



STEM Education Outreach Event August 28th

*Great Swamp Baptist Church
August 25, 2024*

Great Swamp Baptist Church

Sunday Morning Worship

10:30 AM

Announcements

Pastor Mark Eudey

Call to Worship

Invocation

Lloyd Freeman

Praise & Worship

Pastoral and Offertory Prayer

Pastor Mark Eudey

Worship by Giving

Offertory Special

Message

Pastor Mark Eudey

Invitation

Benediction Prayer

Sunday Mornings
Following The Song Service:



Nursery



Teacher:
Olivia Stanley



Greeters for Today:
Mike D

Next Sunday 9/5:
Courtney

DEACON OF THE WEEK:

Lloyd Freeman



Phone: 803-943-6312

*From
Pastor
Ralph's
Desk:*



Helping Our Children To Grow Up **Proverbs 22:6**

Introduction:

Two Sundays ago we recognized and celebrated our up and coming seniors. This past Sunday we celebrated our teachers and the important role they play in the lives of our students. So the question I want to ask is why do we celebrate our students and our teachers? Why did our church begin Step of Faith Christian Academy? And why do you parents send your children to our school?

So the answer to all of the aforementioned questions boils down to exactly what our chosen verse for this message teaches us. It teaches us that the reason why we started this school, send our children to the school, and celebrate the teachers and students of our school in our church is so that we can teach our children in the way they should go. We need to dedicate our lives to this task because you can be assured that they are going to go one way or another. Let's help them to choose the right way.

I. First, if we are going to train them in the way they should go then we need to understand the proper translation of this verse

Now most likely of all the verses in the book of Proverbs, this is the most familiar one by Christians and non-Christians alike. Pastors, church leaders, Christian educators, and parents love to use this verse probably more than all others when it comes to encouraging parents, churches and Christian schools to raise our children in the right way.

Therefore if we are going to be using this verse in the manner which I just mentioned then it behooves us to properly understand the right translation for this verse. So you say what's wrong with it just the way that it is? Or you say I like it just the way that it is. So leave it alone because that's the way I've always heard it, quoted it, and understood it.

Well I hate to upset the apple cart because that's the way I always have quoted it and understood it. But after doing a thorough research into the verse preparing for this message I discovered that primarily there is one word inserted into the verse that was not a part of the original Hebrew text.

So the one word that's been inserted by the translators over the years is the word should. So it actually reads more like this using the King James version which we are very familiar with, "Train Up a child in the way he goes, and when he is old he will not depart from it."

So what this does is really turns the verse into a warning. It is saying that if you let a child go his way, the way of the nature that he's born with then that's the way that he or she will continue to live out their lives.

So you ask what's wrong with that? Well there's a simple answer, the nature that our children are born with is sinful nature. Thus to just let them go on their own way is to let them live out their lives with a focus more towards sin than towards God.

II. Second, if we are going to train them in the way they should go then we need to consider some observations from the correct translation of verse

A. The first observation that we learn from the correct translation of the verse is that a child is not born with a clean slate.

As we mentioned in the previous point the reason why they are not born with a clean slate is because they are born with a sin nature. As king David said, "Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me." (Psalm 51:6). Now it's also true that we are made in the image of God but because of the sin nature that image of God has been marred in each one of us. As already stated, if a child is left to themselves without training in the right way then generally the sin nature is going to win a child over for most of their lives. So we've got to work on curbing that senator and steer them the right way.

While studying for this message I came across an article on this verse by a minister named Chap Bettis who gave some very good advice that clearly points out this observation which we are considering.

"God gives us as parents the same command. Train your child. Shape their will. Develop habits of self-control as appropriate to their age. To submit to this command, we must be comfortable with the thought that part of our job is to shape the will of our children. That is not a popular idea in our day!

Modern parenting has been influenced by the French philosopher Rousseau that children are blank slates and innocent. It is adults that mess children up, we are told. Sadly Rousseau dropped his five illegitimate children off at the orphanage soon after they were born. In his own words he admitted, "I think I know man, but as for man, I know them not."

