

## *Teaching Components For Teaching The Basics*

### **Proverbs 22:6 KJV**

**6 Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.**

It does not mention what kind of child, does it? So, special needs children have to be included. And, it must be possible to train, or to teach them even with some basic skills, with both social and educational achievements. It also takes the parents learning how to teach their child.

This is the verse my wife; Katrina was shown when she was asking God to show her in His Word how to help raise our special needs child. She has read it over and over, and didn't see why God was showing her this verse. So, Katrina asked again; "what am I missing God?" Then Katrina read the verse again and saw that the verse did not qualify what kind of child was to be trained. It just said "Train a child..." any child, no matter what learning skills they may lack. Then the lightbulb was lit with Katrina, and this verse became a key verse in writing this book.

**The word “train”** is unique in this verse, it is the Hebrew word H2596 “chânak”, (khaw-nak'), and the base meaning is: “to make narrow”, that is, small<sup>1</sup>, and is translated “dedicated” in other verses. A dedication of something is for a distinct purpose, that is, a narrow purpose. (See I Kings 8:63). Here the word “train” is used as a metaphor, and is referring to a narrow or small bite, or small taste, because we train by increasing our understanding in small bites of knowledge of a particular subject. The small bites of knowledge are typically in one area of learning (the narrow purpose), and are a part of the whole subject, so we can digest it better. As with any lessons, these are parts of a larger teaching that are broken up into smaller bites, so the student can learn it, and apply it. As the student understands each lesson and gains a deeper meaning, the teacher can move on to the next lesson on the same subject. For the parent of a special needs child, this may involve having a Behavioral Specialist guiding the parent in teaching methods that work with their special needs child. I also want you see another verse that also describes the methodology of teaching any subject. In order

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<sup>1</sup> H.W.F. Gesenius, *Hebrew-Chaldee Lexicon to the Old Testament*, (Baker Books, 1979, reprint Baker Books 1997), p. 292 reference 2596- def: 1, 2 and 2a

to wean students off of the easier material, you have to teach one precept at a time, and expand on that with related teachings, so the student can grow in understanding.

**Isa 28:9-10 KJV**

**9 Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? them that are weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breasts.**

**10 For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little:**

God has given you everything need to raise your special needs child as far as the know-how, the way to teach any child. These methods will work with any child, and with special needs children also, there a few added helps to work with them so they can grasp the instruction.

**2 Peter 1:3 KJV**

**3 According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:**

God has given everything you need to raise your child by way of the knowledge of God's Word, and through the gift of holy spirit, so you can walk with the power of God. The book of Proverbs is written to instruct children in the way of the Lord, or in a practical way, to instruct children in good moral values approved by God.

As a parent and teacher of children, when you read Proverbs, it guides you on what you need to teach your child, by showing you what the child is told to do and what not to do, and gives the consequences of each path. So you need to look at the teachings to give you the categories you need to teach on. Look at the first few verses of Proverbs 1:2-4.

### **Proverbs 1:1-5 KJV**

**1 The proverbs of Solomon the son of David, king of Israel;**

**2 To know wisdom and instruction; to perceive the words of understanding;**

**3 To receive the instruction of wisdom, justice, and judgment, and equity;**

**4 To give subtilty to the simple, to the young man knowledge and discretion.**

**5 A wise *man* will hear, and will increase learning; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels:**

The purpose of the book of Proverbs is summed up in Proverbs 1:2-5. These few verses show you the goals of what teaching your children should accomplish. So they can be self-reliant and morally upright in society. Obviously, there will be some special needs child may not have the full capacity to fully learn everything. But, they can learn some basic moral values and manners that can help them in many public and family life situations. These verses can still show you how to do this. I want you to take notice that in verses 2, 3, and 4 contain an important three-part principle in teaching anything to anybody.

- In Proverbs 1:2 the first two words are **“to know”**
- In Proverbs 1:3 the first two words are **“to receive”**
- In Proverbs 1:4 the first two words are **“to give”**

1. **To know;** are the initial instructions or teachings. This is the first stage of teaching anything. Where they are taught the raw knowledge of any subject. It will contain the basic points of logic and understanding to build on. The best way to teach any subject is to have a teaching plan that breaks down the subject into smaller sections that can be taught simply, so that each section can be understood and comprehended.
2. **To receive;** is where the teachings are becoming a part of the person's knowledge base. They lay hold or seize the knowledge in their mind, they have thought about and considered the base knowledge and accepted it. They have made the knowledge their own. It is now a part of them. This is where the understanding deepens as you work it more in your mind. It is where you study the knowledge more, and refine your understanding. But, the goal of understanding knowledge is not to be smart, it is to apply that knowledge in your life.

3. **To give**; is the person acting on that accepted knowledge in their life. They put the accepted knowledge in action; they apply it in their life. As they start to apply the newly learned knowledge, they will also start to see how they can tweak it in different situations. That is, they gain even more understanding from real life applications, more than you can by just studying it. This is how wisdom is attained; by applying knowledge in real life situations. Wisdom gives you a deeper understanding of the knowledge you have learned, but if you had no experience in applying it, it is just head knowledge without wisdom, until you practically apply it in real life situations and learn why and how the knowledge works, then you gain the “wisdom of understanding”.

So, as we teach our children, we need to use these three keys, so they can fully understand to the end of applying the teaching. You need to teach the base knowledge of any topic first, **(to know)**, they need to understand what you taught them **(to receive)**, and then they need to act on it **(to give)**. That is, they need to apply it. When a person applies any teaching in their life, the teacher has been successful in their teaching. This is the simplified three step

learning process that works for any topic, large or small. When we combine this, with what we learned about the word “train” in Proverbs 22:6, we see that as we teach this knowledge in small pieces, or bites, the person will be able to grab a hold of that knowledge and make it their own in small bites, and then apply it small bites in their life. At which point you can teach more on that topic, so you can bring them to the point that they can have the full understanding as they act on that knowledge in their life.

So, in summary, you “**train**”, so they can “**know**”, “**receive**”, and “**give**”. These are the base components in teaching anything on any topic that you want them to learn to the end they can apply it in their life. Even with special needs children, these components will work, albeit with some added methods to include visual aids. The goal is still the same. That they can apply what you teach in their life.

**Proverbs 22:6 KJV**

**6: Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.**

So they can:

**Proverbs 1:2-4 KJV**

**2: #1 ...KNOW wisdom and instruction; to perceive the words of understanding;**

So they will be able to:

**3: #2 ...RECEIVE the instruction of wisdom, justice, and judgment, and equity;**

So they can

**4: #3 ...GIVE subtlety to the simple, to the young man knowledge and discretion.**

Using these three components in training any person, that person will have a solid base that will last a lifetime. This is the most important thing you can give your special needs child, a solid set of boundaries and social skills that will help them for their whole life.