

GENESIS *of a* LEGACY

PARTICIPANT
WORKBOOK

BASED ON THE WRITINGS AND VIDEO PRESENTATIONS OF
KEN HAM & STEVE HAM

COMPILED BY STACIA MCKEEVER

Copyright © 2006 Answers in Genesis. All rights reserved.

ISBN: 1-893345-92-0

Cover design: Brandie Lucas

Interior layout: Diane King

Project coordinator: Stacia McKeever

Editors: Melinda Christian, Irene Lewis, Gary Vaterlaus

Printed in the United States of America

Scripture quotations marked “NKJV” are taken from the New King James Version®. Copyright © 1982 by Tomas Nelson, Inc. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Scripture quotations marked “NASB” are taken from the NEW AMERICAN STANDARD BIBLE®, Copyright © 1960,1962,1963,1968,1971,1972,1973,1975,1977,1995 by The Lockman Foundation. Used by permission.

Scripture quotations marked “NIV” are taken from the HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984 International Bible Society. Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved. The “NIV” and “New International Version” trademarks are registered in the United States Patent and Trademark Office by International Bible Society. Use of either trademark requires the permission of International Bible Society.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION: GENESIS <i>of a</i> LEGACY	7
Class Requirements	8
About the <i>Genesis of a Legacy</i> Curriculum and Book	8
SESSION 1 THE GENESIS FAMILY	9
Overview	9
Getting Started	9
<i>The Genesis Family</i> video outline	10
Bringing It Home	12
Homework	14
For More Information	15
SESSION 2 THE GENESIS OF A WORLDVIEW	17
Overview	17
Getting Started	18
<i>The Genesis of a Worldview</i> video outline	18
Bringing It Home	21
Homework	23
For More Information	24
SESSION 3 VEGEMITE KIDS	27
Overview	27
Getting Started	27
<i>Vegemite Kids</i> video outline	28
Bringing It Home	32
Frequently Asked Question	33
Homework	33
For More Information	34

GENESIS *of a* LEGACY

SESSION 4	GOD-GIVEN ROLES IN MARRIAGE	35
	Overview	35
	Getting Started.....	35
	Lesson.....	35
	Bringing It Home	37
	Frequently Asked Questions	38
	Homework	39
	For More Information	41
SESSION 5	GOD-GIVEN ROLES IN THE FAMILY	43
	Overview	43
	Getting Started.....	43
	Lesson.....	44
	Bringing It Home	45
	Frequently Asked Question	46
	Homework	46
	For More Information	46
SESSION 6	DISCIPLINE: PRODUCING A HARVEST OF PEACE AND RIGHTEOUSNESS	49
	Overview	49
	Getting Started.....	49
	Lesson.....	50
	Bringing It Home	54
	Frequently Asked Questions	55
	Homework	56
	For More Information	57
SESSION 7	COMMUNICATING BIBLICALLY WITH YOUR CHILDREN	59
	Overview	59
	Getting Started.....	59
	Lesson.....	60
	Bringing It Home	62
	Homework	64
	For More Information	64
SESSION 8	GROWING A GODLY HERITAGE	67
	Overview	67
	Getting Started.....	67
	<i>Growing a Godly Heritage</i> video outline	68

	Bringing It Home	69
	Homework	72
	For More Information	72
SESSION 9	THE FAMILY FORTRESS	73
	Overview	73
	Getting Started.....	73
	<i>The Family Fortress</i> video outline	74
	Bringing It Home	75
	Homework	78
	For More Information	80
SESSION 10	DEVELOPING A BIBLICAL MINDSET ABOUT MONEY AND POSSESSIONS	83
	Overview	83
	Getting Started.....	83
	Lesson.....	84
	Bringing It Home	88
	Homework	96
	For More Information	97
SESSION 11	PARENTING PRACTICES	99
	Overview	99
	Getting Started.....	99
	<i>Parenting Practices</i> video outline	99
	Bringing It Home	101
	Homework	103
	For more information	104

INTRODUCTION

GENESIS *of a* LEGACY

The Psalmist, guided by the Holy Spirit, wrote in Psalm 127:3–5 (NASB):

Behold, children are a gift of the LORD,
The fruit of the womb is a reward.