The Bible, not a French philosopher, should shape our parenting. On the one hand, children are made in the image of God, having a unique bent that we should encourage. Each equally important to understand, children are born with a self-oriented heart. Training is helping our children develop self-control appropriate to their age. Our children don't have to be habitually disruptive. They can be trained in what is good and right. Some Christian parents will object because of the philosophy presented earlier. "We are crushing their will. They just need freedom to develop and be themselves." Other Christian parents feel it is wrong to train and habits of godliness before our children are converted. Both these thoughts are erroneous. While those habits cannot convert their heart, they can provide containers for the Holy Spirit to fill when he converts them.

So as Christian parents we must decide to dedicate ourselves to the task of steering our children away from their way to the way of God.

B. The second observation that we learn from the correct translation of the verse is that in a reverse sense it's saying the same thing as our common translation.

So the basic idea here is that the way you keep your children from going their own way is by doing exactly what all of our common translations say. In other words training a child in the way he or she should go is the one way that we keep them from just going their way.

In our next point we will look at ways that we can train them in the right way.

III. Third, if we're going to train them in the way they should go then we need to fulfill the common translation of the verse

As we've been already saying though the common translation of the verse doesn't match up to the literal translation, it does however show us what we need to do to fulfill what the literal translation is warning us not to allow to happen. Which is to not allow them to go their own way. To do this we will break down the meaning of the common translation.

A. First, let's notice the first word in the verse, train on start.

This word in the Hebrew means two things. First it means to dedicate. It was the word used by the Hebrews to dedicate something to the Lord. Thus if we are going to train a child up in the way they should go then we must begin that task with dedicating ourselves to the task and dedicate our children to the fulfillment of the verse.

Second the word and Hebrews also means to initiate. To the point here is that once we dedicate our children and ourselves as parents, teachers, and churches then we need to put our dedication into action. We initiate the task at hand. As the NIV version says we start the work, we don't just talk about it.

B. The second word I want us to notice is the word children.

The definition of this word can mean a young child all the way through adolescent. Now in the Bible it's actually used more often to refer to adolescent children than to younger children.

However the point is that our task of training our children never stops. From the moment they are born to the moment they leave us and on beyond we must continue training them.

C. Third, I want us to consider the phrase "the way they should go."

Now as we've discovered already we don't want them to go their own way because it's tainted by their sin nature. So the obvious question is then what is the way that they should go?

Well the obvious answer is that we are called to the task of training our children in God's way. We discover that way from God Himself and as we know the way that God reveals Himself to us today is through his holy and inspired word, the Bible.

So parents, teachers, church's let us open the pages of God's blessed book and use it to train our children in the right way, God's way. As the apostle Paul reminded young Timothy, "But as for you, continue in what you have learned, and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, and how from infancy you have known the Holy scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith and Christ Jesus. All scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work." (II Tim 3:14-17).

D. Fourth, it's important to remember that Proverbs has given us hear a general rule.

This is not a promise but it is indeed the general rule. There are exceptions but they are the exceptions. But there are no absolute guarantees but I can almost guarantee you that if you do nothing then as the rule goes then they will go their own way but not God's.

However don't turn to guilt if you do all that you can to train them and they still rebel. At some point they will choose a way and as a whole if we've done our job they will go the right way. But sometimes they still make the wrong choice and that's not our fault if we've done our task.

Conclusion

I want to conclude with the words of one author, "We must not simply let children go their own way and do their own thing. Solomon had a deep sense of the broken nature of the human soul. "Folly is bound up in the heart of a child and the rod of discipline will drive it far from him." We are not only born sinful, but also foolish with the tendency to make the wrong choices that bring devastating consequences on our lives. We must be guided, instructed, and disciplined to walk in the ways of God. That is a parent's job -- To go to war against the inborn sin and folly and a child's heart and drive it out."

Jesus Loves You,
Ralph Lee



We will have an End of the First Year/Moving Up Ceremony for SwampKids on Wednesday, August 28th at 7pm in the MPB. Parents of SwampKids are invited to attend to see what the kids have accomplished this first year.

We are asking the church family to bring finger foods and desserts for a reception immediately following this presentation.

For more information, please contact Kim Malphrus at 843-540-0365.

There will be a sign-up sheet on the information board if you would like to help in SwampKids this upcoming year. We have an immediate need for a Craft Teams leader.

For more information, see Kim Malphrus.

