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GREENHOUSE

Nurturing Home Education in North Carolina and Beyond



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— John Holt —

About GREENHOUSE

The GREENHOUSE is the periodical of North Carolinians for Home Education. It is published twice a year, spring and fall. There is also a special graduate publication in May. It is mailed to all members and posted online. The name GREENHOUSE was chosen to represent the type of care homeschooling parents are able to give to their children. Children are lovingly “tended” in a protected and nurturing environment until they are sufficiently mature to go out and take a place of service in the world. Letters and articles addressed to the GREENHOUSE become property of NCHE with full right to publication without further permission required. Ideas and opinions expressed in articles do not necessarily represent those of NCHE.

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COVER PHOTO by Cricket Johnson/Lightshine Images

This Is Your Year to Come to the

Thrive! Conference!

by John Kirkland

The 2017 homeschool conference season is upon us, and with it comes the big one here in North Carolina. The Thrive! Conference comes loaded with great speakers and vendors, a dance, a talent show, a graduation ceremony, new friends and fellowship, and many activities that will fill your heart with wonderful memories. What great stories you will have for the ride home!

Like many other families, our crew eagerly anticipates this annual trek to Winston-Salem for three days of non-stop action. We simply love it; we really can't imagine not doing it. I remember attending my first homeschool conference and how it *changed my life* and allowed me to see the big picture of homeschooling. Since that time, Lorie and I have been to the NCHC annual conference every year. Each one seems to bring us just what we need to inspire and equip us for the upcoming year.

Once they have attended, many homeschool families return year after year, but if you have never been to the Thrive! Conference in Winston-Salem, I encourage you to make this *the year* to find out what it is all about! Mark your calendar for May 25-27, 2017.

Together, your NCHC board of directors, and especially the conference committee—all volunteers—spend thousands of hours each year planning the Thrive! Conference with the singular goal of blessing you and your family in your homeschooling journey.

When Lorie and I first started homeschooling, I had no interest in attending the NCHC conference. I thought it was just a place to go buy books. When I finally went, I saw there was much more to it than I ever imagined.

Here are a few important, yet practical, things you will get from attending the NCHC Thrive! Conference this year. While you can buy curriculum via the Internet, these are things you can experience only at the conference.

Vision—Get the big picture! If you are new to homeschooling, seeing thousands of people, some of whom have driven hours to get there, changes your perspective on homeschooling. As you interact with others, hear their stories and meet their kids, you realize you are part of something big.

You begin to evaluate the *vision*, the why behind your homeschooling. Is it just academics or is there more? At my first conference, some of the men helped me develop a vision for why we were homeschooling. Likewise, we want to help you develop your family's vision. That vision for *why* you are doing this and what you want for your kids will be an anchor when the waves are tossing your homeschooling boat.

I love for dads to come to the conference and get the big picture vision for their family. My experience has been that mom and the kids love it when dad is involved.

We intentionally bring in some speakers each year who can help dads get the big picture. I encourage you moms to do what is needed to get your husbands to the conference. It can change the direction of your family like it did ours.

Inspiration—Anyone who tells you homeschooling is easy is not being truthful. I can assure you that Satan does not want you loving and leading your kids, and he especially doesn't want you teaching them about how to walk with the Lord. God calls believers to come together for fellowship and to encourage each other in well-doing. When you come together with other like-minded people on the same journey, you can't help but get inspired to keep going.

Wisdom—God's Word instructs the older men to teach the younger men and the older women to teach the younger women. Sometimes it is not age, but experience. Going to the NCHE conference gives you personal access to older, or maybe just more experienced, men and women speakers and other homeschoolers who can coach you and help you along the way.

We have great featured speakers this year, as well as many more experts leading subject-specific workshops.

Perspective on Curriculum—A vendor hall can be a very intimidating place. Choosing curriculum can certainly be confusing. At the Thrive! Conference, we provide experienced moms and dads to help you choose what is best to meet the needs of your children based on age, learning style, learning challenges, etc. Also, in the vendor hall you have the opportunity to interact with experts on the curriculums you might be considering.

Fun—Gathering with like-minded folks who are on the same journey is just plain fun. Each year we meet new friends



and are glad to catch up with those we haven't seen since the year before. At the Thrive! Conference, we place a strong emphasis on fun. There is a cotillion-style dance, a game night, a talent show, sports tournaments, alumni socials, funny speakers and other activities that add to your enjoyment.

Whether you are new to homeschooling, or all the way to homeschooling high schoolers, the Thrive! Conference has just what is needed to *Equip, Encourage* and *Connect* you to success in your homeschooling journey. On the Thrive! Website, you can find much more information, including how to register. Go to the website now and get started! I can promise you from experience; *it could change your life!*



John Kirkland is the husband of Lorie and father of Joshua (twenty-six), Lucas (twenty-one), John Mark (seventeen), and Peter (fifteen). He and Lorie have been homeschooling for twenty-one years. Professionally, John is the president of the management consulting firm, JF Kirkland, LLC. John joined the NCHE board of directors in 2007 as secretary and has also served as IT director. John is the current NCHE president. John and Lorie think that many parents may start homeschooling for the great educational opportunities it provides but believe the most important benefit to homeschooling is that it offers the absolute best model and environment for biblical discipleship of our children as taught in Deuteronomy 6. 🇺🇸

Thrive!



The **nche** Homeschool Conference

2017 Thrive! The NCHE Homeschool Conference

Equipping, Encouraging and Connecting
Benton Convention Center, Winston-Salem, NC

May 25-27, 2017

The NCHE annual conference serves all homeschooling families in North Carolina and beyond. Our conference name *Thrive!* (for short) reflects the conference goals of equipping, encouraging and connecting homeschoolers so that they will thrive in their homeschooling experience. The name also mirrors our organization's mission: "NCHE has a vision for flourishing families and thriving generations in which people remain passionate, curious and actively engaged in their faith and in their learning. . . ."

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Quotes from previous attendees:

"Wow! What an incredible event! One of the very experienced speakers told me that this was the best run conference in the country. It was a real blessing." ~Brittany

"I love the conference! It refocuses, motivates, encourages and inspires me every year! It's professional development for homeschool moms!" ~Christy

"Thank you, thank you, thank you for a *wonderful* experience every year! My absolute favorite professional thing to do is attend NCHE conference!" ~Caroline

For details about the conference, go to nche.com/conference.

Pre-registration prices end May 18.



Teen and Alumni Dance



Keynotes and Workshops

Conference Speakers and Workshops

Featured Speakers



Adam Andrews is the director of the Center for Literary Education and a homeschooling father of six. Since 2003 he has traveled throughout the United States and Canada presenting an innovative method for teaching the crucial skills of literary analysis. Adam's

dynamic presentations enable students to enjoy great literature as never before, while his fresh insights inspire parents and teachers with new vision for their task as educators. Adam earned his B.A. from Hillsdale College in southern Michigan and his M.A. from the University of Washington in Seattle, where he is currently a candidate for the Ph.D. He is a Henry Salvatori Fellow of the Intercollegiate Studies Institute and a founding board member of Westover Academy in Colville, Washington. He and his wife, Missy, a Hillsdale graduate and accomplished educator in her own right, teach their children at home in Rice, Washington.