Like arrows in the hand of a warrior,
So are the children of one's youth.

How blessed is the man whose quiver is full of them;
They will not be ashamed
When they speak with their enemies in the gate.

Truly, children are a blessing and gift from the Lord and a source of great joy to parents. Yet children can also be the cause of great heartache to many parents. We see disobedient children throwing temper tantrums in the supermarket. Schools are filled with wild and unruly students. Increasingly, even children of Christian parents are “leaving the fold” once they graduate and head off on their own.

While each individual child is responsible for his decisions and behavior before the Lord, the Bible is full of commands to parents regarding how they should train up their children and warnings of what will happen if they do not fulfill the instructions of the Creator. With this curriculum, our desire is not to merely provide “how-to” instructions on child-rearing, but rather to exhort parents to understand that raising their children is their *ministry*, not merely another job on their list of things to do. Parents who instill in their families a love for the Lord are, in effect, carrying out the Great Commission given to us by our Lord and Savior (Matthew 28:19–20). Truly, raising godly children is one of the means by which our Creator enables us to fulfill this command.

The Lord has promised to give us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of Him who called us to eternal life (2 Peter 1:3). Although each child is unique and individual circumstances vary greatly, God has promised that His

GENESIS *of a* LEGACY

INTRODUCTION

Word is profitable for teaching, reproof, correction and training in righteousness so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work (2 Timothy 3:16–17).

Throughout this course we'll be discussing what the Bible—the Word of the One who created us and called us to eternal life—teaches about raising children to be godly. We'll be addressing questions such as the following:

- ✦ What is my goal in raising my children?
- ✦ How can I make the Bible “real” to my children?
- ✦ What does the Bible say about my role in my family?
- ✦ What does the Bible say about discipline?
- ✦ How do I know God's Word is an all-sufficient parenting guide?
- ✦ How can I effectively communicate the truths of Scripture to my children?
- ✦ What are my educational choices?
- ✦ What should I teach my children about being wise stewards of their possessions?

Over the next 11 weeks, Ken Ham (president and CEO of *Answers in Genesis*) and his younger brother Stephen Ham will be our guides as we discover that the genesis of the legacy we leave for our children begins as we love the Lord and accept His Word as our authority, committing to use it to guide us in all areas of our lives.

Class Requirements

For each lesson, you will need:

- ✦ Participant worksheets (which feature the lesson outline, discussion questions, homework and list of suggested resources)
- ✦ Bible
- ✦ Writing tool

About the *Genesis of a Legacy* Curriculum and Book

The *Genesis of a Legacy* curriculum is based on the DVDs featuring Ken Ham and Steve Ham. Their same-titled book (not included with the curriculum, but available at AnswersBookstore.com) adds an historical perspective to this topic as they address in more detail the legacy their father left them and their siblings.

SESSION 7

COMMUNICATING BIBLICALLY WITH YOUR CHILDREN

Overview

In the previous lesson, we discussed the importance of lovingly disciplining our children as we bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. An important aspect of loving discipline is communicating to our children what they have done wrong and how they can correct it. However, communicating the truths of Scripture with our children should not be limited to the discipline process, but should pervade every area of our lives as we seek to develop in them a love for God and His Word.

During this session, we will be discussing various aspects of how the Creator wants us to share His truth with our children (and others!). We will look at some of the defining characteristics of communication that honor the Lord and discuss the importance of using biblical terminology to define and correct sinful patterns of behavior. We will be challenging the participants to evaluate their current communication practices and encouraging them to conform to what the Lord desires of us.

Getting Started

In this session, we'll be looking at what the Bible says about communicating in a way that honors the Lord and applying this to how we train our children. First, however, let's consider a few examples of how people can communicate.

1. Have you ever experienced a parent belittling or screaming at their child in public, such as in the grocery store? What went through your mind at the time? How did it make you feel to watch the situation?

GENESIS *of a* LEGACY

COMMUNICATING BIBLICALLY WITH YOUR CHILDREN

2. Suppose your six-year-old son is constantly pushing his younger sister. What is the difference between saying “Well, boys will be boys” and saying he has a problem with a “violent spirit”?

Lesson

A. How to communicate

1. Use gentleness, sweetness of speech

Galatians 5:25–6:4 and Proverbs 16:21 (Ephesians 4:29; Colossians 4:6; 1 Corinthians 13:4–7)

What are some such sinful patterns of speech that we can exhibit?

James 1:20

Fruit-bearing children are not grown from the fertilizer of fearing angry, vindictive parents.

2. Use both reproof and encouragement

1 Thessalonians 2:11–12 and 1 Thessalonians 5:11 (Romans 1:8; Philippians 1:3–5)

3. Listen and observe

James 1:19–20 (Proverbs 10:19, 18:13)

B. Where and when to communicate: The Deuteronomy 6 principle

Deuteronomy 6:4–9

How can we keep the commands of Christ as part of our discussion throughout the day?

C. What to communicate: Using biblical vocabulary

2 Timothy 3:16 (Psalm 19:7–11)

Define the problem biblically:

- ✦ Is the exhibited behavior symptomatic of a particular sin?
- ✦ Is there a biblical synonym that I can look up in a concordance?

Training our minds (and our children's minds) to think in biblical terms also protects us from being deceived by euphemisms¹ that distort biblical truth. For example, pride (Proverbs 11:2) is called "self-esteem;" Someone is "blunt; forthright; tell-it-like-it-is" instead of guilty of "harsh words" (Proverbs 15:1).

Ephesians 4:22–25 (Colossians 3:8–12)

The Bible speaks of the Christian walk in terms of "putting off" the old nature and "putting on" the new nature.

¹ "Euphemism" is the substitution of a milder term to replace one that might be considered offensive. At times, this can help us be gentle in our speech. However, more often than not they are used to mislead ("used cars" are "pre-owned cars"; abortion advocates are "pro-choice.")

GENESIS *of a* LEGACY

COMMUNICATING BIBLICALLY WITH YOUR CHILDREN

D. Why we need to use biblical vocabulary

John 17:17 and 2 Timothy 3:15–17 (Hebrews 4:12; 1 Peter 1:23)

Galatians 5:13–18 and 1 John 5:2–4 (Joshua 22:4–6; Psalm 119:167; John 14:15; Colossians 3:15–17)

The godly man does not arrive at spiritual maturity instantaneously. It is a lifelong process, but **every stage of that growth must come from the Word.**² (emphasis added)

Bringing It Home

1. Let's apply what we've been learning above to a hypothetical situation where your child is whining. Think of a situation which might incite whining.

What is the biblical terminology for the child's behavior?

What are some relevant verses?

How would you communicate to your child what he has done wrong?

² Dr. Henry Morris, *Treasures in the Psalms*, Master Books, 2000, p. 118.

GENESIS *of a* LEGACY

COMMUNICATING BIBLICALLY WITH YOUR CHILDREN

2. Your child does not obey your command to clean his room. Name a biblical way and an unbiblical way you might respond.

3. Around the dinner table with your family, you are discussing a decision at work that you disagree with. Name a biblical way and an unbiblical way you might converse.

4. Choose a few of the following experiences that might be common to your everyday life and brainstorm ways to apply the “Deuteronomy 6” principle.
 - Gardening
 - Mowing the grass
 - Passing by a homeless shelter
 - Grocery shopping
 - When something breaks
 - Overhearing a harsh conversation

5. The chart at the end of this session contains a number of specific manifestations of problems you may have with your children. Try to define them biblically, name the “put on” alternative, and list some relevant Scripture references. You can do some during this session, and complete the chart (and add more) for homework.

GENESIS *of a* LEGACY

COMMUNICATING BIBLICALLY WITH YOUR CHILDREN

Homework

1. Review the verses included in the lesson that you did not have time to read during class. Write down the principles in each one and indicate how you might apply them in your parenting.
2. For each of your children, list three qualities for which you can praise them. Define the qualities biblically, make note of the Bible references that highlight these qualities, and describe specifically how your child is being obedient to them. Make plans to communicate this praise to them. Pray with your children, asking the Lord to continue developing these characteristics in their lives. Every few months, review this list and revise as needed.
3. For each of your children, list three qualities with which they are struggling. Define the qualities biblically, make note of the Bible references that highlight these qualities, and describe specifically how your child is being disobedient to God's commands. Plan to share this with them the next time they exhibit this behavior during your discipline session. Pray with your children, asking the Lord to help them to change in these areas. Every few months, review this list and revise as needed.
4. Continue working on drafting a family mission statement that will help you and your spouse to parent your children. What does the Creator want for your children? What verses can you use to guide you?

For More Information

- ✦ *Shepherding a Child's Heart* by Tedd Tripp
The things your child does and says flow from the heart (Luke 6:45). Written for parents with children of any age, this insightful book provides perspectives and procedures for shepherding your child's heart into the paths of life.
- ✦ "Don't Make Me Count to Three!" by Ginger Plowman
Do you find yourself threatening, repeating your instructions or raising your voice in an attempt to get your children to obey? Are you discouraged because it seems you just can't reach the heart of your child? Through personal experience and practical application of Scripture, Ginger Plowman helps moms move beyond the frustrations of not knowing how to handle issues of disobedience and into a confident, well-balanced approach to raising their children.
- ✦ *Age of Opportunity: A Biblical Guide to Parenting Teens* by Paul Tripp
From the argument over the last donut, to the cry of "nothing to wear" a half-hour before school, Paul Tripp uncovers the heart issues affecting parents and

their teenagers during the often chaotic adolescent years. He shows parents how to seize the countless opportunities to deepen communication, learn and grow with their teenagers.

- ✦ *Teach Them Diligently: How to Use the Scriptures in Child Training* by Lou Priolo

With all of your training, do you really know how to use the Bible for doctrine, reproof, correction and instruction in righteousness with your children? If you don't, this little book will augment and strengthen your parenting skills as you learn how to use the Scriptures more thoroughly and effectively in your child training.

- ✦ *Everyday Talk—Talking Freely and Naturally about God with Your Children* by John A. Younts

This book offers practical, creative ways to carry out the Deuteronomy 6 principle. Learn how to use ordinary conversations to show your kids the goodness and wisdom of God.

- ✦ *Wisdom for Today's Issues: A Topical Arrangement of the Proverbs* by Stephen Voorwinde

Finding all that the Proverbs say on any given topic can be difficult. Yet nothing is more relevant to the issues of our day, and nothing is more needed in an aimless society, than the divinely inspired Proverbs. This handbook is designed to make the Proverbs more accessible to readers today. Every verse in Proverbs is categorized and printed in full for quick reference.

- ✦ *The Young Peacemaker* by Corlette Sande

This curriculum (which features a leader's guide and student activity books) teaches students to respond to conflict God's way.

GENESIS *of a* LEGACY

COMMUNICATING BIBLICALLY WITH YOUR CHILDREN

Behavior	Biblical characteristic to “put off”	Biblical characteristic to “put on”	Relevant verses
Fights with a sibling over a toy	Selfishness	Counting others more important than self	Philippians 2:3–4; Proverbs 11:24–25; Romans 12:20–21; James 3:13–18; 1 Peter 4:9–11
Refuses to take a bath	Stubborn; insubordinate	Respectful; obedient; submissive	
Room is constantly messy	Laziness, sluggardness, slothfulness		
Cries when you turn out the lights			
Consistently fails to say “thank you”			
Makes fun of a sibling when that sibling fails			
Does not ever want to stop playing video games			
Consistently provokes a sibling			
Constantly requests something new to do			