Sunday School Classes

@ 9:15am

CAMO CLASS - Room 406 - Bobby Smith

GLEANERS CLASS - Room 401 - Darlene Bollack

VISIONARIES CLASS - Building 3, Old Social Hall

Leader - Greg Mariocourt

SOJOURNERS CLASS - Room 417 - Mack Pope

YOUTH - Youth Annex Leader - Amanda Hodges

BLUE ANGELS - 1ST & 2ND GRADES - Room 417 -

Nicole Mauriocourt

RAINBOW KIDS - 3RD GRADE AND OLDER - Room 415 -

Kelly Scherger

Wednesday Night Services

@ 7:00 pm

WORSHIP SERVICE *Multi-Purpose Building*

Leader-Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

YOUTH GROUP *Youth Annex*

Leader-Michelle Waitt

SWAMP KIDS *Nursery Hall*

Leader - Kim Malphrus

W O M E N

O N

M I S S I O

(formerly Grandmothers' Group)

SPECIAL GUEST: DAVID MEARS

When: **RESCHEDULED. NEW DATE
September 9th at 11:30 a.m.**

Where: The Multi-Purpose Building

Bring: A Covered Dish and/or Dessert

**IMPORTANT
ANNOUNCEMENT**

Please Note: We will be going over the leadership manual for the 2025 church year at the business meeting on September the 1st.



<i>Monday</i>	<i>26th</i>	<i>Faye Lowther</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>28th</i>	<i>Kate Carter</i>



MOVIE NIGHT!!



Showing: TBD
Sunday, September 15th
Concessions at 6:00 p.m.
Movie starts at 6:30 p.m.

**Please bring finger foods for your family
 and more to share with all!
 Tea and Popcorn provided.**



**Come watch an amazing
 movie with us!**



GSBC Prayer Page

Church Leadership

*Sunday School
SFCA-Donna Carter
Child Development
Ministries
Ralph Lee, Jr. - Pastor
Deacons*

Leadership

*President / Vice President of
the United States of America*

Bereavement

Unspoken

Hospitals

Surgery/Recovery

Nursing Centers

*Byron Vaigneur - Legacy at South Pointe
Tommy & Erma Cooler - Ridgeland Nursing Home
David Sauls - Morrell Nursing Center
Doby Cleland - Life Care Center of HHI*

Cancer/Treatments

*Revel Crosby - 4 years old
(Leukemia)
Ken Lawler
Rachel Vaughn
Buzz Bonds*

Other Health Needs

*Mary Kay Cade
Julia Rushing
Pinky Rushing
Amy Hannah
Kathy Breland
Grace Hetrick
Arthur Pearson
Sage Lanier (2 week old
baby with seizures)
Dean Daley
Earl Dean Pope
Cindy Price (Vicki
Archuleta's sister)
Joseph Walters, III
Mike Davis (test)*

Please Continue To Remember

Homebound

*Rose Boyles
Judy Smith
Vera Floyd
Barbara Mills
Kenny Smith
Tom Hinely
Ann Blocker
Red & Helen Malphrus
Diane Hannah
Ann Long
Shirley Malphrus*

Pray For Our Military

*Sgt. Jared Blanton - Deployed
Matthew Mills - US Marines -
Okinawa, Japan
Jericho Malphrus - Sp. Agent/Air Force -
Pinehurst, NC.
Michael Sottile - Ret.
Tristan Blanton - Louisiana
Andrea C. Daring - Charleston, SC*

Church Staff

Pastor: Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr *jehu27@gmail.com*

Sunday School Director: Mike Davis

Pianist: Michelle Waitt *waittfamily83@gmail.com*

Administrative Assistant: Jennifer Meador *greatswampbc@gmail.com*
843-726-3631

School Administrator: Donna Carter *dcarter@sfcaweb.org*

Stewardship

Tithes	This Week 6/30	Weekly Budget	Surplus/Deficit + / -
	<i>\$3,903.00</i>	<i>\$4,923.33</i>	<i>\$-1,020.33</i>
<i>Online Offerings</i>	<i>\$50.00</i>		
Designated Funds			Acct. Balances
Operation Christmas Child	\$100.00		\$545.59



Great Swamp Baptist Church
9009 Tarboro Rd.
PO Box 446
Ridgeland, SC 29936

Sunday School.....9:15AM
Morning Worship.....10:30AM
Wednesday Night Service.....7:00PM

Email: greatswampbc@gmail.com
Website: greatswampbaptistchurch.com
Church Office: (843) 726-3631