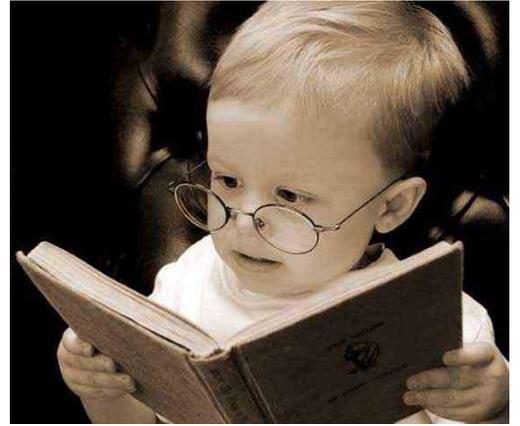


*"Shew me thy ways, O LORD; teach me thy paths." Psalms 25:4 KJV*

Do you think God can teach those never in class? *"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."* If you don't go to class God will paddle you. *"For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth."* Everyone in the school of eternal Life is a child. God is at once Father, Headmaster, and Professor. The upperclassmen tutor the freshmen. Trouble is often of our neglect or rebellion. Avoidance is rebellion. Foot-dragging is stubbornness. *"For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin."* All intentions are known to God, regardless of our facade. Hypochondriacs fool laymen, but the physician knows. Many faithfully read God's Word, but few study it under the tutelage of the Holy Spirit; God Himself. Studying entails reading, listening, and taking notes. Just like school, you don't get to advance in the school of eternal Life if you fail the exams. Pupils don't explain the lesson. They raise their hand and ask questions. "Why do I have to do it that way?" is not acceptable. The Old Testament is God's blackboard of instruction and illustration. If you insist that  $2+2=6$ , you'll never advance. Many believers are still in first grade. More are still in kindergarten. Studying God's Word is the only way to learn Truth which will guide through the unfamiliar paths of life. *"Trust in the LORD with all thine heart, and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths"* God is the Journeyman trainer. *"For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin."* He's the architect, engineer, and builder, so who better to teach?



At Thy feet Lord, make me to sit,  
Learning Thy Truth in little bits,  
That I may be a vesture fit,  
A lively robe Divinely knit. ~CGP

It's not all book-learnin' in God's classroom. Pupils get hands-on experience; the trial and error of doing it. God's Word contains the solutions while God's hands gently guide ours in the task. Children often think they need no instruction and less help. Until they fail, they are not ready to learn. God let's us fail so we may learn to learn. Self reliance is taboo in God's classroom. Without Him we can do nothing *"for it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure."* How long we live in failure is determined by how long we stubbornly insist doing it our way. All God's tests are "open-book," and even though we often fail, His desire is that we pass every test. The unruly will go to detention where attitude determines length of stay.

*"That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God." 1 Corinthians 2:5 KJV*