

March 2014

All Things Homeschool

...helpful curriculum info and other useful stuff

Take a Break



Do you remember to take time for yourself during spring break or do you utilize the time to continue to plan lessons and prepare for other school-related activities?

It's a noble thought if that is how you think; however, a break can offer a much needed respite from the rigors of daily teaching and a well-deserved opportunity to explore other interests, too.

You do have other interests besides teaching your children, don't you? Make good use of your break from homeschooling to visit with other adults, shop or do whatever it is that you find enjoyable.

I know that I will be catching up on some overdue phone calls to friends and family that I need to make. Then, if I really have no choice, I guess we'll do the obligatory spring cleaning that has to be done.

Remember to spend time doing the things that don't ever seem to fit in a homeschooling family's busy schedule.

Enjoy!

Paying for Homeschool

Do you struggle with paying for your many homeschool expenses? Although it is an investment in your children's education, the added financial obligations that come along with schooling your children at home can be difficult sometimes.

Books, supplies, classes, testing fees, and field trips, are just some of the common [expenses](#) a family can expect each year.

Consider starting a savings club account or opening a savings account at your bank just for the homeschool needs of the family.

Also, part-time or supplemental earnings could be designated for the homeschool costs. Lastly, when all else fails, that loose change can really add up over a period of time, too.



5 Easy Steps to Keep Going

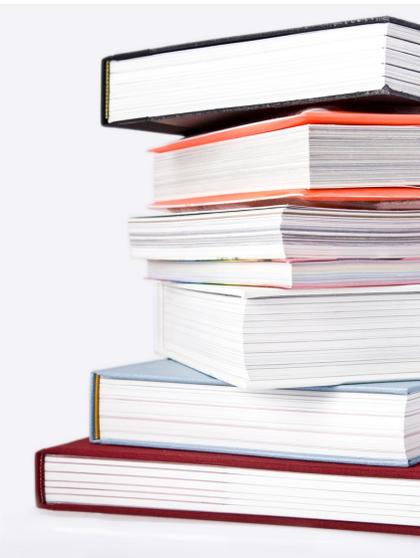
It takes a tremendous commitment and selflessness to homeschool your children. But, many parent-teachers struggle with how to keep going when times get rough.

So, here are five suggestions that may be helpful:

1. Set realistic goals for you and your [children](#).
2. Don't compare yourself to others.
3. Ask for [help](#) when you need it.
4. Learn along with your children.
5. Remember to have fun while teaching at home.

There are NO perfect families so don't feel the need to quit simply because challenges arise.

Keep up the good work.





If you are new to this newsletter, let me introduce you to my husband, Wayne, who the Lord often uses to teach me about home education and family.

Wayne's Words

I want to share what happened during a recent math lesson with

our nine-year-old son. I was explaining that doing three and four digit multiplication problems was no different, really, than doing simple multiplication facts.

We reviewed place value and did several easy problems together and then worked our way up to the current four digit multiplication problems that were causing him so much grief.

Then, the "light bulb went off" and he remembered what Wayne had recently shared in Bible lesson.

He commented that now he understood what Dad meant when he explained *how* struggles can be. When in the midst of a challenge, it can seem as hard as climbing a mountain, but when you get beyond the "hill" or challenge and look back, it appears as a small bump in the road.

He went on to complete an entire page of math problems with accuracy and speed, this time.

Chasing the Dream

Our daughter is passionately chasing her dream to become a master hair stylist and makeup artist, and future salon owner.

This interest in cosmetology didn't come overnight, but has been in her plans for years.

She was home schooled through [high school](#) and started a very popular [website](#) on natural hair at the age of fif-

teen. Currently, she is pursuing her license at the famed Paul Mitchell School and will graduate next month with honors.

Her experience at the school has been an "eye-opener" for many who had preconceived ide-



as about homeschooled students.

She recently went on school-related trips to Las Vegas and Atlanta; she has already been offered a job as a stylist and hasn't even completed her state exams, yet.

Learn more about this talented, determined homeschool grad as she chronicles her passion on her authoritative site [Natural-Hair-Care-Info](#), [Pinterest](#), and [Facebook](#).



Curriculum reviews, teaching tips, parenting info, and more to help you fulfill your commitment to train your children at home!

The Back Page



A Dream Deferred

I am definitely a huge fan of Langston Hughes so this seemed like a suitable heading.

Our son's basketball team enjoyed a 35-0 winning season, including state championship!

They went to the national game with great anticipation yet were unable to continue in their very impressive winning streak.

However, these young men showed the love of Christ through their loss and were very

gracious to the winning team.

*Great job **Light-house Lions!***

Homeschool Q & A

Q: How can I home school if I have to work outside the home, too?

A: I did this a few years ago so I personally know that it can be done.

Scheduling becomes very important to make sure that nothing "falls between the cracks."

The challenge is

making sure that family, school, and job responsibilities are consistently being done well.

Free Resources

There are some great places to find **free** resources for your home school needs.

You can discover them at online sites, your local library, and even within your own home when you know what to look for!

Have a great month!