

Top 10 Mistakes of Homeschoolers

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A. This Is a Move of God—Past Outpourings Became Stale

B. Mistakes Don't Solely Affect Us

1. Affecting God

- (Gal 2:19) "For I through the law died to the law that I might live to God.

2. Affecting Our Children

- (Exo 20:5-6) you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me, {6} but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments.
- (Exo 34:4-7) So he cut two tablets of stone like the first ones. Then Moses rose early in the morning and went up Mount Sinai, as the LORD had commanded him; and he took in his hand the two tablets of stone. {5} Now the LORD descended in the cloud and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the LORD. {6} And the LORD passed before him and proclaimed, "The LORD, the LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth, {7} "keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, by no means clearing the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children and the children's children to the third and the fourth generation."
- (Jer 32:18) "You show lovingkindness to thousands, and repay the iniquity of the fathers into the bosom of their children after them; the Great, the Mighty God, whose name is the LORD of hosts.

3. Affecting Other Homeschoolers

4. Affecting Other Christians

- (Rom 15:1) We then who are strong ought to bear with the scruples of the weak, and not to please ourselves.

5. Affecting the World Matt. 5:13-15; 2 Cor. 2:14-16

- (Mat 5:13-15) "You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men. {14} "You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. {15} "Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house.
- (2 Cor 2:14-16) Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge in every place. {15} For we are to God the fragrance of Christ among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing. {16} To the one we are the aroma of death leading to death, and to the other the aroma of life leading to life. And who is sufficient for these things?

C. We Won't Get it Perfect

- (Psa 14:2-3) The LORD looks down from heaven upon the children of men, To see if there are any who understand, who seek God. {3} They have all turned aside, They have together become corrupt; There is none who does good, No, not one.
- (Psa 53:2-3) God looks down from heaven upon the children of men, To see if there are any who understand, who seek God. {3} Every one of them has turned aside; They have together become corrupt; There is none who does good, No, not one.
- (Rom 3:10-12) As it is written: "There is none righteous, no, not one; {11} There is none who understands; There is none who seeks after God. {12} They have all turned aside; They have together become unprofitable; There is none who does good, no, not one."
- (Rom 3:23) for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

D. Inevitable Imperfection Shouldn't Prompt Presumption

E. Top Ten Mistakes of Homeschoolers

1. Wrong Reasons, Priorities Matt. 6:33; Col. 3:1-2, 17

- (Mat 6:33) "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.
 - (Col 3:1-2) If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. {2} Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.
 - (Col 3:17) And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.
- a. Academic Excellence**
- (1 Cor 8:1) Now concerning things offered to idols: We know that we all have knowledge. Knowledge puffs up, but love edifies.
- b. Job Preparation**
- (Mat 6:19-34) "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; {20} "but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. {21} "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. {22} "The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light. {23} "But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great is that darkness! {24} "No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon. {25} "Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? {26} "Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? {27} "Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature? {28} "So why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; {29} "and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. {30} "Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? {31} "Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' {32} "For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. {33} "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. {34} "Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.
- c. Social / Political Influence (Salt & Light)**
- d. High Places; Idolatry**
- (1 Ki 15:14) But the high places were not removed. Nevertheless Asa's heart was loyal to the LORD all his days.
 - (1 Ki 22:43) And he walked in all the ways of his father Asa. He did not turn aside from them, doing what was right in the eyes of the LORD. Nevertheless the high places were not taken away, for the people offered sacrifices and burned incense on the high places.
 - (2 Ki 12:3) But the high places were not taken away; the people still sacrificed and burned incense on the high places.
- e. Pilgrims, Strangers, Ambassadors**
- (1 Pet 1:1) Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To the pilgrims of the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia,
 - (1 Pet 2:11) Beloved, I beg you as sojourners and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul,