- **Teaching the Classics from Seuss to Socrates—Literary Analysis for Everyone**
- **Homeschooling's Highest Goal—Lessons from the Story of Job**
- **Witches and Wizards and Wands, Oh My!—a Parent's Guide to Fantasy, Fiction and Faith**
- **"It's Onomatopoeia, Mom!"—Using Children's Stories to Teach Literary Devices**

- **The Socratic Method for Dummies—Become a Great Teacher the Easy Way**
- **Raising a Worldview Detective—Three Steps to Thinking Critically about Books, Movies and More**



David and Jason Benham, twin brothers, are former professional baseball players, bestselling authors, speakers and nationally acclaimed entrepreneurs. Their professional accomplishments have been recognized by

dozens of publications, including *Inc Magazine*, *Wall St Journal*, *Business Leader Media* and *Franchise 500*. Their success earned them a reality show with HGTV that was set to air in the fall of 2014—yet the show was abruptly cancelled because of their commitment to biblical values. Appearing on Fox News, ESPN, CNN, Fox Business, ABC's *Nightline* and *Good Morning America*, the Benhams continue to stand up for what they believe and encourage others to do the same. As authors of *Whatever the Cost* and *Living among Lions*, David and Jason share their story along with biblical principles that will revolutionize your work and family life while giving you the courage to stand up for what is right. The brothers are happily married with a combined nine children.

- **WORKshop: Making Your Work Worship**
- **Whatever the Cost**



Jeremiah and Jean Castille are the proud parents of six children, four of whom were homeschooled. Jeremiah grew up in a dysfunctional home, but mentors contributed greatly to his successes in life. Most notable was the

legendary Coach Paul “Bear” Bryant, who instilled discipline and leadership in Jeremiah. Coach Bryant taught him that with a positive attitude, a strong work ethic and integrity, he could do great things. Coach Bryant’s guidance and Jeremiah’s resolve led Jeremiah to numerous successes including being selected the MVP in Coach Bryant’s last Liberty Bowl game. For six years, Jeremiah played professional football with Tampa Bay and Denver. As a member of the Denver Broncos, he played in Super Bowl XXII. Throughout his professional career, Jeremiah’s purpose in life became clearer. His experiences led him to mentor, coach and encourage at-risk youth. In 1999, Jeremiah and Jean founded Jeremiah Castille Foundation. The foundation’s vision is to invest, influence, impact and inspire youth, in order to rebuild and restore generations.

- Fulfilling Your Destiny
- 12 Qualities of Leadership
- Raising Your Child to Be a Champion
- The Power of Identity
- 7 Things to Add to Your Child’s Faith



Jonathan Morrow (D.Min, M.Div., M.A.) is a sought after speaker and teacher who has a gift for explaining challenging topics in ways the rest of us can understand. He is the author of several books including *Welcome to College: A Christ-Follower’s Guide for the Journey* and *Questioning the Bible: 11*

Major Challenges to the Bible’s Authority and is an adjunct professor of apologetics at Biola University. He also contributed to the *Apologetics Study Bible for Students*. As the director of cultural engagement for Impact 360 Institute, Jonathan trains high school and college students in the Institute’s two-week summer immersion experience and the nine-month gap year program. Jonathan speaks nationally on worldview, apologetics and culture and is passionate about seeing a new generation of Christ-followers understand why they believe what they believe. Visit him online at JonathanMorrow.org.

- Building a Confident Faith in a Confused Culture
- Has Science Made God Unnecessary?
- Is Jesus the Only Way to God?
- Has the Bible Been Corrupted and Changed?
- What Every Christian Needs to Know about the Bible and Homosexuality
- How to Help Students Own Their Faith
- God and the Problem of Evil and Suffering



Cindy Rollins is the 2016 winner of the Russell Kirk Paideia Prize and the author of *Mere Motherhood: Morning Time, Nursey Rhymes, and My Journey toward Sanctification (2016)*. She was a homeschooling mom of nine (eight boys and one girl) who attended



Stetson University and Toccoa Falls College. She was drawn towards homeschooling after hearing Raymond Moore in his original Focus on the Family Broadcast in the early 1980s. For over ten years, she blogged through her efforts to homeschool under the classical principles of Charlotte Mason, and she can now be found blogging for The CIRCE Institute where she also hosts The Mason Jar, a Charlotte Mason/Classical Education podcast. While her heart's desire is to encourage moms, she has a special concern for those raising sons. She lives in Chattanooga, Tennessee, with her husband, Tim, their dog, Max, and however many children happen to be home.

Steve's doctoral thesis focused on the role of parents in the character development of children. Their extensive training and research into character development has uniquely prepared them to equip and encourage parents. In addition, their eight children have given them the opportunity for years of testing their practical tips and techniques. Along with speaking at conferences and churches around the country, Steve and Megan have appeared as guests on *Dr. James Dobson's Family Talk*, *In the Market with Janet Parshall*, and the Glenn Beck's TV show. Join with them to train a new generation of courageous, Christ-like, character healthy leaders.

- **Small Latin and Less Greek: Classical Education for Everyman**
- **Self-Education: The Habit of Being**
- **What Are We Doing to Our Boys Redux? A Mom's View**
- **Mere Motherhood: What Is a Family?**
- **What Is a Teacher? Finding Rest in the Role**

- **The A to Z of a Characterhealthy Homeschool** (Megan)
- **Marriage and Parenting Go Hand-in-Hand** (Steve and Megan)
- **Living on Borrowed Time, the Nine Practices of the Proactive Parent** (Steve)
- **Woman to Woman: The Mentoring Model** (Megan)
- **Battling with Behavior?** (Steve)
- **Training Young Men to Be Gentlemen in a Feminist Culture** (Steve)
- **The Toddler Toolbox** (Megan)
- **2ML (Second Mile Leadership for Men)** (Steve)



Dr. Steve and Megan Scheibner have spent the last twenty years developing parenting and youth character development resources designed for parents. Both are trained Christian counselors with years of experience

counseling couples, parents and young adults. As a pilot for American Airlines, Steve was originally scheduled to be the First Officer on the first plane to hit the World Trade Center, and he has a very powerful testimony from this experience.





Children's Program



Vendor Hall

Additional Conference Speakers



Diane Allen
The DNPE, the Law and the Average Homeschool Family
Basic Rules of a Record Retention: High School and Beyond



Nathan Arnold
Music for Life—Sharpening Your Child's Gifts for the Future



Brent J. Aucoin
Teaching the American Founding



Susan Reynolds Brackley
Minimize, Simplify and Prioritize



John Burkett
The Writing Process



Andrea Daley
High School Smorgasbord—the Practical
High School Smorgasbord—the Emotional



James and Tanya Dickens
Benefits of Homeschooling Adopted Children
Healthy Marriage, Successful Homeschool



Kristen Eckenwiler
The Gift of Multi-sensory Teaching
Why Is Reading So Hard?



