

The Adventist Home Educator Newsletter

Encouragement for Seventh-day
Adventist Homeschoolers

September 2011, Issue 156

If You Knew When Jesus Was Coming...

If you knew Jesus was coming next year, would you change the way you are living? Many of you might answer, "Of course, that's why we're homeschooling." If you knew Jesus was coming next week, would your homeschool change?

I once had an Academy teacher who approached this subject with us during class. I don't recall which class it was, I am guessing it was Physics, as we were talking about how time can be relative. The just of the spiritual thought he brought out to us was that Jesus is coming SOON, for everyone. If you are older and near the end of your years, your days are numbered and preparation for Jesus to come should be on your mind. Many of us would agree with this thought. However, many of us live like Jesus is coming, but we can get ready later... Later when we are old.

The sad thing is, none us know when Jesus is coming. Many of us will be lost because we are not prepared, because we delayed thinking we had more time. Do we do this in our homeschool? Continuing with my teacher's thought on time being relevant is this, what happens if tomorrow is the last day you have to impress upon your child the love of Jesus and show His light in your life? We don't know what tomorrow holds. A parent could be lost in a horrible accident, or learn they have a fatal disease. A child could be lost in a fatal accident or be stricken by illness that leaves them too weak to learn or sometimes even to listen. Time is unknown. If your child died tomorrow, the next thing they would see is Jesus coming again. Is your child ready to meet Jesus? Are you?

I am almost positive many of us want to say that we've got our priorities straight and that we're using the best of the materials we can find that match our children's learning styles and more. However, time sometimes gets away from us and our schedules slip. We wake up late and skip family worship. We get distracted mid-day and are content that we got "most of our school done", which for some means they are happy to get the kids out of their hair, so they can focus on other things they would prefer to be doing. Perhaps we are so busy running here and there that the house is a mess and there is no real time or plan to clean it up. Perhaps we've created a wonderful academic program for our children that it consumes much of our days, so that we cannot take time for self-directed Bible study or allow our children the same, because we couldn't possibly get it all done. Sometimes in an effort to steer our children correctly, we treat them roughly, we scowl or sneer, we demand that they finish their work and stop their whining, without praying first to let the Holy Spirit guide us in dealing with a difficult child. Sometimes we may even act as if teaching them was the biggest burden of our day.

How is your homeschool? Do you need to make changes? Jesus is coming soon!

AHE NEWS

- Check out the website. Our page, SDA Homeschooler's Online has received a lot of visits lately. If you have a website or blog you would like to add, please share!
- A NEW home for the AHE Blog. To save on costs, and allow you less internet hopping, we have moved the blog over onto the AHE website. The old blog address will work for a while, but updating your bookmarks would be helpful as it will no longer work when we cease to renew that address.
<http://adventisthomeducator.org>
- Look in the newsletter for information on the ART Contest going on right now!



Help Wanted:

- Blog posts on true education, service, work, nature study, devotional thoughts, a favorite quote, etc. Please submit your blog post for review to: adventisthomeducator@gmail.com
- Computer Art: various projects, contact AHE for details. adventisthomeducator@gmail.com
- If you have a special talent you would like to share with AHE, please contact Melissa at: adventisthomeducator@gmail.com
- The AHE Study Group is looking for a moderator for the Education Study.

"But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Take heed, watch and pray; for you do not know when the time is."

Mark 13:32, 33

Train Up a Child: Infancy to Early Childhood, part 3

By Melissa in Iowa

The early childhood years are wonderful years to mold our children. It is a time of deliberate training. The early years are times when our kids are sponges; they absorb so much information. It is also a time of freedom in their life. They are free to learn many things, if only we take the time to teach them. There is no better time to impress children with character training and teaching them of their loving Creator God. There is no other time in life when they will have so much time dedicated to this type of training that isn't crowded out by school/studies, friends, relatives, jobs, personal interests, etc. These early years are precious years when children look up to their parents and seem to literally eat every word that is shared with them. We need to take advantage of this time in their life and not just wade through it thinking we have time, but rather teach, train and mold our children for God.

So, as we have been discussing, if we are not teaching them to read or to write, what are we doing? We are teaching them about Jesus. We are teaching our children about their bodies, how to eat correctly, how to take care of our bodies through the laws of health that we have learned. We don't have to sit down to do that; this should be a natural training during meal times and bed times, exercise and work. We are also teaching them how to relate to others by how we relate to them. We are teaching them about how to care for a home. We are molding their characters day by day, minute by minute. As you can see, there is much to fill up our days in training up our little ones.

Because many of us have different backgrounds and cultures, we will not be pulling from a full pot of knowledge. Try as we might to mold the perfect little child, we soon learn of areas that need attention by watching the actions of our little ones. If we do not have a well read background in many areas, we will soon learn we have need of training ourselves before we can train our children. Sometimes, too, we will find that we cannot find answers to our questions (through books, internet, friends and family) and we will need to be faithful in turning to Jesus (through study and prayer) each and every morning to have the strength and gain new understanding of His ways, so that we can train our children to His glory and in line of His plans for the ones He has given us to raise up in Him.

To follow are some resources that you may find helpful in raising your child, training that is specific in different areas that are well in line with true education and following God's plan for raising these precious little ones. Remember to pray over the resources as you learn about them, determine if they are a good fit for your family and lifestyle. Also judge them according to God's word and His counsel.

Parent Resources:

The Holy Bible

The Adventist Home by Ellen White

Child Guidance by Ellen White

Better Late Than Early by Dorothy and Raymond Moore (out of print, look for it in used book sites or find a pdf of the book at www.moorehomeschool.com).

The 3 R's by Ruth Beechick

Character Building Resources:

Ladder of Life Series

Miss Brenda's Bedtime Stories by Brenda Walsh

Uncle Arthur's Bedtime Stories

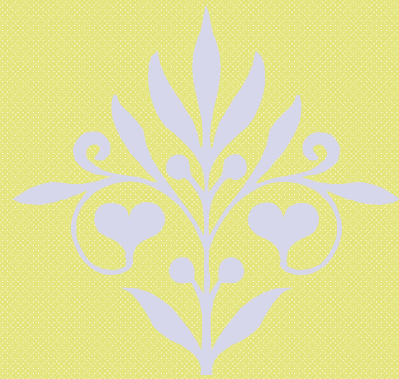
Teaching About God:

God, Creation, and Me by Joan Summers

Morning Time Devotions by Janice Smith

Forever Stories, 5 volume set (great as a read aloud)

My Bible Friends, 5 volume set (ages 1-8)



“The early training of children is a subject that all should carefully study. We need to make the education of our children a business, for their salvation depends largely upon the education given them in childhood. Parents and guardians must themselves maintain purity of heart and life, if they desire their children to be pure. As fathers and mothers, we should train and discipline ourselves. Then as teachers in the home, we can train our children, preparing them for the immortal inheritance.” {CG 27.1}

“Your children are God's property, bought with a price. Be very particular, O fathers and mothers, to treat them in a Christlike manner.” {CG 27.2}



Share with us Upcoming Events that would be of interest for other SDA homeschoolers.

Reflection: A Shepherd's View

By Steve in Iowa

Editor's note: I'm thrilled to have my husband join in sharing. I love it when he shares his insights with me, and glad he was willing to let me share them with you.

I often have opportunity to reflect on how much sheep are like people as to go about my daily chores on the farm. I was in the barn today sorting out our 95 ewes into 4 breeding groups. As I sorted the ewes into their respected pens I have to laugh at how patient God must have to be with us. As I try to crowd them into the sorting chute, all they need to do is just walk though and with a little guidance from me, and the girls, to go to 1 of 4 respective pens and wait for me to move them to the trailer and off to their new green pasture. But, no.

At first they will go to the chute and a few will go though without any guidance. They will go to their pen and await their fate that I choose. About ½ of them will balk and not want to go down the chute but with a swat on the rump they will follow the one in front and go where they are guided to go. But there is always a handful that absolutely refuses to submit and go where they are asked to go, they will stop, backup, twist in the chute and get turned around to the point they get stuck and cannot move without my intervention. After pushing and turning and pulling, they will finally get turned around and run down the line only to jump over the gate into the wrong pen, so intent in getting away from me that they will run past the open gate and jump into the wrong pen. Now I have to climb into that pen and wrestle them a 3rd time and get them moved to the correct pen. Once they are there they will turn and look at me with that look of, "Oh, this is where I was going? It's not so bad." I think to myself, "All that work and all you had to do is follow my simple instructions and this would have been done with 15 minutes ago".

Then it hits me right between the eyes...God compares us to sheep and I see it right in front of me! He says to come follow me and I'll take you to the green pastures, I'll give you fresh water, I will take care of you. Just trust me and what I'm doing for you and it will be okay. But, we fight and resist the simple urges of our Shepherd and think we can do it better our way, and we will inevitably get stuck in the chute. God will calmly (unlike me sometimes) get us unstuck, yet then we run away crazy and get into more trouble jumping into the wrong pen. Again God will sort us out of that worldly pen and get us in the right one. ... And when we get in there we say, "Oh, this is where you wanted me? It's pretty nice here."

I sometimes ask myself, with all the frustration that comes in working with sheep "Why do I do it? Why not just get rid of them and doing something else with my time?" ...I sure am glad our Heavenly Father has never asked Himself that same question.

¹ "The LORD is my shepherd;

I shall not want.

² He makes me to lie down in green pastures;

He leads me beside the still waters.

³ He restores my soul;

He leads me in the paths of righteousness

For His name's sake."

Psalm 23:1-3

NOTICE: We are looking for a new moderator for our "Education" study group. We thank Eve for getting us started! However, she requested to step down. If you are interested in helping with the message board, please contact us at adventisthomeducator@gmail.com



Unit Study Project for

July - September

Autumn

(yes, the season...can be anything related to fall...holidays, activities, harvest, etc.)

I will begin to compile the Autumn unit study this month, there is still a little time to add your ideas. (I have not received many as of yet.)

Submit ideas to the AHE email list or to our email:
adventisthomeducator@gmail.com

Visit our website for more details.

<http://>

adventisthomeducator.org/ahe-resources/unit-study-projects/

AHE Study Board

Education by Ellen White

We're on ch. 6 of 35

Join Us!

<http://aheboards.forumotion.com>

AHE ART Contest

We are going to host a fundraiser for AHE, so that we can continue to offer the free resources that we share with you. We will be selling some bags and t-shirts with a designed logo for the 2011-2012 school year. To do this, we need your help!

ART CONTEST!!!



We will be accepting designs created from moms, kids, dads (grandparents, etc...) from families that are currently homeschooling.

The design can be anything related to homeschooling, it doesn't HAVE to be related to AHE.

The design should have a place for 2011-2012 dates on it somewhere, although it doesn't need to be prominent. *If not included in the design itself, it can be included in a tagline below the design such as "2011-2012 design by "Robbie", homeschooler".

The selected design will receive a free bag or t-shirt!

Deadline for submissions: SEPTEMBER 29th, 2011

Submit your art to: adventisthomeducator@gmail.com

Have FUN with this!!! 😊



From the Pen of Inspiration...

"The work of the parent is seldom done as it should be. . . . Parents, have you studied parental government that you may wisely train the will and impulse of your children? Teach the young tendrils to entwine about God for support. It is not enough that you say, Do this, or, Do that, and then become utterly regardless and forgetful of what you have required, and the children are not careful to do your commands. Prepare the way for your child to obey your commands cheerfully; teach the tendrils to cling to Jesus. . . . Teach them to ask the Lord to help them in the little things of life; to be wide awake to see the small duties which need to be done; to be helpful in the home. If you do not educate them, there is one who will, for Satan is watching his opportunity to sow the seeds of tares in the heart." CG 31.1

The first work to be done in a Christian home is to see that the Spirit of Christ abides there, that every member of the household may be able to take his cross and follow where Jesus leads the way. {AH 20.1}

Did you see this AHE blog post?

Free SDA Resources
To Use In Your Homeschool

[http://
adventisthomeducator.org/2011/09/15/free-sda-resources-to-use-in-your-homeschool/](http://adventisthomeducator.org/2011/09/15/free-sda-resources-to-use-in-your-homeschool/)

You can subscribe to the blog and automatically get updates on new posts.

Links

<http://www.moorehomeschool.com/>

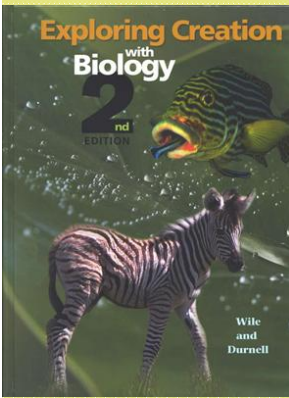
Dennis, son of the late Moore's, is working in collaboration to bring the Moore's books out in eBook form and selling what's left of the stock of the books in print. Reduced retail prices.

<http://www.sonlighteducation.com/news.html>

SonLight Education Ministry now has year one of their materials on a torrent file for you to download for free.

Book Review: Exploring Creation with Biology- Apologia

By Rosario, CA



Book Rating: 5
Author: Jay Wile Edition: 2nd Edition
Grade level: High School
Consumable: No

The book is moderately priced considering that it also requires the test booklet and the solution manual which contains solutions to the tests, study guides, and the module summary. A microscope, slides and dissection equipment are needed.

This book is divided into 16 modules and covers topics in depth. Each module includes laboratory practices with the use of microscope for some modules. Dissection materials are required for some laboratory practices on the second half of the book.

The first module begins with the definition of biology and provides a foundational introduction to the following modules. You can click to review the [table of contents](#).

For the student interested in researching creation vs. evolution, the book contains a module titled “Evolution: Part scientific theory, Part unconfirmed hypothesis.” This module discusses Darwin and *The Origin of Species* as well as the fossil record. Conclusions are that macroevolution is proven wrong by evidence against it.

This book provides a good foundation for college level class and for the serious student of Science. The student can independently follow a daily plan of study for book and Lab work. “On Your Own” questions and chapter review question and laboratory reports provide preparation for the module test.

