

**"TRAIN UP A CHILD"****Introduction**

1. A new series on practical duties
2. From Proverbs
3. Introduction to Proverbs. Text.

**1. A VITAL NEED IN THE CHURCHES**

- 1) To have our children converted:
  - (i) Hundreds have drifted from UK churches
  - (ii) in some churches there are few/no children
  - (iii) all churches/denominations are affected
- 2) Things we must admit:
  - (i) we as parents have not been too careful
  - (ii) some parents have been thoughtless
  - (iii) some parents have been fatalistic
  - (iv) granted, parents cannot convert, yet...
- 3) This subject is extremely important NOW:
  - (i) look at the example of other religions
  - (ii) consider them as immortal souls
  - (iii) where will tomorrow's church be?

**APPLICATION**: All of us are concerned in this

**2. A DUTY TO BE CAREFULLY PERFORMED**

- 1) How we are to perform this DUTY:
  - (i) Bible + worship at home: 2 Tim. 3:14f
  - (ii) use of catechism by parents
  - (iii) reading suitable books to children
  - (iv) correction and chastisement: v.15
  - (v) instill a right view of life
  - (vi) the Sabbath observed faithfully
- 2) Warn children against evils:

- (i) wrong behaviour to be avoided
- (ii) harmful friends to be avoided
- (iii) bad habits to be avoided
- (iv) sins – which God will punish

- 3) The attitude of the parents is vital:
  - (i) by love bind the children to you
  - (ii) let your example be safe to follow
  - (iii) don't criticise the church before children
  - (iv) let them see that you want them saved

**APPLICATION**: The great mistake I have observed is:  
"Happiness / Education / "normal child" is put before this duty (S S note).

**3. AN ENCOURAGEMENT TO ALL PARENTS**

- 1) "When he is old", i.e. mature:
  - (i) he/she will do likewise//the parents
  - (ii) church / family-worship / Sabbath
  - (iii) look at life in biblical way
  - (iv) bring up the next generation for God
- 2) Pray for the children to be saved:
  - (i) the example of Hannah
  - (ii) **Illustration**: the mother of the Gracchi of Rome
  - (iii) the readiness of Christ to save: Mark 10:13f

**CONCLUSION**

1. The position of church children
2. They need the New Birth
3. Parents – see the challenge here.

**PSALM****8: 1 – 9****34: 11 – 17****90: 14 – 17**