

The Biblical-Principle Approach Homeschool Experience™

The Philosophy

EXPANDED (C)

The Biblical-Principle Approach
Education: God's Design

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Education: God's Design

The Philosophy Expanded (C)

It's important for us to keep in mind that the way schools function is a man-made construct. This construct can lock us into a box and keep us from our full potential as parents who keep our children by our side. So, let's take a closer look at God's design for education to help us be free to parent with the Biblical-Principle Approach to homeschooling. This includes setting aside "perfectionism".

As we've been discussing in the previous lesson on Tutorial Living, God's principles (truths) pertain to all areas of life. And, God teaches us through His Word via revelation by the Holy Spirit. This means that part of God's design for education is that the parents study, learn, and apply God's principles to life and learning. Consider the Scripture verse below.

Luke 6:40 teaches us:



The disciple is not above his master: but every one that is perfect shall be as his master.

(KJV)

How it looks to teach will vary. And, this is where we need to have a growth mindset about ways that parents are free to teach.

Obviously, our children won't be carrying their 3-ring binders around with them everywhere they go. So, it's important to internalize that the Biblical-Principle Approach is *internal*. Knowing and practicing God's principles for life and learning are internalized. It's a way of thinking "governmentally". This means with govern our thoughts according to God's principles.

It's not the Noah Plan™ lesson plans/overviews that makes one Biblical-Principle Approach. It's not the 3-ring binders either. Those are all external and a couple of tools for learning. It's the *internalizing* of God's principles and the ability to reason from those truths in His Word that make one Biblical-Principle Approach. It has to do with our thought-life and the way we live life.

Consider, what did they do in ancient times? They didn't have the 4R method, Webster's 1828 Dictionary, or 3-ring binders. Just the same, they had God's Word from which to reason. They had a teacher or THE Master Teacher who spoke truths to them and dialogued with them. Their hearts were the "notebooks" that had contained the written truths.

So, where are we going with this lesson? The purpose of this lesson is to help break you away from thinking that education looks like the man-made construct of "factory schools" and restricted to a certain way.

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Read Deuteronomy 6:7 below and ponder the truths contained within it about how education looks like:



And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt **talk** of them when thou **sittest in thine house**, and when thou **walkest by the way**, and when thou **liest down**, and when thou **risest up**.

(KJV)

(Emphasis is mine.)

Consider and Ponder:

- Does education always have to have a written out lesson plan?
- Are grades Biblical or are they a man-made construct?
- Is it true that "it takes 10,000 hours of intensive practice to achieve mastery of complex skills and materials"? Does the Bible support that? Or is that another man-made construct?
- Does the Holy Spirit need for you to have a lesson plan in order to guide you in teaching your child in all things?
- Does your dialogue *always* need to require your student writing down his/her reasoning?
- Do we need to take our resources, lesson plans, and notebooks everywhere with us as we walk and "lie down" and "rise up"? In other words, does it have to be cumbersome for us and our children? Do we have liberty to *not* use those tools every moment we want to teach our children?
- In order for you **and** your spouse to be discipling your children, is it necessary for him/her to also sit down with the 4R method? Or, does your spouse contribute to the discipleship of your child according to the model we read about in Deuteronomy 6:7?

I used to carry around a **false** guilt because when I was pregnant and dealing with morning sickness and/or exhaustion, I wouldn't have a lesson plan laid out. We wouldn't necessarily do "notebook" work so some of their notebooks are on the "skimpy" side.

I would, however, read aloud to our children and we'd discuss a Leading Idea and reason from a Biblical principle. I finally came to accept that seeds were *still* being planted and I could tell that my children were able to reason from Truth through conversing with them. I was *still* teaching them diligently and applying Deuteronomy 6:7. The principles within Deuteronomy 6:7 freed me to embrace the "spirit" and be weighted down by the "letter" of the law, so to speak.

And that's what I want for you, too. If you strive to have everything or most everything planned out with lesson plans or notebooks that are stuffed to the gills, you may be setting yourself up for exhaustion, overwhelm, and even failure. It may cause you to want to throw in the towel. I know it did for me, at times. And keep in mind, "traditional factory school models" don't have the liberty of Deuteronomy 6:7 because they're beholden to the State.

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Sometimes man-made constructs can bring us down. Please use the following Scriptural references in times when you need encouragement, refreshment, or reminders.

To Bless You

What the Bible says about education:

Your study time matters:

"The disciple is not above his master: but every one that is perfect shall be as his master." -Luke 6:40 (KJV)

You're planting seeds at home, when you're out and about, from sun up to sun down as you talk with your children:

"And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up." -Deuteronomy 6:7 (KJV)

Truth is reinforced within yourself/you keep learning as you teach others:

"Thou therefore which teachest another, teachest thou not thyself? thou that preachest a man should not steal, dost thou steal?" -Romans 2:21 (KJV)

Meditating on God's testimonies gives you more understanding than any teachers you've had with a secular-humanist worldview:

"I have more understanding than all my teachers: for thy testimonies are my meditation." -Psalm 119:99 (KJV)

You don't need to have degrees in order to teach your children. You have the Bible; you're armed with truth and how to reason from it and how to research. Remember that degrees are a man-made construct.

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." -2 Timothy 3:16-17

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In this expanded lesson, you learned or reinforced your convictions of:

- the importance of your studying God's Word
- the impact of understanding and applying God's principles (truths) to life
- teaching your children is done at home, while you're out and about, from sun up to sun down
- teaching your children doesn't always involve the 4R method (externally)
- you can teach plant seeds of truth and help you children reason from them through discussions and by living principledly together
- lessons can simply consist of discussing the Truths of God's Word (think of examples from Scripture that show us that Jesus taught this way)
- you don't need to have a graphic organizer for every lesson
- Word studies don't have to be used in every lesson in order to learn Biblical principles
- you have the power to rebuke (4. To check; to silence-Webster's 1828) man-made constructs with Scripture
- false guilt is waiting at the door of man-made constructs
- each lesson and each teaching moment will look differently *from each other*
- each lesson and each teaching moment will look differently *within each family*
- teaching by the "letter of the law" vs. by the "spirit of the law" sets us up for overwhelm, failure, and can kill the love of learning and teaching for the **parent**
- teaching by the "spirit of the law" is freeing

In this module, you reflect on:

- God's sovereignty and providence within the role of parents
- the fact that the Noah Plan™ lesson plans/overviews that makes one a Biblical-Principle Approach person
- the fact that the use of 3-ring binders doesn't make one a Biblical-Principle Approach person
- the fact that being a Biblical-Principle Approach individual has to do with the internal convictions and application of God's Truths.