



A STEP BY STEP GUIDE TO HOMESCHOOLING

STEP 1: BIBLICALLY RESEARCH GOD'S PLAN FOR TRAINING AND EDUCATING CHILDREN. The Bible is replete with God's teaching as to how children should be educated. Both parents need to come together in agreement on the importance of providing a child with a Biblical home education.

STEP 2: FIND A SUPPORT GROUP OR MENTOR. Visit the Considering Homeschooling Ministry website. There you will find on-line training videos, and articles to encourage and educate. Visit the Chapter list page to locate a Considering Homeschooling Ministry (CHM) Chapter near you. If one is not available, consider starting one (even if you are just researching the idea yourself—CHM will help you). Or, find a mentor or local Christian support group; one that promotes independent Biblical worldview teaching, is a fellowship for Christians, and does not promote secular government homeschool programs or secular curriculum. Visit www.consideringhomeschooling.org and www.youcanhomeschool.org for more information.

Research homeschooling! CHM has a variety of DVD videos discussions with experienced homeschooling families sharing on a variety of topics, such as Learning Styles, Teaching Science, Homeschooling Preschoolers, and Homeschooling Teens. There are also many books available on homeschooling. Here are a few of the ones we recommend:

- *Home Schooling: The Right Choice*, Christopher Klicka
- *Worldwide Guide to Homeschooling*, Dr. Brian Ray, Ph.D
- *The Home Schooling Father*, Michael P. Farris
- *Home Educating With Confidence*, Rick & Marilyn Boyer
- *A Mom Just Like You, The Home Schooling Mother*, Vickie & Jamie Farris
- *Family Man, Family Leader*, Philip Lancaster

STEP 3: GET A COPY OF YOUR STATE'S HOMESCHOOL LAWS. Every state has a different set of requirements for home educators. Please consult with the Home School Legal Defense Association. They provide the most up-to-date information on laws (the state department of education most often does not have up-to-date information, so do not consult them). To obtain a copy of your state's homeschooling law from the Home School Legal Defense Association's website, visit www.hsllda.org and click on State Laws. Or, write or call them to request a copy (HSLDA, P.O. Box 3000, Purcellville, VA 20134, 540-338-5600).

STEP 4: CONSIDER THE FREEDOM TO LEARN. One of the blessings of providing your children with a Biblical home education is the freedom to learn according to yours and your child's style. Do not believe that it is imperative to duplicate traditional schooling in your home. In fact, when children have the ability to learn on their own, and discover their God-given talents, they will delight in their educational experience. You can choose textbook style learning, or your children can learn through reading. Some years you may try teaching in one way and change the next. God has given every family a unique situation, so listen carefully to advice from other homeschoolers, but be prepared to create your own teaching style that will maximize your children's learning, and yours, too!

STEP 5: CHOOSE CURRICULUM AND RESOURCES. It is very important in today's culture to refrain from using public school or secular curriculum. Even the public school's simple readers convey beliefs, attitudes and information that is contrary to God's Word. While no curriculum is perfect, most Christian curriculum and books are written by Christians and from a Christian worldview, so it is imperative to train and educate your children upon these precepts. God will bless your endeavors if you are training your

children from textbooks that give glory to Him, because He delights when His children are learning about Him and not the ways of the world. Curriculum can be purchased either at Christian bookstores, on-line, or through catalogs. Most states have annual homeschool conventions where you can browse vendors and get a hands-on look at the products they carry.

CHRISTIAN CURRICULUM PROVIDERS:

- **Homeschool Headquarters** www.homeschoolheadquarters.com Homeschool Headquarters are departments in various Christian books stores nationwide that have a selection of homeschool curriculum. Visiting one of the stores is a wonderful way to look through the curriculum.
- **A Beka** (800-874-BEKA) www.abeka.org Christian homeschool curriculum.
- **Alpha Omega/Bridgestone Academy** (800-622-3070) www.aop.com Christian homeschool curriculum.
- **Bob Jones University Press** (800-845-5731) www.bjup.com Christian homeschool curriculum.
- **Christian Liberty Academy** (847-259-4444) www.homeschools.org Christian homeschool curriculum

CATALOGS:

- **Timberdoodle** www.timberdoodle.com (360-426-0672)
- **God's World Book Club** www.gwbc.com (800-951-BOOK)

STEP 6: SUBSCRIBE TO NEWSLETTERS & MAGAZINES. Getting a regular boost of encouragement and fresh teaching ideas can be invaluable to the homeschooling family. Considering Homeschooling Ministry will send you a free monthly education report just by subscribing. Visit their website for details.

You may also want to consider subscribing to other newsletters and magazines to help you in your homeschooling journey.