

From Conflict to Clarity: Bringing the Vision of God to Your Homeschool

*"All our teaching of children should be given reverently,
with the humble sense that we are invited in this matter
to co-operate with the Holy Spirit;
but it should be given dutifully and diligently."*

-Charlotte Mason, *Parents and Children*

Why is it important to have a vision for your homeschool?

God's vision for your homeschool are the directions the Lord specifically gives to your family. With a definite view of God's purpose for your child(ren)'s home education, you can lessen outside distractions and focus on creating the atmosphere you want in your home.

This vision becomes the Guardian of your homeschool.

Your homeschool's vision acts as a guide and can be adjusted at any time to reflect changes in your daily life. This tool helps whenever you feel challenged by uncertainties about a certain material / method. It helps to keep you calm when making decisions and focuses you on the principles and values that guide the needs of your child(ren).

How to Create Your Homeschool Vision:

- 1) Begin this reflection with prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to guide you in this process;
- 2) Write down the words that come to your mind and heart, don't worry about creating complete sentences.
- 3) Reflect on these questions that serve as a starting point. You don't need to follow this order and, if there is difficulty with any question, move on to the next one and come back later:
 - o Why home educate my children?
 - o How do I imagine my son/daughter when he/she is 18?

- What would I like them to say about the home education they received?
- What are my spiritual and educational goals for my children?
- What moral values are important to my family?
- What habits need to be formed in this child?
- What skills do I want this child to learn?
- What kind of atmosphere do I want to cultivate in my homeschool?

4) You can answer the questions suggested above in narration form or in loose sentences.

5) Don't worry about completing this reflection in one day. Once you have defined your homeschool's vision, write it down or type it up.

6) Each family will have a different vision for each child, aligned with God's will.

Tips:

- * Repeat this step by step for each of your children. Some items apply to all children, but it is worthwhile looking at each individual that God has entrusted to you.
- * Discuss the vision with your spouse during this process.
- * Review your homeschool's vision and make changes as needed.
- * You can put the "homeschool vision" in a visible place as a guide on those challenging days.

"But the educator has to deal with a self-acting, self-developing being, and his business is to guide, and assist in, the production of the latent good in that being, the dissipation of the latent evil, the preparation of the child to take his place in the world at his best, with every capacity for good that is in him developed into a power."

-Charlotte Mason, Home Education