We divided the module into weekly reading assignments. A notebook was used to record new terms and laboratory findings. Teacher and student review sessions were scheduled once a week to go over covered materials and tests were scheduled every two to three weeks. Laboratory reports were due before the module test. A midterm and final exam were also required. This class fulfilled the requirement for High School Biology.

Editor Note: Apologia curriculums can be great for teaching study and test taking skills.

WANTED! Book and Curriculum Reviews

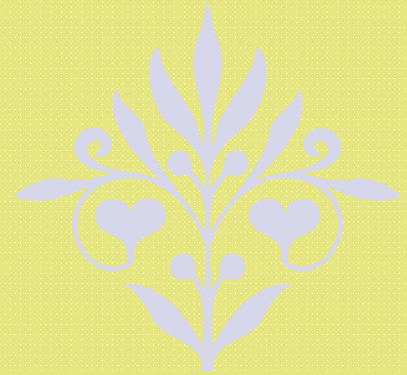
AHE is looking for help in offering book or curriculum reviews in the newsletter. We are wanting reviews from the point of view of a SDA homeschooler. We can't possibly read every book or look at every curriculum, so we are wanting to open this up to other homeschool parents to help review books or curriculum they have used. We may even use well-written book reports from homeschooling children.

You can contact adventisthomeducator@gmail.com for more information. First, we will confirm the item (s) you wish to review. If accepted, we will send you a copy of the guidelines for the review. The guidelines are to help you formulate your review to cover points that are of interest to many of our readers.

The reviews will be posted in newsletters as space allows. We will not post full names of authors, but rather use first names only, or initials. We look forward to working with many of you on this new project.

Book Review Rating Scale

Very Poor (not recommended)	1
OK (neither loved, nor hated, got the learning accomplished)	2
Average (Good resource, nice if a few changes are made)	3
Good (a good book, worthy of adding to your curriculum)	4
Excellent (enjoyed without changes)	5



Request to review your favorite book or curriculum.

Contact:

adventisthomeducator@gmail.com



Your children can write book reviews for the newsletter to get more writing experience.

You may forward the
Adventist Home Educator
Newsletter to other
Adventist homeschoolers.
Please forward entire
newsletter.



The Adventist Home Educator
3450 Quail Avenue
Manly, Iowa 50456

<http://adventisthomeducator.org>

AHE Resources:

AHE Newsletter You are reading it now. Short monthly articles to encourage you with homeschooling. When email lists are too much for you, a monthly newsletter can encourage you and help you feel connected among friends. The newsletter tries to present information in such a way that it is clutter free.

AHE Website The website is home central for all the ministries of AHE. Find information on each of the AHE ministry arms. Also, we are trying to build our information base and as time goes on, you will find more articles on the website to encourage you with your homeschooling. Check back every so often to see what is new.
www.adventisthomeducator.org

AHE Curriculum Guide Located currently on the AHE website, the Curriculum Guide is being placed on our website to help you find resources that will fit your family while we are working on the new AHE Handbook.

AHE on Facebook...Search for "The Adventist Home Educator" on Facebook and click "like" to connect with us there.

AHE Blog, *Shaping Hearts and Hands*, is a place you can find Adventist Homeschooling applied. We'll share principles and how we apply them to specific situations, so that you can learn to do the same. Plus some warm encouragement in a more homey atmosphere. www.aheblog.org is moving to www.adventisthomeducator.org

AHE Study Board Our study board is open for those desiring to study a book together. Currently we are studying the book *Education* by Ellen White. <http://aheboards.forumotion.com>

AHE Email Lists:

The **AHE-List** is a place for Adventist homeschoolers to come together for friendly and informative discussion about home education from birth through high school. With an emphasis on true education, we share our ideas and experiences relating to teaching methods, learning styles, scheduling, curriculum choices and many other homeschooling topics. This is a place where we can help others along their homeschooling journey and also learn some new things ourselves. To join, send a blank email to:
AHE-List-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

AHE-Living... is a friendly place for sharing encouraging words as we work together to create grace-filled, loving homes and pure hearts for the Kingdom. This is a place to visit about child rearing, home decorating, healthy cooking, health and wellness, family relationships, spiritual growth and family worships, sewing and crafts, gardening and flowers, and other topics near and dear to our hearts. This is a supplemental group affiliated with AHE; a place where we can discuss all aspects of Christian living. You will need to be a member of the AHE-list in order to join. To join, visit:
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/AHE-Living/>

AHE-Swap...if you have curriculum to purchase or to sell, here is another outlet for getting the word out. To join, send a blank email to:
AHE-Swap-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

AHE Teens...is a place for our teen children to interact with other Seventh-day Adventist homeschoolers. To join, parents need to send an email to Melissa at adventisthomeducator@gmail.com with their children's names, ages, and email addresses.

Email:
adventisthomeducator@gmail.com