



## HOMESCHOOLING HIGH SCHOOL

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### HOME SCHOOLING

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As public schools are becoming more corrupt and students today are receiving worse educations, home schooling has sprung up as a superior alternative. I have never been to public school, but have been home schooled my entire life and feel that I have learned and received so much more than others that attend “normal” schools. I have been able to complete classes at my pace, being able to go ahead in courses that I enjoy and am good at. I have learned how to learn. Random facts have not just been shoved down my throat, but I have been taught how to analyze, reason, and think critically. I have also had the pleasure of being able to read more. Because I do not waste time in classes where the teacher’s attention is being taken up by other students, I have had time to read good, classic literature that most students never read. That literature has opened my mind to new, more complex thoughts, than any literature that has been written recently.

But, most importantly, by being home schooled I have spent more time with my family and have been disciplined by my mother. One of the main evidences of maturity is the ability to interact with and minister to vastly different age groups. Going to school and being surrounded by only one age group does not mature you for life or ministry. But, by being at home I have learned how to socialize, be friends with, and care for people from infants to the elderly. My parents have taught how to be an adult by example by having spent so much time with them. My mother has also shown me in a deeper and more powerful way how to be a woman of God. She is not just my mother anymore, but she is my friend and can speak into my life as such. I am committed to home school my own children, when I have them, so to be able to give them what has been given me.

Many people have specific views on home schooling and specific ways of home schooling. They have one method and they do not sway from that method for a minute. But home schooling’s value comes from its diversity. I believe that putting together many different methods will result in the most effective way to teach and to learn.

The beginning, the foundation, of home schooling should be God, Jesus Christ. He should be the center of our lives and of our education. It is important in home schooling to only say that a relationship with the Lord is important, but to show it as well. Parents should go to church and be involved in that local church, but they should also have a personal relationship with their Savior and teach their children how to have one as well. Reading the Bible, praying, and worshipping together as family, are all good ways to show to your children the importance of that fact. But, life as a Christian should not be broken up into ‘spiritual’ and ‘secular’, and Christianity should influence every aspect of our life, including our education. Education should be built upon God and upon his Word. History should revolve around the Bible and what God has done through the ages, showing his power and might through historical events. It should be shown how God moved, and is continuing to move, through people and circumstances to make his will be done. Every subject in school should be taught through this point of view also. Government, Economics, science, writing, and literature, should all be based on Biblical principles. Home schooling allows us to teach and learn the way that God desires us to.

Home schooling should next be based on whole books. Whole books are not books that have all their pages intact, but are rather, books that seem to almost live and breathe. Books that consist of flat characters and impossible situations, and child-like composition should not be read, for they do not develop the mind.

Good literature has real, living characters, situations, and contains clear, sound composition. Books should expand the mind, emotions, character, and our view of life.

We should be able to think about and analyze the people and



events in the book, gaining wisdom from their successes or failures. Fiction or non-fiction should make the student think instead of being able to absorb the book like mush because it lacks structure and soundness. Non-fiction should inform, enlighten, and broaden, fiction should teach us of human nature, and all whole books should create a better mind and person just from reading it.

Learning facts is not enough for a person to be considered intelligent. An intelligent person uses logic, reasoning, and analysis. Home schooling enables students to learn subjects as a whole, instead of fragmented. If every subject is taught completely separate, then how will a student learn how one affects another and how they are interdependent? You can't appreciate or understand the Mona Lisa if you only look at one-inch segments one at a time. You have to step back and see the whole picture, and then your breathe will be taken away by its beauty. If not you will only see individual brush strokes which contain no meaning in themselves; only when the big picture is seen, does it contain any meaning or retain any value. It is the same with education. You must learn how things are intertwined to be able to completely comprehend all of it. You must see how history effects government, how art and music effect



history, and how literature effects and is effected by history. All of them depend on each other, and you must understand one to understand the others. Home schooling allows you to teach and learn in this 'big picture' method.

Not all people learn in the same manner, and homeschooling allows you teach students in the way that they will learn the best. The three 'kinds' of ways to learn are: visual, auditory, and kinesthetic. Visual people learn and remember best when they can see what they are learning. They normally retain the most information from things that they have read. Auditory learners, however, learn best from hearing something. They would remember the same information ten times better if they were read to or read to themselves out loud, than by reading it silently. And Kinesthetic learners learn best when they touch or handle what they are learning. They learn best by doing projects and crafts, instead of by

reading or listening. Though each type of learner can and should learn "how to learn" from the other ways, they will always learn the best from their natural learning tendency. If a mom knows the type of learner that her children are, she can give each of them different assignments to learn the same subject so that they will each learn to the maximum of their potential. As she does this, she can also train them to be able learn from the other two types. Home schooling allows students' curriculum to be specifically tailored to each student. They can go at a normal or accelerated pace and they can emphasize their learning in visual, auditory, or kinesthetic, enabling the student to fulfill all of their capabilities.

Home schooling is unique. What is learned and how it is learned are both able to be specialized to each student in each of their unique situations. It gives children and teenagers maturity beyond their years because they are around people older than themselves constantly. They are able to see, not just be told, how to live a godly, Christian life. Home schooling is the best way to prepare youth, who live in a sinful world, to live life in a Christian, godly, intelligent, and educated way.