### How To Help Young Christians Overcome The Struggles And Battles They Are Facing In Our World

## I. Teach Your Children The Truth When They Are Young

"Children below the age of eight...are highly persuaded by advertising." (Age of Propaganda, Anthony Prathanis & Elliot Aronson, p.206)

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

Deuteronomy 6:7 You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up.

Joel 1:3 <u>Tell your children about it, Let your children tell their children, And their children another generation</u>.

Ephesians 6:4 And you, <u>fathers</u>, <u>do not provoke your children to wrath</u>, <u>but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord</u>.

Ephesians 4:14-15 that we should <u>no longer be children</u>, <u>tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine</u>, <u>by the trickery of men</u>, <u>in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting</u>, 15 <u>but</u>, <u>speaking the truth in love</u>, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head — Christ —

#### II. <u>Test What We Believe</u> <u>And Explain Why We Believe What We Believe To Our Children</u>

Hosea 4:6 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge.

Proverbs 14:15 <u>The simple believes every word</u>, But the prudent considers well his steps

"The result is an ignorance spiral—a cynical populace bombarded with more and more thoughtless propaganda that they have less and less skill and inclination to process and ability to understand. Adolf Hitler's belief that the masses are ignorant thus becomes a self-fulfilling prophecy."

(Age of Propaganda, Anthony Prathanis & Elliot Aronson, p.265)

"The person who is easiest to persuade is the person whose beliefs are based on slogans that have never been seriously challenged."
(Age of Propaganda, Anthony Prathanis & Elliot Aronson, p.213)

"Similarly, to protect ourselves from persuasion, we can begin to question our own beliefs, thereby discovering the strengths and weaknesses of the position we hold." (*Age of Propaganda, Anthony* Prathanis & Elliot Aronson, p.213)

1 John 4:1 <u>Beloved</u>, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.

1 Thessalonians 5:21 Test all things; hold fast what is good.

1 Peter 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.

# III. <u>Teach Our Children</u> **Not To Blindly Follow Their Emotions Or The Crowd**

"if everyone else agrees, so should I."
(Age of Propaganda, Anthony Prathanis & Elliot Aronson, p.252)

Exodus 23:2 You shall not follow a crowd to do evil; nor shall you testify in a dispute so as to turn aside after many to pervert justice.

"Its effect for the most part must be aimed at the emotions and only to a very limited degree at the so-called intellect."

(Adolf Hitler, <u>Mein Kampf</u>, p.180)

Proverbs 14:12 There is a way that seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death.

Proverbs 29:22 An angry man stirs up strife, And a furious man abounds in transgression.

John 12:42-43 Nevertheless even among the rulers many believe in Him, but because of the Pharisees they did not confess Him, lest they be put out of the synagogue; 43 for they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God.

Matthew 7:13-14 "Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and <u>broad is</u> the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. 14 Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.

Luke 6:22 Blessed are ye, when men shall hate you, and when they shall separate you from their company, and shall reproach you, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of man's sake.

Proverbs 13:20 <u>He who walks with wise men will be wise</u>, <u>But the companion of fools will be destroyed</u>.

Proverbs 12:26 The righteous should choose his friends carefully. For the way of the wicked leads them astray.

Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 Two are better than one, Because they have a good reward for their labor. 10 For if they fall, one will lift up his companion. But woe to him who is alone when he falls, For he has no one to help him up.

Hebrews 3:13 but <u>exhort one another daily</u>, while it is called "Today," <u>lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.</u>

James 5:16 <u>Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another,</u> that you may be healed.

#### IV. Teach Our Children How To Be Soldiers Of Christ

Ephesians 6:10-11 Finally, my brethren, <u>be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might</u>. 11 <u>Put on the whole armor of God</u>, that you may be able to <u>stand against the wiles of the devil</u>.

1 Timothy 6:12 Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life,

Ephesians 6:16 above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one

1 John 5:4-5 For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world — our faith.

Ephesians 6:17 And take the helmet of <u>salvation</u>, and <u>the sword of the Spirit</u>, <u>which is the word of God</u>

1 John 2:14 I have written to you, young men, Because you are strong, and the word of God abides in you, And you have overcome the wicked one.

Matthew 26:41 <u>Watch and pray</u>, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."