Dr. Jeff Ertzberger
Are Your Kids Ready for Their Digital Future?
Google Tools for Homeschoolers



Ryan Foley
Raising Courageous Kids



J. Mark Fox
How to Provide for Your Family
How to Protect Your Family



Sarah Frank
My Journey into Unschooling



Jessica Frierson
Order in the Heart,
Order in the Home



Kate Funk
The Early Years
without Tears



Amanda Garner
Run with
Perseverance



Debra I Haagen
Using Lapbooks in
Your Homeschool



Dara Halydier
The Real World: Are
They Ready?
God Didn't Make a
Mistake



Monica Irvine
Schedules—
Helping Our
Children to Be
Happy
Raising our Girls to
Be Ladies



Andrew Kern
Attention: Why It
Comes First and
How to Cultivate It
Truth and
Harmony: The
Goals of a Christian
Education



**John and Lorie
Kirkland**
From 12 to 20:
Mentoring Your
Son from a Boy
into a Man



Debbie Mason
Eleven Passions
from a Homeschool
Veteran
Homeschooling
High School



Dr. Paul Maurer
The Crisis of
American Higher
Education



Penny Mayes
Created to Be
Creators



Dana McDill
Hormones and
Homeschooling:
Can There Be
Peace?
Losing Your Way on
the Journey



Matthew McDill
How to Teach Your
Children to Love
and Understand
God's Word
How to Help Your
Children Become
Self-Motivated



**Marjorie H
McIlvaine**
So Much Curricula,
So Little Time
Online Instruction:
The New Frontier



Jen Miller-Hogg
Savvy High
School Student's
Path to College
Applications



Mary Morse
Homeschooling
Your Gifted Child



Joann Nabb
Foreign Language
as a Springboard
to the World
Creating a Love
of Learning in the
Early Years



**Robert M.
Nelson**
NC Community
College
Opportunities for
Homeschoolers



Steve Noble
Stranger in a Strange Land: Living Out Your Faith in a Nation That No Longer Wants You

Christians and Politics: Finding a New Normal in 21st Century America



Bryan Osborne
The Big Deal about Dinosaurs!
Do Animals Evolve? Evolution Defined and Scripture Confirmed



Danielle Papageorgiou
Lifeschooling: The Answer to Homeschool Burnout



Chris Ruminski
Learning with Games—Much More Than Chess



Doug Smith
Keep It Simple: How to Teach Your Whole Family Together
More Than Just Screen Time



Michael Somerville
Wisdom, Not Just Facts—Illustrating the Value of a Story-Driven Education



Glenna Toney
We Have the Test Scores, Now What?



Michael and Amanda Wares
You Want to Do *What?* A Dad's Perspective
Help for New Homeschoolers



Israel Wayne
Homeschooling: Preference or Conviction?
Is Homeschooling Just for Women?



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should have Monarch!





How to Introduce Your Preschooler to Money and Banking

by Linda Carlson

Should kids who are still learning how to count be introduced to the grown-up world of money management? Absolutely! It's never too early to start teaching your children about money and the importance of financial responsibility.

"It's actually easy to teach kids about money," according to *Kids and Money: Giving Them the Savvy to Succeed Financially* author Jayne A. Pearl. "Turn your day-to-day activities into learning experiences."

Parents.com caught up with Pearl and other experts to develop an age-by-age guide for parents, outlining fun simple ways to introduce even the youngest learners to financial education.

"Trips to the bank, store or the ATM, for instance, can be a perfect opening for a discussion about your values and how you use money," suggested Parents.com writer Anna Attkisson. "When children are very young, you can work money concepts into your child's imaginary games, like playing pretend store or restaurant."

Financial education for preschoolers is a great way to bring in math, social studies, art, language arts and science lessons. Here's a roundup of ideas from contributors to Parents.com:

- **Count coins with them.** They'll learn how to recognize pennies, dimes, nickels and quarters by playing coin identification games. Yale University senior research scientist Dorothy Singer pointed out many two to three-year-olds will think a nickel is worth more than a dime because of its size, so you can take the opportunity to talk about the value of coins.
- **Play store.** Young learners have vivid imaginations and setting up a pretend grocery store in your home is an interactive way to begin to teach them about the basics of commerce. Let your kids *shop* for grocery items from your pantry and pay for them using real currency or play money. You can serve as the cashier to help out with money-counting.
- **Clip coupons.** Older preschoolers will be ready to talk about ways to save money. Neale S. Godfrey, chairwoman and founder of the Children's Financial Network, recommended having your kids help clip coupons before you go shopping together.

In an interview with Beth Koblner, author of The New York Times best-seller *Get a Financial Life*, and a member of the President's Advisory Council on Financial Capability, Forbes contributor Laura Shin enumerated the most-important financial lessons for kids of every age.

And what's the chief lesson for kids ages three to five, according to Koblner? You may have to wait to buy something you want.

"This is a hard concept for people to learn of all ages," says Koblner. "However, the ability to delay gratification can also predict how successful one will be as a grown-up. Kids at this age need to learn that if they really want something, they should wait and save to buy it."

You can reinforce this message by practicing the lost art of piggy bank savings with your kids. By teaching them to save, they'll learn the value of money and how to distinguish between wants and needs. Plus, you'll be able to teach kids to give first by talking about the importance of giving as Jesus teaches.

Start early teaching your child the place of money in our lives and how to use it responsibly. We have mentioned several ways to discuss and teach about money, and there are many more. Look for ways in your daily life, and you will be off to a good start.



Linda Carlson has served families by helping them with their banking needs for over thirty years. At ECCU, Linda works directly with homeschool families, organizations like HSLDA, and multiple homeschool organizations all over the country. She helps families live out responsible money management through providing information on wise, biblical financial stewardship regarding home ownership, debt elimination, and giving. Linda has a heart for homeschool parents who not only want to make smart money choices now, but want to teach their children how to follow God's financial plan. You can reach Linda at linda.carlson@eccu.org. See how ECCU partners with homeschool families at www.eccu.org/homeschool.

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When Life Gives You Lemons

by Jessica Frierson

In our sixteen years of homeschooling, we have had very few scheduled field trips. We have, however, enjoyed quite a few fairly spontaneous ones. We have learned over the years, you could say, to make lemonade when life gives us lemons.

Last year one of my older sons had five days of job training nearly an hour away. Dropping him off, making the return trip home, then heading back for him four hours later would have greatly reduced our school time, so we decided to take school there—or rather, make the area our school for the week. By doing a little research online, we found a new place to explore each day. We checked the weather forecast, stocked up on picnic supplies and headed out for some spontaneous learning!

Among our destinations were a nuclear power plant, a motor racing museum and a Revolutionary era fort. We even turned a visit to a neighborhood park into a nature hike, and took the time to draw in our nature notebooks. We used iNaturalist, a fun app that helps identify plants and animals when you upload photos to the online community. We brought along our field guides, colored pencils for sketching and binoculars. Besides the refreshing chance to take our time studying the world of nature around us, we used the extra hours we had before my son would be finished to enjoy listening to each other without the pressure to finish the lesson and move on to the next item on our agenda.

We discovered that late midweek mornings in early spring are not a busy time for out-of-the-way historical landmarks. The tour guide at the fort was thrilled at the opportunity to take our small group around the area and gave a wonderful tour. After lunch at the picnic tables, we explored the surrounding trails. The children were delighted to find fields of tall grass, strange barkless trees, a ravine perfect for hide and seek and huge boulders for climbing.

The rainy day of the week sent us indoors to learn about the world of stock car racing. Through a window off of the showroom, we were able to observe the pit crew in the process of rebuilding a car. Previously



paced vehicles drew my children's attention with their shiny paint and tremendous trophies that were proudly displayed. Learning about the process a driver goes through before he makes it to the *big time* was enlightening.

The unanimously favorite outing of the week was the Energy Explorium, the educational center at McGuire Nuclear Station. We learned a great deal about the production of nuclear energy, then we were pleasantly surprised by the enjoyable nature trail around the lake. The information desk handed out backpacks filled with materials for various activities to do along the trail. They included pencils, notepads and binoculars for each child. The experiments were detailed in a notebook given to the oldest child, and the backpacks were well-stocked with every item needed to conduct each one. I was impressed that every thermometer, stop-watch, measuring tape or other necessary tool was provided. There were even instructions for a scavenger hunt for the younger ones to help them learn to identify trees, birds, amphibians and other animals we encountered along

the trail. The trail itself wrapped around the lake on which the nuclear plant sits. Just as we approached the end of the trail, a tremendous storm blew in across the lake, creating choppy water and ominous skies. We made it to our van just as raindrops began to pelt us.

