

Christian Education

2 Timothy 1:3–7 (NIV)

Barry Johnson, Sr.

Church of Christ, Brookfield
Sermon Outline
Sunday, June 28, 2015

Christian Education

2 Timothy 1:3–7 (NIV)

3 I thank God, whom I serve, as my ancestors did, with a clear conscience, as night and day I constantly remember you in my prayers. 4 Recalling your tears, I long to see you, so that I may be filled with joy. 5 I am reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also.

6 For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. 7 For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline.

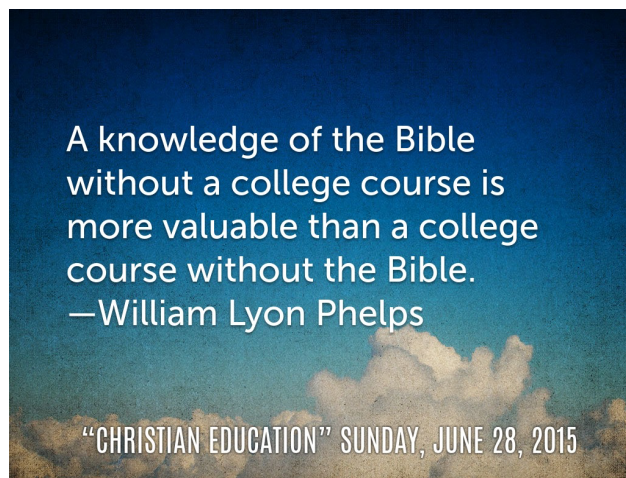
Thesis:

We need a unique and continued education that will bear out our Christianity.

Objectives:

- I. How we get it
- II. Why we need it
- III. What it does for us

Introduction:



Start Them Early

After a lecture by the late Chicago educator, Francis Way-land Parker, a woman asked: "How early can I begin the education of my child?"

"When will your child be born?" asked Parker.

"Born?" she replied. "Why, he is already five years old!"

"My goodness, woman," he cried, "don't stand here talking to me—hurry home; already you

have lost the best five years!”¹

Is there anyone here this morning who has had a difficult time teaching something to someone that you thought of as valuable?

Has anyone here ever taught something to someone who was eager and excited to learn?

What a difference the two can be. Given the opportunity my choice would be to teach the sponge and not the rock. I would hope that we could be enthusiastic about Christian Education in all its forms by which we could get it. By all means make sure you get it.

¹ Jones, G. C. (1986). *1000 illustrations for preaching and teaching* (pp. 113–114). Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman Publishers.

Sermon Outline:

I. How we get it

A. From the Home

1. Note where Timothy began his Christian Education

2 Timothy 1:5 (NIV)

⁵I am reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also.

2. In the home is where Christian education should begin; however it should not stop there.

Deuteronomy 11:18–21 (NIV)

¹⁸Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds; tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. ¹⁹Teach them to your children, talking about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. ²⁰Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates, ²¹so that your days and the days of your children may be many in the land the LORD swore to give your ancestors, as many as the days that the heavens are above the earth.

B. From Institutions

1. Schools can be a wonderful addition to our Christian Education.
 - a. We must realize more than a Christian Education will take place there. ABC's, Math, English and other subjects need to be taught as well.
 - b. Additionally social behaviors are taught from the lectern as well as from being in school. Friends and associates will teach you lessons as well.
2. Church as an institution should certainly give you a Christian Education. Sadly many see this as optional and do not take advantage of the vital teachings of the Church.
3. Many churches do more teaching on their own doctrinal creeds than teach from the Bible. We must be aware.

C. From Conferences

1. Another under utilized means for gaining Christian Education and sound doctrine.

2. Conferences are an excellent means of encouragement and enlightenment. One must consider continuing their education. We must evolve and mature in the faith.
3. Polishing the Pulpit is perhaps the greatest means we have for good strong and sound teaching in the faith. It encourages me greatly and fills my heart with joy. My enthusiasm for this particular conference should be apparent. I often feel like Jeremiah...

