

A CHILD'S FIRST CLASSROOM

Deuteronomy 6:1-9 5:1-21

Introduction: Shooting at a high school! How tragic. What in the world is happening with our youth today? Youth are having babies, doing drugs, getting drunk, robbing, shooting, killing what do they think they are doing or are they even thinking?

In most of these cases the youth are not to be fully blamed as much as their parents. For some reason parents don't want to accept the responsibility of caring for the children they brought into the world. Youth want to leave home as soon as they possibly can and home is more of a place to go when there's no other place to go. How many of these troubled youth have painful impressions of being a child in their home?

Parents cannot expect their children to act any differently than how they see their parents acting and living. Children have a way of turning out just like their parents.

God has entrusted parents with a most solemn charge and yet a most precious privilege. Bring up a child for God and God has already given parents all they need to bring up their children in a way they will bring honor to their parents and especially to God.

Read Deuteronomy 6:1-9

I. THE HOME IS THE FIRST CLASSROOM A CHILD HAS

- What is their classroom like?
- Is there anything there that ought not be there?
- What kind of classroom do parents want for their children?
- Parents, make your home a classroom where your children can learn what God wants them to learn.

II. THE FIRST COURSE OF STUDY TO BE TAUGHT IN THE HOME ARE GOD'S COMMANDMENTS

- There are 10 chapters in the course God wants parents to teach to their children.
- **Deuteronomy 5:1-21**
- **Deuteronomy 6:7**

III. PARENTS ARE TO BE THE FIRST INSTRUCTORS OF THEIR CHILDREN

- Instructors/teachers cannot teach what they do not know. Parent, do you know God's commandments?
- Parents, you must not only speak the commandments to your children, but you must also LIVE what you speak. Do you obey God's commandments yourself?
- By your example parent, what kind of teacher are you?

IV. THE LABORATORY (EXPERIMENTS) OF YOUR CHILDREN'S LIVES IS LIFE

- What children learn at home will be practiced by them in the world outside.
- Life outside the home is difficult, hard, enticing, dangerous and full of curiosities.
- Remember the little plaque that hung on a wall, "There's no place like home?"

CONCLUSION:

1. Children belong to God and He gives them to parents to raise for Him.
2. It is an awesome responsibility and challenge to bring up a child in the manner in which God wants.
3. The home is the place God intends for children to learn His ways which will prepare the children for the world in which they will one day live as adults and parents.
4. It is God's command that the parents be the ones to teach their children about God and His ways, not somebody else at Sunday School.
5. The first things that God wants parents to teach their children are His commandments.
6. Parents, will your children know God's commandments when they are ready to go out into the world?
7. Parents, how capable are you in being a teacher by example to your children concerning the commandments of God?
8. Children become what they learn at home.