What had begun as a frustrating week that I expected to be a setback, manifested into some of our most memorable learning experiences. Do you know what made the difference? I committed my steps to the Lord (Proverbs 16:3), and I asked Him to redeem the time. As I embraced the circumstances He had allowed to come our way, we found beauty in unexpected places and mined the richness of treasure in discovering that there is far more to learn than what we can find in our workbooks and lesson plans.

The lessons we learned that week ignited a spirit of gratitude, trust and creativity in our family. When circumstances take us somewhere unexpected, we look around for what we can find to explore. When plans fall through, we turn to the Lord to find out what He had in mind for us instead. When it seems like nothing else could possibly go wrong, we pause to listen to the storm raging and marvel at the waves as the wind whips across the waters. In other words, when life gives us lemons, we try a new recipe for lemonade.



Jessica Frierson is the NCHE region 2 liaison. She graduated from New Beginnings Homeschool in 1992. She lives in Caldwell County with her husband, Ernie, and their ten children. They have been homeschooling for over sixteen years.





Is Your Kid's Flame of Energy — Burning Low? —

by Diane Helfrich

You've been pressing on in your school year. The kids have been doing well with studies, sports, scouting and church activities. You feel like you are having a successful year; you are on top of your planning, and there are several enrichment activities planned for the spring semester. It gets to be about the end of March, and you gradually become aware that one of your kids seems a bit disinterested. They have been having a harder time getting up in the morning, and they seem routinely tired. They seem to lack focus, particularly during times of self-study or reading. You covered some material last week and thought they were on top of it, but this week, it's like you need to start over with that same information. You begin to notice that your child complains of not feeling well more often and hasn't been eating as well. They are also spending a lot more time alone in their room, and they are less interested in doing things with friends. Are they sick? Maybe they are suffering from burnout.

We often are aware that we need to watch for burnout in ourselves, but we need to remember that sometimes the high pace of life takes its toll on our kids as well. It can be a bit hard to figure out—it feels like a discipline issue or perhaps a wellness issue. Think back over your year and see if perhaps it's been a little too much, at least for one of your kids. They don't all come packaged the same way, and we inherently know that, but it's often easier to see a cause of behavior issues, but that is different from just too heavy a load. Sometimes, a child just isn't capable of the pace that seems normal in your mind, and it slowly begins to manifest in uncharacteristic behaviors. It may be that all of your other kids are fine, but this child simply isn't keeping up, and the stress is showing.

Talk with them to see how they are feeling, and ask if they are having trouble staying on top of everything. Maybe you need to take a trip to Grandma's house for a few days or head to the beach, even for a day. Maybe they are not struggling to keep up with work they must do, but the passion about those topics is missing, so it's a grind. If you could restructure some of the lessons around something your child is passionate about, it might ease the feeling of overwork. Maybe you do have too many activities, and you need to drop something, at least for a time. Encourage your child to journal and share with you the insights they have; this is a great life tool for all of us, so it's good to build this habit into our kid's lives while they are young! If things still are not working, seek help. Your pediatrician or pastor may have thoughts of value for you, and your child may talk with someone else differently than they talk to you. Taking action will reaffirm to them how much you love them and care that they are okay. It is important to address burnout as soon as you recognize it. If they are struggling now, overwork can lead to deeply-rooted health issues that manifest as physical or mental challenges, perhaps even progressing to habitual overload as your child moves into adulthood. Addressing overload teaches your child that equilibrium in their life is important to seek and that achieving it is a lifelong balancing act that is important to learn early. Then, you can wish that you had that lesson as a child!



Diane Helfrich is a retired homeschool mom of fourteen years. She now serves as the NCHS secretary and NCHS liaison for region 8.

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You Can Do It *Alone*

by *Maritza B. Campbell*

Since my daughter, Olivia, was born five years ago, I knew I desperately wanted to homeschool her. I was mortified at the options available in my local school system, and my daughter's safety was of my highest concern. Once I was able to arrange to work from home, I began to diligently gather materials, so I could teach her basic preschool subjects from home. Many people asked questions like, "Why isn't she in preschool?" "How will she be socialized?" "How do you know what to teach her?" I tackled each question armed with the knowledge I had acquired from research into homeschooling. I caught a slight side-eye or "Oh, okay" response from many. Still, I moved on and worked at finding online materials, buying workbooks and other relatable materials from local stores and Amazon. I spent every day pulling together lessons and spending hours sitting on the floor with her teaching her colors, numbers and shapes. Three years have passed since I started that process, and I still to this day get an "Oh, okay" response when I mention that we homeschool her. The pressure is growing in intensity as she is reaching the age to enroll in kindergarten, and even though they know I have been homeschooling her for three years, I still get the same response, "Where are you enrolling her in school?"

The homeschooling community is ninja stealthy in my hometown, and there are no known groups that gather to support one another. I find myself traveling to other cities if I want to work with other homeschoolers. I often feel quite alone in this process. Having one child makes it challenging as well. I have to work harder to find activities and classes for her to attend, so she can spend time



with other children and develop new relationships. Forging this path is difficult and unforgiving at times. But when I am feeling lost, I look at how quickly she learns. I remember that she has been playing violin since age two and piano since age four. I remember that she is already reading and that her perception of the world is growing by leaps and bounds. She is polite, entertaining, engaged and comical. These are all traits that we nurtured while homeschooling. I can see the advantage she has when she is able to cuddle her mother in the middle of the day. I can see the benefits of creating a schedule that works best for her growth and intellectual development. I see the blessing in being able to take trips during the day, just the two of us, or with a few friends, to attend a museum and practice hands-on learning.

My story is simply one of hope for those who are walking this homeschooling adventure alone. I say to you, keep trying, keep searching, keep believing that you are doing the right thing for you and your child. Don't give up when you feel alone. Keep searching for those activities, classes and people who share

similar beliefs. There is an end goal that you must keep your eye on. Our present circumstances can often fool us into believing there is no progress. Many would love to be able to teach their children at home but are simply not able. I say to you, stay strong in your vision of intellectual, spiritual and emotional growth for your children. Even in times where you have to walk the path alone—keep going.



Maritza B. Campbell is a Durham native, with a Master's Degree from Liberty University in Human Services. She decided four years ago to leave a growing career in mental health to raise and homeschool her daughter. She and her husband, who has been teaching music for over sixteen years, work to provide a supportive, nurturing and safe environment for their young.

Moving from Discipline to Discipleship



by Dr. Matthew McDill

The last time my mom tried to spank me, I was just about as big as she was. Of course, my mother is a pretty small lady! As she approached me in the hallway with the discipline utensil, I reasoned with her, “Mom, can’t we talk about this?”

“No!” was her answer, and she just kept coming.

I continued to try to talk to her about it, but she had no intentions of talking. Finally, I reached out and took the paddle from her! I shudder to think what would have happened if my Dad had been home at the time!

I honestly don’t remember what transpired after that. But this story serves to illustrate how parenting will eventually reach a point that it must move from discipline to discipleship. At this stage, our children are old enough to talk to and teach, but they also still need firm direction!

God gives parents, particularly fathers, the responsibility to both discipline and disciple their children.

*“Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger,
but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.”*

Ephesians 6:4

Let’s look at these two areas in turn and then see how they relate to one another.

Discipline

First, parents have authority to discipline their children. (See Proverbs 13:24; 22:15; 23:14; 29:17; Hebrews 12:7-11.) Discipline is the use of external motivation to train behavior. It can take various forms of negative consequences for wrong behavior. There are also positive ways of encouraging good behavior through affirmation and rewards.

