

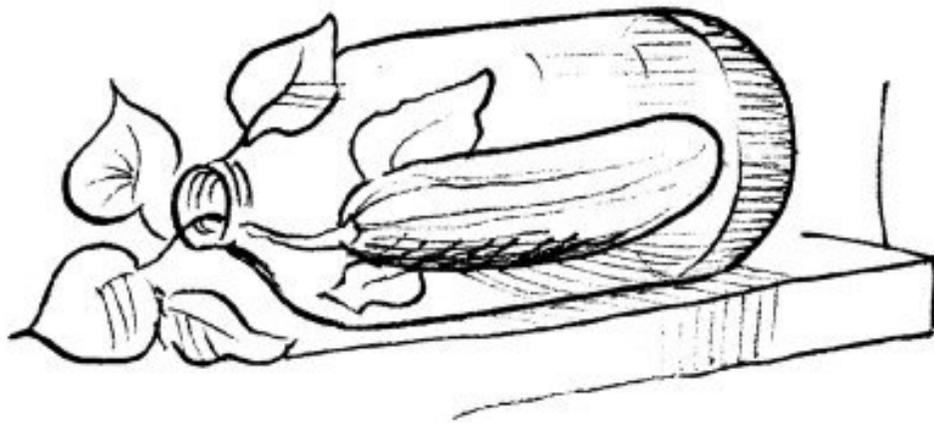
My mother practiced a similar principle with her children. From my earliest memory she surrounded me with prayer and instruction and the gospel. As a result, I was brought to Christ and am now safe in the bottle of His salvation.

What a lesson for parents who have "little cucumbers" at home. Don't let anything interfere with your first duty toward them. The person who said "Give me a child till he is 7 and I care not who gets him after that" knew the value of early training.

Don't neglect your little cucumbers. Soon they will be big. --MRD

*Our children are a gift from God
To nurture and to love;
They need our help in guiding them
To turn their thoughts above. --Sper*

A parent's life is a child's guidebook.



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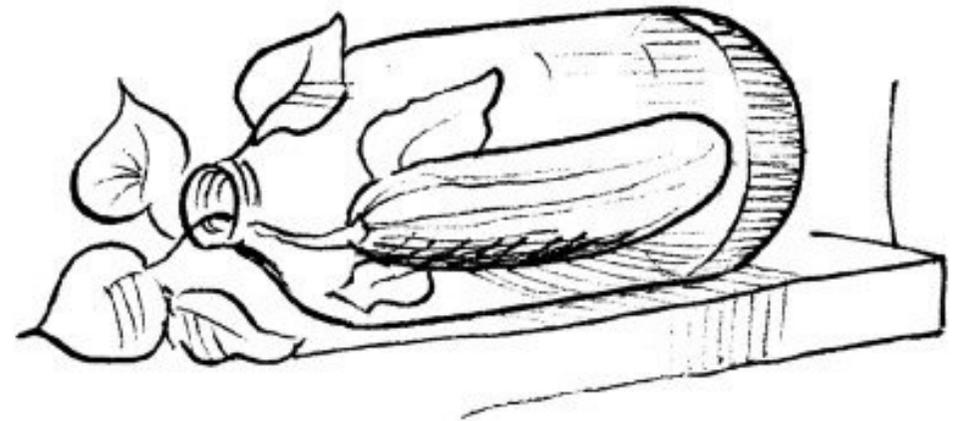
14 OCTOBER, 2012

Little Cucumbers

Fathers, . . . bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord. --Ephesians 6:4

When I was just a boy, I was intrigued by a large cucumber. It was no different from any other cucumber, but it was in the strangest place. My uncle kept it in a bottle on a shelf. This particular cucumber was many times too large to go through the neck of the bottle. I wondered how it got there in the first place.

I was filled with awe of my uncle who could perform such a feat. He joked about it and never told me how he did it. My mother finally explained that when the cucumber was very tiny, it had been passed through the narrow neck and allowed to grow while still attached to the vine.





Our Home

Instructing Children II

(Ephesians 6:4) "And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord."

The instruction of the Lord is described in three steps in Deuteronomy 6 :

1. **Knowing God**, verses 4-7 [last time]
2. **Loving God**, verse 5 [last time]
3. **Knowing the Word**, verse 6

In Proverbs 1-7 there are six key areas of instruction that our children must learn to hold in their hearts :

1. To _____ **mum and dad**, 4:1-4



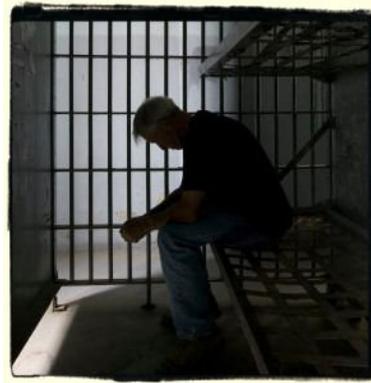
(2 Timothy 1:5) "when I call to remembrance the genuine faith that is in you, which dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am persuaded is in you also."

(Exodus 20:5) "... For I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me,"

2. How to handle _____, 1:10-19



(Romans 12:2) "And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God."



3. To see the _____ as true riches, 2:1-6, 11-12, 3:13-14, 4:20-23, 26-27, 3:5-6, 25-26



4. How to _____ their _____, 2:16, 5:1-4, 7:1-5



(1 Thessalonians 4:3-4) "For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you should abstain from sexual immorality; {4} that each of you should know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor,"

5. How to handle _____, 3:9, 27-28, 6:6-8



6. To say no to _____ and _____, 20:1, 23:29-32

