleansing [by applying the Word of God].
- The **PATTERN:** Just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her.

### 1 Cor. 14:34-37 – The Responsibility of the Wives to Enable the Husbands

- The **QUESTIONS:** Listening prompts questions (and should) by all.
- The **EXPECTATION:** Men are listening, learning, and leading their homes!
- The **COOPERATION:** Women are participating by enabling their husbands through asking and following.

- Parents Teach Their Children** (Deut 6:6-7; Eph 6:4; Ps 78:1-6, Proverbs): Parents have the **primary** and **daily** responsibility to teach and influence their children.

**Deut 6:6-7** And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. 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.

- More than anything, parents are responsible for ongoing continuous influence in the midst of life, immersing their children in the truth and pointing them to God throughout each day and each task.*
- Deut 11:18-21** "Therefore you shall lay up these words of mine in your heart and in your soul, and bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. <sup>19</sup> "You shall teach them to your children, speaking of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. <sup>20</sup> "And you shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates, <sup>21</sup> "that your days and the days of your children may be multiplied in the land of which the LORD swore to your fathers to give them, like the days of the heavens above the earth.

**Eph 6:4** And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord. (cf Proverbs)

- This doesn't involve deep and complicated theology, but the instructing and integrating of foundational, life-settling truths into the lives of one's children.*

**Psalms 78:1-8** <A Contemplation of Asaph.> Give ear, O my people, to my law; Incline your ears to the words of my mouth. <sup>2</sup> I will open my mouth in a **parable**; I will utter **dark sayings** of old, <sup>3</sup> Which we have heard and known, And **our fathers** have told **us**. <sup>4</sup> We will not hide *them* from their children, Telling to **the generation to come** the praises of the LORD, And His strength and His wonderful works that He has done. <sup>5</sup> For He established a testimony in Jacob, And appointed a law in Israel, Which He commanded our fathers, That they should make them known to their children; <sup>6</sup> That the generation to come might know *them*, The children *who* would be born, *That* they may arise and declare *them* **to their children**. <sup>7</sup> That they may set their hope in God, And not forget the **works of God**, But keep His **commandments**; <sup>8</sup> And may not be like their fathers, A stubborn and rebellious generation, A generation *that* did not set its heart aright, And whose spirit was not faithful to God.

- The responsibility is assigned to the fathers (and by extension, parents)*
- The multi-generational expectation and momentum of training children*

**Deut. 4:9-10** "Only take heed to yourself, and diligently keep yourself, lest you forget the things your eyes have seen, and lest they depart from your heart all the days of your life. And teach them to your children and your grandchildren, <sup>10</sup> "especially concerning the day you stood before the LORD your God in Horeb, when the LORD said to me, 'Gather the people to Me, and I will let them hear My words, that they may learn to fear Me all the days they live on the earth, and *that* they may teach their children.'

**Joel 1:3** Tell your children about it, *Let* your children *tell* their children, And their children another generation.

## Proverbs

### 1) *Direction to Parents to Train and Discipline One's Child*

- 3:12 For whom the LORD loves He **corrects**, Just as a father the son *in whom* he delights.
- 13:24 He who spares his rod hates his son, But he who loves him **disciplines** him promptly.
- 19:18 **Chasten** your son while there is hope, And do not set your heart on his destruction.
- 29:17 **Correct** your son, and he will give you rest; Yes, he will give delight to your soul.

### 2) *Direct Instruction from a Father or Mother – “My Son” (at least 23x)*

- 1:8 **My son**, hear the instruction of your father, And do not forsake the law of your mother;
- 1:10 **My son**, if sinners entice you, Do not consent.
- 1:15 **My son**, do not walk in the way with them, Keep your foot from their path;
- 2:1 **My son**, if you receive my words, And treasure my commands within you,
- 3:1 **My son**, do not forget my law, But let your heart keep my commands;
- 3:11 **My son**, do not despise the chastening of the LORD, Nor detest His correction;
- 3:21 **My son**, let them not depart from your eyes-- Keep sound wisdom and discretion;
- 4:10 Hear, **my son**, and receive my sayings, And the years of your life will be many.
- 4:20 **My son**, give attention to my words; Incline your ear to my sayings.
- 5:1 **My son**, pay attention to my wisdom; Lend your ear to my understanding,
- 5:20 For why should you, **my son**, be enraptured by an immoral woman, And be embraced in the arms of a seductress?
- 6:1 **My son**, if you become surety for your friend, *If* you have shaken hands in pledge for a stranger,
- 6:3 So do this, **my son**, and deliver yourself; For you have come into the hand of your friend: Go and humble yourself; Plead with your friend.
- 6:20 **My son**, keep your father's command, And do not forsake the law of your mother.
- 7:1 **My son**, keep my words, And treasure my commands within you.
- 19:27 Cease listening to instruction, **my son**, And you will stray from the words of knowledge.
- 23:15 **My son**, if your heart is wise, My heart will rejoice-- indeed, I myself;
- 23:19 Hear, **my son**, and be wise; And guide your heart in the way.
- 23:26 **My son**, give me your heart, And let your eyes observe my ways.
- 24:13 **My son**, eat honey because *it is* good, And the honeycomb *which is* sweet to your taste;
- 24:21 **My son**, fear the LORD and the king; Do not associate with those given to change;

- 27:11 **My son**, be wise, and make my heart glad, That I may answer him who reproaches me.
- 31:2 What, **my son**? And what, son of my womb? And what, son of my vows?

### 3) *Description of a Wise or Foolish Son (or Daughter)*

- 10:1 The Proverbs of Solomon: A wise son makes a glad father, But a foolish son *is* the grief of his mother.
- 10:5 He who gathers in summer *is* a wise son; He who sleeps in harvest *is* a son who causes shame.
- 13:1 A wise son *heeds* his *father's* instruction, But a scoffer does not listen to rebuke.
- 15:20 A wise son makes a father glad, But a foolish man despises his mother.
- 17:2 A wise servant will rule over a son who causes shame, And will share an inheritance among the brothers.
- 17:25 A foolish son *is* a grief to his father, And bitterness to her who bore him.
- 19:13 A foolish son *is* the ruin of his father, And the contentions of a wife *are* a continual dripping.
- 19:26 He who mistreats *his* father *and* chases away *his* mother *is* a son who causes shame and brings reproach.
- 28:7 Whoever keeps the law *is* a discerning son, But a companion of gluttons shames his father.

### 4) *Details of What to Teach One's Child (Just Representative from Proverbs)*

- To fear God (1:7; 9:10)
- To guard one's mind and heart (3:5-8; 4:20-27)
- To obey and honor one's parents (1:8; 3:1; 4:20; 6:20; 17:25; 19:26)
- To carefully choose one's companions (1:15; 4:14; 13:20; 22:24-25; 24:1)
- To resist and avoid temptation (1:10; 2:10-17; 5:20; 19:27)
- To control one's body (2:16; 5:1-23; 6:24; 7:5; 23:27)
- To enjoy one's spouse (5:16-19)
- To speak wisely and honestly (4:24; 8:13; 10:31-32; 17:20; 19:1)
- To work hard and diligently (6:6-11; 10:5,26; 13:4; 19:15,24; 20:4,13; 21:25; 24:30-34)
- To manage money & resources well (3:9-10; 11:25; 22:9; 23:5; 27:23-27; 28:27)
- To care for others (3:27-28)