Here are a few basic tips for effective discipline:

- Train your children to look you in the eye when you speak to them.
- Train your children to respond respectfully in response to your instructions, "Yes, sir" or "Yes, ma'am."
- Train your children to obey the first time. Your children will learn when you expect them to obey. If you count to three, they will wait until two. If you count to ten, they will often wait till you count *nine*. If you don't discipline your children until after you yell at them, then they will not obey you until you yell at them. If you lovingly, calmly and consistently discipline your child the first time they disobey, they will learn to listen the first time you give an instruction.
- Never spank out of anger or in such a way that would cause harm to your child.
- Hold your child responsible for only what they understand.
- Be creative with ways of giving your children consequences for disobedience and disrespect.

Discipleship

The next and most important responsibility parents have is discipleship. When Jesus answered the question about the most important commandment of all, he quoted from Deuteronomy 6:4. Look at what Moses said right after this most important commandment!

*"You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart
and with all your soul and with all your might.*

*And these words that I command you today
shall be on your heart.*

*You shall teach them diligently to your children,
and shall talk of them when you sit in your house,
and when you walk by the way,
and when you lie down, and when you rise.*

Deuteronomy 6:5-7

The ultimate goal for parents is to raise mature, Christ-loving believers. This, of course, fits into God's ultimate purpose for all people and our mission of helping others to love God.

Our American culture has eroded the strength of the family by encouraging parents to abdicate to others their responsibility of teaching their children. Many parents feel it is the church's job to disciple their children. They depend on the pastor, the Sunday school teacher and the children's or youth pastor to teach their children about God. Pastors, and the rest of the body of Christ, are certainly responsible for discipleship. But the primary responsibility of discipleship belongs to parents.

Transitioning from Discipline to Discipleship

When each of my children turns eight, I bring them into my office and explain to them that it is time to turn their lives over to Christ. I explain the gospel to them and then tell them to pray to receive Christ, or I ground them until they do.

No need to read that paragraph again. I'm just kidding. Not only would I not do that, I couldn't! Faith and a real relationship with Christ are based on the free choice of the individual. This helps us understand how different the parental responsibilities of discipline and discipleship are. As we have noted, discipline uses external motivation to bring about a change in behavior. Discipleship is leading by example and

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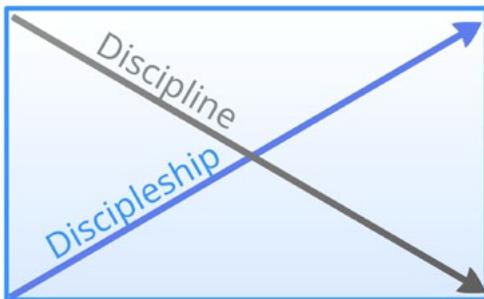
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guiding children towards giving their hearts to Jesus.

Now let's address the sticky subject of how discipline and discipleship relate to one another. Sometimes parents try to teach their children when they should be disciplining them. Sometimes they discipline them when they should be teaching. Often both take place at the same time. The most important mistake parents make is not disciplining at all!

As I mentioned before, one of the most confusing times in parenting is when the children should be transitioning out of discipline into discipleship. Parent need to discern when to move from discipline to discipleship, from external motivation to internal motivation (Proverbs 13:24; Proverbs 23:26). Here is a chart that helps explain the process. The chart moves from left to right following the age of a child, from birth to adulthood.



Both discipline and discipleship may take place the entire time your children are in your home. However, when a child is very young, parents exercise maximum control (or discipline) in their lives. This is when behavior training begins. At this time, there is a lot of discipline and not as much discipleship taking place. Then as the child grows, he develops his ability to respond to God. He can choose to obey his parents willingly, not just because he fears the consequences. He can take care of his stuff and get along with his siblings out of a heart of obedience to God. The cross point on the chart generally occurs around ages twelve to fourteen, depending on the development of the child. As you relate to your teenaged child, your desire is to primarily teach them, to appeal to their conscience and desire to obey God. While discipline is based on power (the ability to carry out consequences), discipleship is based on influence, which is built on relationship. This is why it is so important to build strong, open relationships with your children.

Here are a few ways you can help your children develop self-motivation based on faith in Christ.

- Pray for your children to surrender their hearts to Christ (Ephesians 3:14-21).
- Teach your children truth from God's Word (Psalm 19:7-11).
- Teach your children God's purpose for life and how everything we do fits into it (Deuteronomy 6:4-9).

- Encourage and affirm your children (1 Thessalonians 2:11-12).
- Offer new responsibility and freedom in response to obedience and respect (Matthew 25:14-30).
- Give correction in the form of discipleship, instead of discipline, when there is respect and teach-ability (Psalm 25:8-15; 32:8-9).
- Give your children the freedom to make choices so they can develop conviction (Hebrews 5:14).
- Help your children discover their gifts, talents, and interests. Free and equip your children to pursue them (Ephesians 4:7, 11-12).

Matthew McDill and his wife, Dana, homeschool their nine children in Creston, NC. Matthew serves on the NCH board as media manager and is a pastor of Highland Christian Fellowship in Boone. Through his ministry, Truth to Freedom (truthtofreedom.org), he loves to teach and write about discipleship, marriage, family, parenting, home education and church. Matthew holds a B.S. in communication and two master's degrees and a Ph.D. in biblical studies.

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HOW I EMBRACE TECHNOLOGY IN MY HOMESCHOOL

by Christina Brown

Over the last sixteen years I have taught my kids using a set curriculum and also curriculum I developed. I am a planner by nature, so I order from the library or purchase supplements to our main curriculum well in advance, making notes even in the summer. Sometimes, however, questions come up that I cannot answer or cannot find the answers for in my resources.

For instance, while studying about the Bonus Army that protested in Washington, D.C., after WWI, my daughter asked, “What is a tank?” When I showed her a tank moving over land and buildings and its size in comparison with a human being, she realized the implications of how it may have felt when President Herbert Hoover ordered the army to clear the veterans’ campsite—even though it was only a glimpse through my cell phone.

I am among those who struggle with teens having iPads and iPhones. I know the problems, the disadvantages and understand the justifiable and scary implications that come with kids and electronics. I have found, however, that as educators, we can use this technology to enhance our kids’ educations and ultimately learn right along with them. We often do not hear about these benefits. For us, the smart phone has engaged, broadened and complemented our learning, as it allows us to homeschool on our comfy sofa or in the car! Technology makes the words come alive and jump off the page, as it affects the senses.

The three benefits that I appreciate are:

1 – Convenience

First, the iPhone or iPad is convenient. If I had to go upstairs to my computer to show my girls something we are learning about, I probably would not do it. I would either forget; the sticky note would get lost in the shuffle or the moment would be lost. Google takes just seconds.

2 – Creating Memories

We often laugh together at videos we are watching or are totally amazed at just how big anacondas grow. Sometimes we have sat in awe at being able to visualize what we are reading. Seeing pictures of WWI, the Great Depression or hearing the songs or personal testimonies of an era connects us to it. On more than one occasion, my kids said, “Remember when we learned about _____?”

3 – Internalizing Learning

Seeing the animal that we are studying or hearing its sounds, helps to lock the memory in our consciousness. My girls remember that story, better understand the period or connect with the sadness of war, by seeing and hearing at just the right time. Understanding is cemented when it is attached to a feeling, aroused by use of technology.

Let me give you some examples.

When we were studying Helen Keller, I googled YouTube videos to see and hear her speak. We read that one of her goals was to learn to speak, even though she was deaf and blind. Can you imagine? Who knew such rare video footage of Helen Keller and Anne Sullivan existed? I was also able to put the movie *The Miracle Worker* on hold at our local library directly from my smart phone as soon as I had the inspiration. This may not have happened if I had to rely on my memory to do it when we got home.

