

# 2017 Homeschool Family Conference

## GUIDING OUR LIVES BY THE BOOK



Session 5

## Advice for First-Time Homeschoolers

### 1. Why Are You Homeschooling?

List as many reasons as you can, then mark your top 3 reasons:

What does the Bible say?

- ✓ Deuteronomy 4:9-10
- ✓ Deuteronomy 6:7
- ✓ Deuteronomy 11:19
- ✓ Deuteronomy 20:16-18
- ✓ Malachi 2:15
- ✓ Genesis 18:19
- ✓ Deuteronomy 4:40
- ✓ Deuteronomy 5:29
- ✓ Deuteronomy 12:28
- ✓ Deuteronomy 30:2
- ✓ Deuteronomy 32:46

### 2. Prayer, Fasting, and Good Counsel

Have you talked to your husband? Write his thoughts and advice here:

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### 3. Homeschooling Laws

See <http://hslida.org> for a list of laws in your state or country. Note: A membership to HSLDA is a *good* investment!

Check for laws pertaining:

- Subjects you must cover
- Ages of attendance
- Number of days for school each year
- Qualifications for parent-teachers
- Required testing
- Record keeping, portfolios, transcripts, and graduation requirements
- Other

List your state's laws:

### 4. Common Objections

Visit <http://fac.hsu.edu/worth/argue.html> for answers to common objections to homeschooling (by Fred Worth).

What objections have you heard?

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### 5. Learning Styles and Teaching Methods

One of the best things about homeschooling is the ability to customize your child's education to best suit his or her needs. Both you (as the parent-teacher) and your children (the students) need to think about several things:

- ✓ Favorite subjects in school and why
- ✓ Favorite teachers and why
- ✓ Favorite memories of school days and why

Now list your *least favorite* in these categories, and tell why:

- ✓ Least favorite subjects in school and why
- ✓ Least favorite teachers and why
- ✓ Least favorite memories of school days and why

Knowing these things will help you realize how you (and your children) best learn and what methods are least effective.

What are your learning styles?

#### What methods are biblical?

- ✓ See <http://homeschoolingtorah.com/biblical-homeschool-methods-hear-learn-keep-do-2016-homeschool-family-conference>
- ✓ Read <http://foundationspress.com/homeschool-support-2/homeschool-how-to-series/biblical-home-education>
  - HomeschoolingTorah members can read this book free at <http://homeschoolingtorah.com/biblical-home-education>

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### 6. Choosing Curriculum

Before choosing a curriculum:

- ✓ Decide how much time you have to teach your children each day (in hours).
- ✓ Decide how much money you have available to spend.
- ✓ If money is tight, what local resources do you have? (libraries, homeschool support groups, etc.)
- ✓ What are your child's educational weak areas? (math, phonics, attention span, etc.)
- ✓ What are your child's future goals? (college, occupation, interests, etc.)
- ✓ What are your child's learning styles? Your own?
- ✓ Design your own curriculum! (Use the Bible!)
  - <http://homeschoolingbible.com/what-homeschooling-with-the-bible-might-look-like>

### 7. Paying for It All

Expenses you shouldn't forget about:

- ✓ Internet access
- ✓ Computer
- ✓ Printer
- ✓ Printer Ink and paper
- ✓ Classes
- ✓ Sports
- ✓ Museums
- ✓ Gas
- ✓ Music and art lessons
- ✓ Tutors
- ✓ Online classes

TIME IS EXPENSIVE!

If you make your own curriculum, budget for basic reference materials.

- ✓ Author I Love: Ruth Beechick, <http://www.mottmedia.com/ruth-beechick-books>

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### 8. Learn to Use HomeschoolingTorah's Website

Important pages to visit:

- Member Home: <http://homeschoolingt Torah.com/member-home>
- Start Here: <http://homeschoolingt Torah.com/start-here>
- Videos – Setting Up Your Notebooks:  
<http://homeschoolingt Torah.com/setting-up-your-notebooks-video>
- A Broad Look at HT:  
<http://homeschoolingt Torah.com/a-broad-look-at-homeschooling-torah-for-every-age-and-grade>
- Teacher Helps: <http://homeschoolingt Torah.com/teacher-helps>
- Subject Intros:  
<http://homeschoolingt Torah.com/category/member-home/teacher-helps/introductions>
- First Month of Lessons (print more later): <http://homeschoolingt Torah.com/by-week>
- Bonuses: <http://homeschoolingt Torah.com/category/member-home/download-center/bonuses>
- Ebooks: <http://homeschoolingt Torah.com/category/member-home/teacher-helps/ebooks>
- Blog Posts: <http://homeschoolingt Torah.com/blog-archives>
- Saturday Evening Emails: <http://archive.aweber.com/torah-members>
- Contact Button: <http://homeschoolingt Torah.com/contact-us>
- Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/167951806720041>

### 9. Be Realistic

“In every part of your world that you *can* control, celebrate Torah in all its beauty. In all the areas you *cannot* control, celebrate love and bring joy to others (which is also Torah).” (Author Unknown)