

EQUIPPING U

INTERNATIONAL CHRISTIAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION/JUNE 2013

Proverbs 2:1-13

[1] My son, if you receive my words and treasure up my commandments with you, [2] making your ear attentive to wisdom and inclining your heart to understanding; [3] yes, if you call out for insight and raise your voice for understanding, [4] if you seek it like silver and search for it as for hidden treasures, [5] then you will understand the fear of the LORD and find the knowledge of God. [6] For the LORD gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding;

THE LORD GIVES WISDOM

[7] he stores up sound wisdom for the upright; he is a shield to those who walk in integrity, [8] guarding the paths of justice and watching over the way of his saints. [9] Then you will understand righteousness and justice and equity, every good path; [10] for wisdom will come into your heart, and knowledge will be pleasant to your soul; [11] discretion will watch over you, understanding will guard you, [12] delivering you from the way of evil, from men of perverted speech, [13] who forsake the paths of uprightness to walk in the ways of darkness....



The Mark of a Man

I couldn't believe my ears. "If a child is the first person in a home to become a Christian, there is a 3.5 percent probability everyone else in the household will follow."

father is first, there is a 93 percent probability everyone else in the household will follow."

"If the mother is the first to become a Christian, there is a 17 percent probability everyone else in the household will follow. But if the

Though it has been several years since Pastor Boyd Dellinger shared with me these statistics from a Baptist Press article, their impact has remained.



TEACHING TIP. Movement and play helps children to learn, so be sure to add some "creative play" to your Bible lesson.



TEACHING TIP. Vacation Bible School and Backyard Bible Clubs are nearly here. Begin praying that the kids who come will be eternally changed.



TEACHING TIP. Crafts are an important part of the lesson. What the children take home can impact the family. For Bible related craft ideas, visit www.ministry-to-children.com.

I understood fathers play a huge role in the spiritual choices of their children; just a cursory look at families displayed that truth. But a 76 percent difference in impact of a father sharing truth with his family verses a mother—that's monumental!

This is not to discourage mothers, but to encourage fathers. Your family needs you!

In a culture that devalues manhood and godly leadership, it's fitting, during the month we celebrate Father's Day, to remember the undeniable calling and impact a father has on the spiritual life of his family.

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Twice in his epistles, Paul gives specific direction to fathers about childrearing. To the Ephesians he instructs, "Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord." To the Colossians he writes, "Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged."

Scripture charges fathers with the responsibility of bringing up their children in the discipline and

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



The Raeburn Family

Pastors Steve and Janet Raeburn of Big Blast Ministries have been adding fun to our training conferences with both their humor and balloon twisting skills. Together, with their family, they have helped many teachers discover the endless possibilities of using balloon sculptures to enhance their biblical storytelling.

ICEA is a volunteer staffed ministry. Each month Equipping U highlights and honors one of our faithful volunteers.

instruction of the Lord, while also warning them not to provoke their children. Provoking will bear the fruit of anger and discouragement in the lives of his children, something that is almost epidemic in our nation's youth.

As a body, we must encourage the fathers in their God-given leadership. We must do all that we can to not hinder, but help them lead their children to the Lord. Statistically if they do, 93 percent of their household will follow them in believing in Jesus Christ and His finished work.

FROM THE EDITOR

May the statistics shared in this edition of Equipping U grip your heart as they have gripped mine.

Pray for fathers! It's a mighty responsibility God has given to them.

To my own father, Bob Baldwin, thank you for believing in Jesus. Thank you for telling me about Him and showing me your faith in Him early and often. I am grateful to now have two fathers.

Serving with U,

Kimberly von Oeyen
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REGISTER TODAY

Enjoy \$35 early bird registration for the October 19 Equipping U Church Ministries Training Conference at Ward Church in Northville, Michigan. Registration information is available online at www.iceaOnline.org.

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