At the beginning of the year, we learned about the Tasmanian Devil, a marsupial now found only in Tasmania. For moms and dads out there, remember “Taz” with his friend Bugs Bunny? We read about their blood-curdling screams and were able to hear them for ourselves as we watched several videos. Other fascinating videos and sound recordings that enhanced our learning about animals included whale sounds, moving sidewinders and the largest snakes in the world.

Have you ever wondered when reading the Bible what the Jordan River looks like or maybe been curious about the size of Noah’s Ark? A smart-phone or tablet can answer these questions on the spot.

We read *Hero Over Here* (by Kathleen V. Kudlinski) about a young boy during WWI whose family survived the flu epidemic. Teddy, the ten-year-old main character, talks about his brother going off to war singing *Over There*. I googled it so we could

hear it, and we hummed it all day long! It made the book and the time come alive!

During this same lesson, we read about Franklin Delano Roosevelt’s first inaugural address. It makes you pause when you hear President Roosevelt say to our nation, “The only thing we have to fear is fear itself,” especially in the context of the sadness, poverty and fear going on in our country at that time (1933).

When we studied the Civil War and read about the rebel yell the Confederate soldiers used when they attacked the Union troops, I googled to see if we could hear it. It is not the “Yee-haw” you might think. It is a cause to pause. Its sound is chilling, unearthly and animal like. It gave us chills as we imagined these fellows coming over a hill to battle. What rare footage we found of Civil War soldiers giving the rebel yell! We found other examples of Confederate rebel yells including a video showing that there is an art to the yell, that it has cadence and how they teach the rebel yell to historical Civil War re-enactors. Fascinating!

When we studied Redwood trees in California, it was hard to explain and describe the size of these trees. The one picture in our science book did not do them justice. You have to see better images to truly understand just how huge these giant Sequoias and Redwoods grow. It took less than a minute to find images online on that comfy couch.

We are currently studying the Great Depression. During our history study, we learned about the song, *Brother, Can You Spare a Dime?* Listening to the song alone is not nearly as meaningful when you do not have the background of the Stock Market Crash of 1929, information about the railroads, soup kitchens, the skyscrapers that were being built and Roosevelt’s *New Deal*. However, our American history art study was complemented in a unique way as my girls had just sketched a skyscraper, a house out west by a railroad and also seen important paintings and photographs of the time.

We intuitively know that we need to guard ourselves and our kids against the pitfalls of computers. We also know that you cannot believe everything you see online. However, we need to see the benefits of this type of learning with our kids in our homeschools. Not even the sky is the limit. Embrace the technology!



Christina Parker Brown is a momma of three, homeschooling since 2000 and the author of AKAHomeschoolMom.com and Alphabet Smash. Her work has been featured in Proverbs 31 magazine, The Old Schoolhouse magazine, Home Educator Family Times, GREENHOUSE and others.

Christina’s passion is to encourage others to intentionally connect faith, family and fun. She is a hopeless logophile and always brakes for yard sales. Her writing is inspired by her faith in Jesus Christ, adventures in NC with her Adventure Group and her twenty-three-year marriage to her best friend, Richard.

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We Were Fashioned for Faith

by J. Mark Fox

One summer night during a severe thunderstorm, a mother was tucking her small son into bed. She was about to turn the light off when he asked in a trembling voice, “Mommy, will you stay with me all night?”

Smiling, the mother gave him a warm, reassuring hug and said tenderly, “I can’t, dear. I have to sleep in Daddy’s room.”

A long silence followed. Then the little boy replied with a shaky voice, “The big sissy!”

I can feel that little boy’s pain. I remember very well lying in my bed at night, peeking out from under the covers at the closet where I was certain a boogeyman was hiding. He was just waiting until I went to sleep before he would come out and do terrible things, like mess up my room or play with my toys. I remember always having to sleep with some kind of cover on me, even if it was just the sheet. My thinking was that if I were attacked by someone in the middle of the night, like the guy in my closet after he finished with my toys, the sheet would protect me from harm. Of course, I would never, ever let my hand or foot hang over the edge of the bed as I was lying there. That would have been all the other boogeyman needed—the one who was hiding under my bed. He was lying down there every night just waiting for that hand or that foot to flash for just a split second. He would grab it if I gave him the opportunity, pull me off the bed, and then it would be on. I went over and over in my mind the moves I would put on him if he grabbed me, how I would use the suplex (an offensive move used in both professional and amateur wrestling) or something else I had learned on Mid-Atlantic Wrestling, and that guy would be toast. I was scared to death, but I was not helpless. Chief Wahoo McDaniels and Dusty Rhodes had taught me well.

As I grew older, my fears changed. Now it wasn't the boogeyman that kept me awake at night. I hardly ever thought about him lying in wait under my bed. I knew that if he ever managed to slide out of there, he would be so covered in dust that I would have plenty of time to escape his clutches as he sneezed and wheezed and struggled to breathe. No, my fears as a teen were about tests and papers and sports and girls and fitting in at school. Fast forward twenty-five years, and see Cindy and me as young parents trying to homeschool seven children, all scrambling through the house, and my fears were that I would ruin them or there would be character flaws or educational gaps.

Hit fast forward again and see an older dad and granddad with one high school senior left at home. These days my fears are that I will not finish well, or one of my children will walk away from the Lord, or that I really *have* ruined my kids. Most often, though, I am reminded that the Lord has not given His children "a spirit of fear, but of power and love and self-control." (1Tim. 1:7).

Dr. E. Stanley Jones said, "I am inwardly fashioned for faith, not for fear. Fear is not my native land; faith is. I am so

made that worry and anxiety are sand in the machinery of life; faith is the oil. I live better by faith and confidence than by fear, doubt and anxiety. In anxiety and worry, my being is gasping for breath—these are not my native air. But in faith and confidence, I breathe freely—these are my native air."

Amen! I am breathing more freely all the time.



J. Mark Fox serves Antioch Community Church in Elon. Mark and Cindy have been homeschooling for twenty-eight years and have seven children who are in the process of establishing their own homes or finishing schooling. Mark is the author of Age Integrated Church, published in 2015, that tells the story of how God established Antioch. He is also the author of A Faithful Man: Equipped to Lead as Prophet, Priest, Protector and Provider (2012), and several other books. He is a weekly columnist for the Times-News in Burlington. Mark loves to travel, run and spend time with his family.