2. Unclear Regarding Parental Responsibility

a. Sheltering

- (Psa 61:1-4) HEAR my cry, O God; Attend to my prayer. {2} From the end of the earth I will cry to You, When my heart is overwhelmed; Lead me to the rock that is higher than I. {3} For You have been a shelter for me, A strong tower from the enemy. {4} I will abide in Your tabernacle forever; I will trust in the shelter of Your wings. Selah
- (Psa 83:3) They have taken crafty counsel against Your people, And consulted together against Your sheltered ones.
- (Mat 6:13) And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.
- (Mat 18:6-10) "But whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were drowned in the depth of the sea. {7} "Woe to the world because of offenses! For offenses must come, but woe to that man by whom the offense comes! {8} "If your hand or foot causes you to sin, cut it off and cast it from you. It is better for you to enter into life lame or maimed, rather than having two hands or two feet, to be cast into the everlasting fire. {9} "And if your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and cast it from you. It is better for you to enter into life with one eye, rather than having two eyes, to be cast into hell fire. {10} "Take heed that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that in heaven their angels always see the face of My Father who is in heaven.

b. Socialization

- (Prov 12:26) The righteous should choose his friends carefully, For the way of the wicked leads them astray.

- (Prov 13:20) He who walks with wise men will be wise, But the companion of fools will be destroyed.
- (1 Cor 15:33) Do not be deceived: "Evil company corrupts good habits."
 - i. Sports Prov. 22:24-25; Rom. 12:10; Phil 2:3**
 - (Prov 22:24-25) Make no friendship with an angry man, And with a furious man do not go, {25} Lest you learn his ways And set a snare for your soul.
 - (Rom 12:10) Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another;
 - (Phil 2:3) Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself.
 - ii. Co-op Classes (Equipping vs. Enabling)**

c. Independence (Individualism)

- (Rom 12:5) so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another.
 - i. Jobs Mark 6:7; Luke 10:1; Rom 6:16; 1 Cor. 7:23**
 - (Mark 6:7) And He called the twelve to Himself, and began to send them out two by two, and gave them power over unclean spirits.
 - (Luke 10:1) After these things the Lord appointed seventy others also, and sent them two by two before His face into every city and place where He Himself was about to go.
 - (Rom 6:16) Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness?
 - (1 Cor 7:23) You were bought at a price; do not become slaves of men.
 - ii. Distant Higher Education**
 - (Gen 49:7) Cursed be their anger, for it is fierce; And their wrath, for it is cruel! I will divide them in Jacob And scatter them in Israel.
 - (Num 10:35) So it was, whenever the ark set out, that Moses said: "Rise up, O LORD! Let Your enemies be scattered, And let those who hate You flee before You."
 - iii. Short-Term Missions**
 - (Gen 2:24) Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.
 - (Mat 19:5) "and said, 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'?"

3. Overlooking Gender-Specific Roles

a. Father / Mother 1 Cor. 11:3; Eph. 6:4; Heb. 12:9

- (1 Cor 11:3) But I want you to know that the head of every man is Christ, the head of woman is man, and the head of Christ is God.
- (Eph 6:4) And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.
- (Heb 12:9) Furthermore, we have had human fathers who corrected us, and we paid them respect. Shall we not much more readily be in subjection to the Father of spirits and live?

b. Boys / Girls

- (Deu 22:5) "A woman shall not wear anything that pertains to a man, nor shall a man put on a woman's garment, for all who do so are an abomination to the LORD your God.
- (Titus 2:4) that they admonish the young women to love their husbands, to love their children,
- (Titus 2:6) Likewise exhort the young men to be sober-minded,

4. School Rather Than Apprenticeship

- (Luke 6:40) "A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone who is perfectly trained will be like his teacher.

a. Biblical Hebrew vs. Pagan Greek Presuppositions

b. Relational Discipleship (Process vs. Task)

5. Focusing on Outward Appearance–Neglecting the Heart

a. Behavior vs. Attitudes

- (Rom 2:28-29) For he is not a Jew who is one outwardly, nor is circumcision that which is outward in the flesh; {29} but he is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the Spirit, not in the letter; whose praise is not from men but from God.
- (1 Pet 3:3-4) Do not let your adornment be merely outward; arranging the hair, wearing gold, or putting on fine apparel; {4} rather let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the incorruptible beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is very precious in the sight

of God.

b. Legalism

- (Gal 3:2) This only I want to learn from you: Did you receive the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?
- (Gal 5:1-4) Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage. {2} Indeed I, Paul, say to you that if you become circumcised, Christ will profit you nothing. {3} And I testify again to every man who becomes circumcised that he is a debtor to keep the whole law. {4} You have become estranged from Christ, you who attempt to be justified by law; you have fallen from grace.

