

How Does One Afford a Christian Education?

Session 5 Worksheet

STORY 1 A STEWARD'S RESPONSIBILITY REGARDING CHILDREN

Discussion

1. Why should we give our children a Christian education? What level of commitment do parents need to give their children a Christian education?
2. "All your children shall be taught by the LORD, and great shall be the peace of your children" (Isa. 54:13 NKJV). How is it that peace and contentment can be correlated with a Christian upbringing?

STORY 2 OUR WAYS ARE NOT ALWAYS HIS WAYS

Discussion

1. How can we be sure that we are following God's ways rather than our own?
2. Does God promise that life will be easy if we follow Him?
3. Will God protect us from mistakes if we lean on Him?

STORY 3 EDUCATION MAY NOT COME WITHOUT SACRIFICE

Discussion

1. Am I willing to make a sacrifice to provide a Christian education for my children? What would that mean in my life?
2. Does God want us to incur debt in order to obtain a private education?
3. In what way can the education of our children be equivalent to an inheritance?
4. Is my faith strong enough to believe God's promise and to experience His miracles?

HOME PROJECT

For some, Christian education may be a “leap of faith.” It is only as we allow God to perform miracles on our behalf that we can fulfill His plan for raising our children.

Develop a plan on paper to educate your children.

Take steps now to become debt-free so you will have the money to provide for your children’s education. (Refer to session 1) Warning: It may require sacrifice.

1. Make a list of available scholarships.
2. Start a college savings account. Research a 529 or similar fund in your state.
3. 3-way plans—the church, school, home—working together to educate our youth for Christ. Contact school recruitment director, your local pastor and the conference education director to determine if it is available in your conference.

Something to think about

“As for God, His way is perfect; the word of the LORD is proven; He is a shield to all who trust in Him” (2 Sam. 22:31 NKJV).

“Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all.” –Aristotle

“To parents He [God] sends the warning cry ... Establish church schools. Give your children the Word of God as the foundation of all their education. This is full of beautiful lessons, and if pupils make it their study in the primary grade below, they will be prepared for the higher grade above.”

–Ellen G. White, *Testimonies for the Church*, Vol. 6, p. 195

“The youth should have it plainly set before them that they must work their own way as far as possible and thus partly defray their expenses. That which costs little will be appreciated little.”

–Ellen G. White, *Testimonies for the Church*, Vol. 6, p. 214

My prayer commitment

The heart of the matter for me is: _____