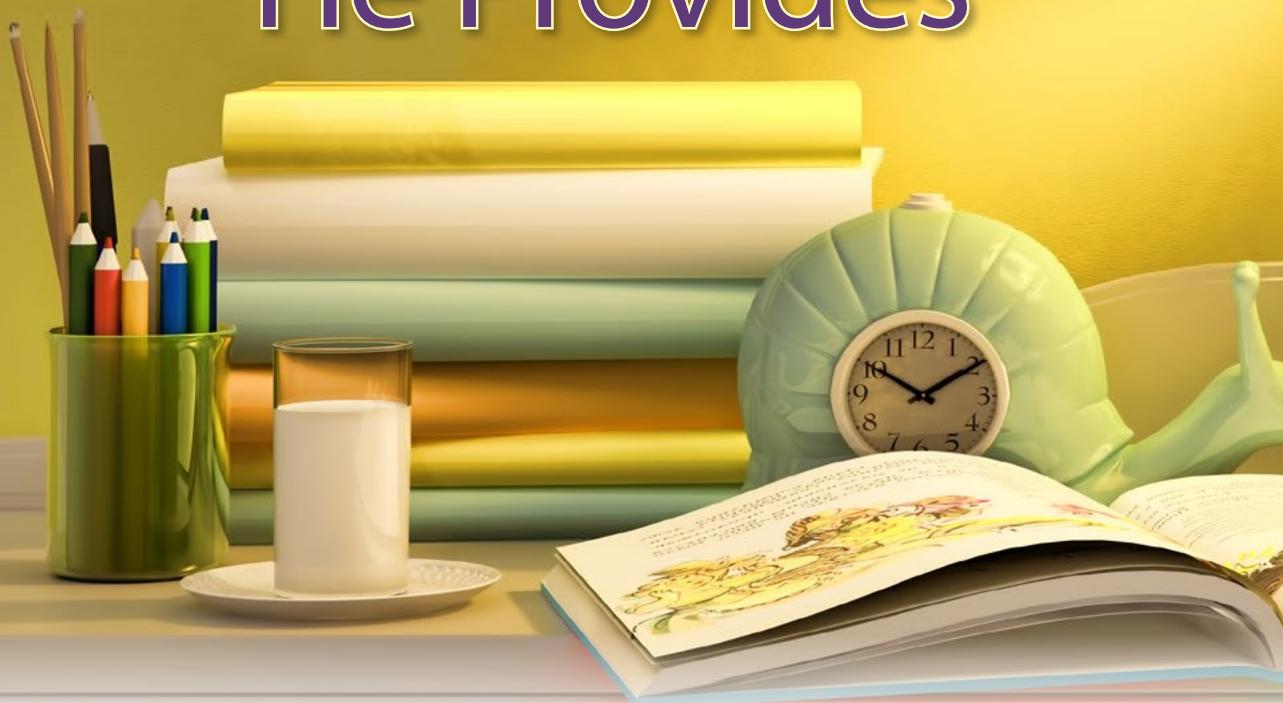
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Where God Guides, He Provides



by Daphne Petrey

When my husband and I discussed having children, we always knew that we would homeschool them. As a child, I had always enjoyed playing school with my dolls and little sister. The opportunity to teach my children at home seemed like a dream, almost too good to be true!

When God laid a children's story on my heart a few years ago, I thought that it was a great idea, and that someone else should write it! After all, I had a long list of reasons why I was not the one to write the story. I am homeschooling three grade levels with totally different learning styles. I am managing our home and am usually the maid, cook, teacher, mother, wife and CFO of our home. Plus, I had no idea how to get published, and self-publishing seemed like a daunting, expensive option.

God has a way of working out the details when He calls you to do something. He would not let this story leave my mind. One wintry January morning, I wrote the entire children's book in about thirty minutes—that was the easy part.

I shared the story with some trusted friends who encouraged me to continue pursuing the publication process. Everywhere I looked, I found the same answer: you will not get published unless you have been published before. Interesting, huh?

I prayed and decided that the daunting, expensive self-publishing route was the one I should take. It probably took me longer than most people to finish the process of publishing the book, as I worked on it only when I had all other areas of my life in good working order, maybe once a week. The Lord provided two dear friends to illustrate the book and design the book cover. It still gives me cold chills (and a super grateful heart) to think of how He provided every single penny I needed for this project!



Why did I write this book?

We are blessed to have three healthy daughters on earth and two sons in heaven. Our first son was stillborn at almost thirty-seven weeks of gestation, and his loss threw a curveball into my world that I had the most difficult time working through. I knew God was good, and His plan was for good, but it did not seem good for my son to die, especially since this son would have been loved and cared for. Nine months later, I lost another son, this time earlier in the pregnancy. Nonetheless, I decided that the one daughter I had at the time was a miracle, and my dreams of having a big family were gone.

After the immediate outpouring of love and casseroles ended, I began to feel all alone. I knew God was with me. I knew He would use all things for His good, but good grief (pun intended), this seemed so difficult. It resembled nothing *good* to me. Following years of grieving, to varying degrees, and accepting God's plan as best, the Lord began to show me how I could love other mothers and families who experience an infant or baby loss.

When He started putting this story in my head, I tried to dismiss it. Hadn't I been through enough? That is when the

Lord said clearly to me, "I will use all things for my glory, if you will let me." Slowly, I gave my loss and my grief back to the Lord and told Him that if He could use it for His glory, and He wanted me to be a voice to encourage other mothers and families who lose a baby, I would be willing.

Over the past two years, the Lord has opened doors for me to encourage other mothers through my book. My prayer now is that the Lord would use this book to help other families to keep their eyes on Him in the midst of the storm of infant loss.

I share my story here to encourage other mothers to be sensitive to the Lord's leading in their lives. If the Lord calls you to do something, He will provide *everything* you need to follow, even while homeschooling.



Daphne Petrey lives in the mountains of North Carolina with her husband, three little ladies and four loud, but lovable beagles. Daphne's self-published book, I Have a Brother—My Brother Is in Heaven, is available on Amazon.com and through her blog, www.carrythemforever.com.



Homeschoolers Win Sportsmanship Award at State Robotics Qualifying Event

In the fall of 2015, homeschool mom Tanya Dickens and her husband, James, started NC Triad Robotics in High Point to encourage their eight-year-old son's growing interest in robotics and other STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) related activities. She recruited a coach who had previously taken his high school robotics team to that program's national finals competition. Initially, they had one team comprised mostly of boys with a handful of girls. After a few weeks, Tanya began thinking about the value of introducing their girls to STEM. She encouraged their two older daughters to try it. At first, they seemed indifferent, but once they saw the robot taking shape and experienced the excitement of their brother and other team members, they were all in. It wasn't until they competed in the 2016 NC VEX IQ State Qualifier in Concord that they truly experienced the excitement and competitiveness of robotics. That experience inspired them to work hard in preparation for the next year's competition.

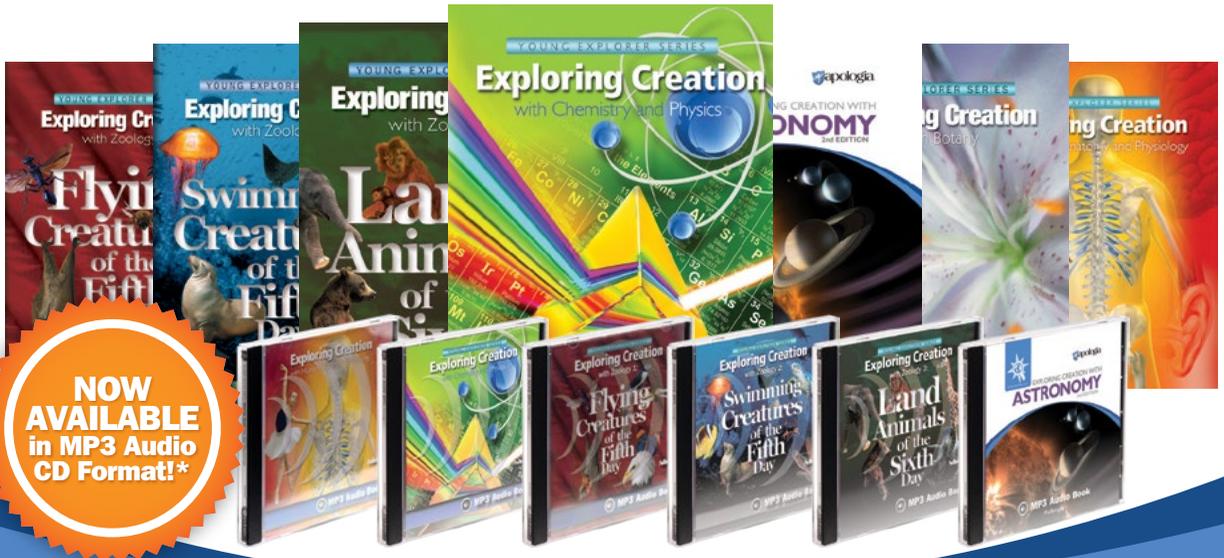
In the 2016-2017 season, NC Triad Robotics grew to have two younger teams and one high school team. Although most of their team members are homeschool students, they welcome public and private school students as well. Tanya's oldest daughter graduated to the high school team this season, and her son and other daughter remained on one of the middle school teams. With a new and more complex robot, the high school team began working on their robot in preparation for the VRC state qualifying competition on January 21, 2017. Thirty-five teams competed at the qualifier, and NC Triad Robotics' high school team won the Sportsmanship Award for their excitement, enthusiasm and spirit of friendly competition and cooperation. Tanya and the team coach are so honored by the way their students represented themselves and their club throughout this grueling ten-hour event.

NC Triad Robotics hosted its very first state-qualifying event on February 4 that included four teams from separate cities in NC. They are amazed by the growth and success of the program in just two short years. If you're interested in finding out more about NC Triad Robotics, you may email Tanya at nctriadrobotics@gmail.com.

Note: Robotics competitions are sponsored by Robotics Education & Competition Foundation. More information on teams and competitions in other areas of the state is available at <https://www.robotevents.com>.



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NCHEAC Volleyball and Soccer Awards Given in Greensboro



Left to Right: Lily Siegel, Lyric Robinson, Harrison Barber, Nathan landoli, Patrick Deaton, Sariah Blanton, and Neva Robinson

In the fall of 2016, North Carolinians for Home Education Athletic Commission (NCHEAC) held the girls volleyball and boys soccer tournaments in Greensboro. Many of the athletes who were given awards at the tournaments were from the Wilmington area and play for the SHS Cardinals homeschool league. The following players from Wilmington received awards

voted on by the coaches in the NCHEAC conference or were given tournament awards: Lily Siegel, all conference; Lyric Robinson, MVP; Nathan landoli, best defensive player; Jared Graves, the team's tournament award; Harrison Barber, all stars; Patrick Deaton, all stars; Sariah Blanton, all conference and Nevaeh Robinson, the team's tournament award.

NCHE sponsors the NCHEAC homeschool sports program. NCHEAC offers many team sporting opportunities for homeschoolers in the state, including basketball, soccer, baseball, volleyball, cross country, swimming, fencing and more. For more information about a league in your area, visit the NCHEAC website at www.ncheac.com or contact Ernie Hodges at sports@nche.com.

Hickory Hawks Become 2016 NACA Champs

The Hickory Hawks football team is proud to announce that they are the National Association of Christian Athletics (NACA) 2016 National Football Champions! The Hawks defeated a team from Alabama 35 to 14. During the tournament, a total of thirty-five boys accepted Jesus as their Lord and Savior. It was definitely a life-changing event for all those who attended.

The Hawks are an independent Christian football team that emphasizes expressing Christian ideals and living in daily life. They play eleven-man high school football and compete with public and private school teams. The Hawks are ranked number two in the nation among homeschool teams, based on Maxpreps rankings, with a 9-4 regular season record. During the regular season, the Hawks defeated the number one homeschool team in the nation, Central Virginia Disciples 24 to 0. The Hawks



are very proud of what their young men accomplished this year and are looking forward to another successful year in 2017.

Offseason workouts are currently underway. To find out more about the Hickory Hawks, follow them on Facebook, or go to www.hickoryhawks.net. 



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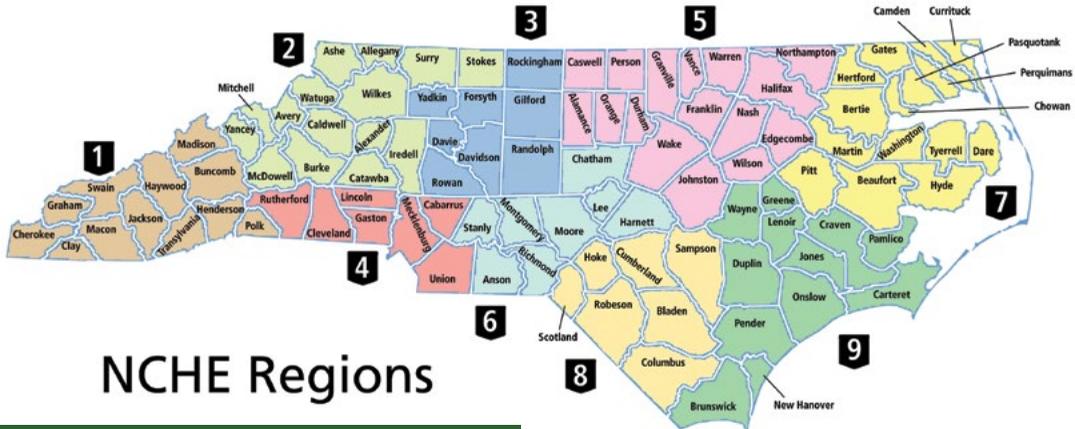


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About NCHE

In 1984, North Carolinians for Home Education was organized by homeschool parents to support and encourage home educators and to achieve the right to freely home educate in North Carolina. Since that time, NCHE has endeavored to serve the homeschoolers in NC. NCHE continues to work to promote the excellence of home education, provide support for those who choose to do so and protect the right to homeschool. Our name was selected so as to include all who are for home education, not just those who are currently homeschooling. NCHE is governed by a working board of directors who volunteer their time and efforts to serve homeschoolers. A non-profit organization, NCHE operates on the basis of biblical principles and welcomes members of all races and religions.

NCHE Membership

Membership in NCHE is available to anyone who supports home education. NC residents who are homeschooling must be in compliance with the NC homeschool law. Membership is obtained by donating any amount to NCHE (suggested donation is \$25). The service of NCHE is made possible by the generous and consistent contributions of its supporters.

GREENHOUSE Information

The GREENHOUSE is the periodical of North Carolinians for Home Education. It is published twice a year, spring and fall. There is also a special graduate publication in May. It is mailed to subscribers and posted online. The name GREENHOUSE was chosen to represent the type of care homeschooling parents are able to give to their children. Children are lovingly "tended" in a protected and nurturing environment until they are sufficiently mature to go out and take a place of service in the world. Letters and articles addressed to the GREENHOUSE become property of NCHE with full right to publication without further permission required. Ideas and opinions expressed in articles do not necessarily represent those of NCHE.

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BULLETIN BOARD

NCHE's Capital Fest 2017 is scheduled for March 7 in the North Carolina Legislative Building. Mark your calendars and plan to attend. This is an opportunity for you and your family to advocate for homeschooling with your elected officials and to learn more about our state government. While you are in Raleigh you will be able to:

- Meet lawmakers from your area
- Introduce your children to your elected officials
- Attend workshops on the three branches of our state government
- Take a tour of the North Carolina State Capitol

For more information, go to <http://nche.com/capital-fest>.



Thrive! The NCHE Homeschool Conference will be May 25-27, 2017, at the M.C. Benton Convention Center in Winston-Salem, NC

GREENHOUSE to all members. NCHE is now mailing GREENHOUSE to all members. There will be three issues a year: Fall, Spring and Graduate.

From our Friends:

Catawba Valley Homeschool Prom 2017 announces Carnival, the Greatest Prom on Earth, held on Friday, May 5, at the Warehouse 18 in downtown Hickory. The ticket deadline is April 21. See our website at www.cvhsp.weebly.com for more details.

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