Jeremiah 20:7–9 (NIV)

⁷You deceived me, LORD, and I was deceived; you overpowered me and prevailed. I am ridiculed all day long; everyone mocks me. ⁸Whenever I speak, I cry out proclaiming violence and destruction. So the word of the LORD has brought me insult and reproach all day long. ⁹But if I say, “I will not mention his word or speak anymore in his name,” his word is in my heart like a fire, a fire shut up in my bones. I am weary of holding it in; indeed, I cannot.

4. I would hope that we would put all these methods to use as they become available to us.

II. Why we need it

A. It is not our second nature

1. Brother Tony Padgett will speak to our “Two Dilemmas” tonight

Galatians 5:16–17 (NIV)

¹⁶So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want.

2. Our ability to walk in the Spirit is directly proportionate with our knowledge and wisdom in God’s Word. In short our Christian Education.

B. Teaches us how to live life

2 Peter 1:3 (NIV)

³His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness.

C. We are lost without it

Deuteronomy 30:15–16 (NIV)

¹⁵ See, I set before you today life and prosperity, death and destruction. ¹⁶ For I command you today to love the LORD your God, to walk in obedience to him, and to keep his commands, decrees and laws; then you will live and increase, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land you are entering to possess.

John 6:63 (NIV)

⁶³ **The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you—they are full of the Spirit and life.**

John 6:68 (NIV)

⁶⁸ Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.

D. Christian Education, we must get it and we must live it.

III. What it does for us

A. Makes us better

1. People
2. Family members
3. Spouses
4. Employees/Employers
5. Brothers and Sisters in Christ

B. Encourages us in the right way to go

Psalms 143:8 (NIV)

⁸ Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love, for I have put my trust in you. Show me the way I should go, for to you I entrust my life.

C. So much that is wrong in this world is the direct result of the pursuit of commerce.

1 Timothy 6:3–10 (NIV)

³ If anyone teaches otherwise and does not agree to the sound instruction of our Lord Jesus Christ and to godly teaching, ⁴ they are conceited and understand nothing. They have an unhealthy interest in controversies and quarrels about words that result in envy, strife, malicious talk, evil suspicions ⁵ and constant friction between people of corrupt

mind, who have been robbed of the truth and who think that godliness is a means to financial gain.

⁶ But godliness with contentment is great gain. ⁷ For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. ⁸ But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. ⁹ Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰ For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

D. Christian education equips us to understand things as they are.

Isaiah 5:20 (NIV)

²⁰ Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter.

E. We above all people should know better.

F. Makes us rich

1. Most consider worldly wealth as a means of measurement of God's grace. It is not...the parable of the rich fool ends badly...who will get your riches?

Luke 12:21 (NIV)

²¹ "This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God."

Matthew 6:19–20 (NIV)

¹⁹ "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. ²⁰ But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal.

2. Christian Education gives us much that we need to pursue.

Conclusion

From the home, school or institutions we should pursue Christian Education where we can. A knowledge that comes from God will allow us to make better decisions in life. A Godly education that causes us to be better people; friends; family members; spouses; co-workers; brothers and sisters in Christ. No other teaching will make one approved of God, we must study it to show our selves approved.

2 Timothy 2:14–19 (NIV)

¹⁴Keep reminding God's people of these things. Warn them before God against quarreling about words; it is of no value, and only ruins those who listen. ¹⁵Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth. ¹⁶Avoid godless chatter, because those who indulge in it will become more and more ungodly. ¹⁷Their teaching will spread like gangrene. Among them are Hymenaeus and Philetus, ¹⁸who have departed from the truth. They say that the resurrection has already taken place, and they destroy the faith of some. ¹⁹Nevertheless, God's solid foundation stands firm, sealed with this inscription: "The Lord knows those who are his," and, "Everyone who confesses the name of the Lord must turn away from wickedness."

Invitation:

Romans 10:17 (NIV)

¹⁷Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ.

Hebrews 11:6 (NIV)

⁶And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

Luke 13:3 (NIV)

³ **I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish.**

Romans 10:9–10 (NIV)

⁹If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.

Acts 2:38 (NIV)

³⁸Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Revelation 2:10 (NIV)

¹⁰ **Do not be afraid of what you are about to suffer. I tell you, the devil will put some of you in prison to test you, and you will suffer persecution for ten days. Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you life as your victor’s crown.**