c. Harshness

- (Gal 6:1-2) Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted. {2} Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

6. Biblically Principled

- (2 Pet 2:7) and if He rescued righteous Lot, oppressed by the sensual conduct of unprincipled men
- (2 Pet 3:17) You therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, be on your guard so that you are not carried away by the error of unprincipled men and fall from your own steadfastness,

a. Instructed/Informed by Scripture

- (1 Cor 4:6) Now these things, brethren, I have figuratively transferred to myself and Apollos for your sakes, that you may learn in us not to think beyond what is written, that none of you may be puffed up on behalf of one against the other.

b. Integrity—Keeping Commitments

- (Num 30:2) "If a man makes a vow to the LORD, or swears an oath to bind himself by some agreement, he shall not break his word; he shall do according to all that proceeds out of his mouth.
- (Psa 15:4) In whose eyes a vile person is despised, But he honors those who fear the LORD; He who swears to his own hurt and does not change;

7. Led by the Spirit

- (Rom 8:14) For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.
- (Gal 5:16-18) I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. {17} For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish. {18} But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.
- (Gal 5:25) If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

8. Isolationism

- (Prov 18:1) A man who isolates himself seeks his own desire; He rages against all wise judgment.

a. Fellowship

- (Heb 10:24-25) And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, {25} not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.
- (1 John 1:6-7) If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. {7} But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

i. Hospitality

- (Rom 12:13) distributing to the needs of the saints, given to hospitality.
- (1 Pet 4:9) Be hospitable to one another without grumbling.

ii. Church

- (1 Cor 12:20-21) But now indeed there are many members, yet one body. {21} And the eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you"; nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you."

b. Evangelism

- (2 Tim 4:2) Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching.
- (1 Pet 3:15) But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear;

c. Missions

- (Mat 28:19-20) "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, {20} "teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.
- (Luke 10:1-3) After these things the Lord appointed seventy others also, and sent them two by two before His face into every city

and place where He Himself was about to go. {2} Then He said to them, "The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few; therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest. {3} "Go your way; behold, I send you out as lambs among wolves.

- (Acts 1:8) "But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

9. Short-Sighted, Neglecting Cause and Effect

- (Gal 6:7-8) Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. {8} For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.

a. Fear of Children (Giving In-Child-Centered)

b. Younger/Older

- (Prov 22:6) Train up a child in the way he should go, And when he is old he will not depart from it.

c. Higher Education

d. Youth Groups

- (Titus 2:6) Likewise exhort the young men to be sober-minded,

e. Experimental Romance

- (1 Th 4:6) that no one should take advantage of and defraud his brother in this matter, because the Lord is the avenger of all such, as we also forewarned you and testified.

10. Fear of the Big Picture (Slippery Slope)

a. Stay-At-Home Mom

- (Titus 2:4-5) that they admonish the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, {5} to be discreet, chaste, homemakers, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be blasphemed.

b. Stay-At-Home Dad

- (Eph 6:4) And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.

c. Diet

- (Acts 15:28-29) For it seemed good to the Holy Spirit, and to us, to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things: {29} that you abstain from things offered to idols, from blood, from things strangled, and from sexual immorality. If you keep yourselves from these, you will do well. Farewell.
- (Rom 14:17) for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

d. Medical Practices

- (Luke 5:31) Jesus answered and said to them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick.

e. Business

- (Luke 19:13) "So he called ten of his servants, delivered to them ten minas, and said to them, 'Do business till I come.'
- (1 Cor 7:20-24) Let each one remain in the same calling in which he was called. {21} Were you called while a slave? Do not be concerned about it; but if you can be made free, rather use it. {22} For he who is called in the Lord while a slave is the Lord's freedman. Likewise he who is called while free is Christ's slave. {23} You were bought at a price; do not become slaves of men. {24} Brethren, let each one remain with God in that state in which he was called.

f. Church

- (Rom 16:5) Likewise greet the church that is in their house. Greet my beloved Epaenetus, who is the firstfruits of Achaia to Christ.
- (1 Cor 16:19) The churches of Asia greet you. Aquila and Priscilla greet you heartily in the Lord, with the church that is in their house.
- (Col 4:15) Greet the brethren who are in Laodicea, and Nymphas and the church that is in his house.
- (Phile 1:2) to the beloved Apphia, Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house: