

**Train up a child...**  
**...so that the foundations survive the tough stuff of life!**  
Proverbs 22:6

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

NOT an equation of...

...if I train my children the right way

...they will turn out the way that I want them to turn out!

BUT... if we set good foundations for our children when they are young

...when the going gets tough (no matter why the going got tough)

...they will have something to draw on that will get them through

Foundations set in childhood...

...will be the basis for life choices later in life

Some stories from the Bible to illustrate...

1. **Esther**

...who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this Esther 4:14 – NKJV)?

...good foundations to rise to the occasion

2. **Mary, Joseph**

Joseph was a man who always did what was right (Matthew 1:19 – Good News)

"I am the Lord's servant," said Mary; "may it happen to me as you have said (Luke 1:38 – Good News)."

...good foundations to respond in times of crisis

3. **Moses, Aaron, Miriam**

For I brought you out of Egypt and redeemed you from your slavery. I sent Moses, Aaron, and Miriam to help you (Micah 6:4 – NLT).

...good foundation to shape the circumstances of life

4. **Paul**

I am a Pharisee, the son of a Pharisee... (Acts 23:6 – NKJV)

... good foundation that align with God's revelation in their lives

5. David

34 But David said to Saul, "Your servant used to keep sheep for his father; and when there came a lion, or a bear, and took a lamb from the flock, 35 I went after him and smote him and delivered it out of his mouth; and if he arose against me, I caught him by his beard, and smote him and killed him. 36 Your servant has killed both lions and bears; and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be like one of them, seeing he has defied the armies of the living God (1 Samuel 17:34-36 – RSV)."

...good foundations that God can add value to

6. Timothy

Now if Timothy comes, see that he may be with you without fear... (1 Corinthians 16:10 NKJV)  
For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind (2 Timothy 1:7 – NKJV).

...good foundation for when your child is set free from bondage

7. Prodigal son

But when he came to himself... (Luke 15:17 (NKJV))

...good foundation for when your child hits bottom

8. Abigail

The name of the man was Nabal, and the name of his wife Abigail. And she was a woman of good understanding and beautiful appearance; but the man was harsh and evil in his doings (1 Samuel 25:3 – NKJV).

...good foundations to make the best of difficult situations

9. Samaritan woman

The woman said to Him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When He comes, He will tell us all things (John 4:25 – NKJV)."

...God can build on the smallest foundations

10. Mighty men of King David

And everyone who was in distress, everyone who was in debt, and everyone who was discontented gathered to him. So he became captain over them. And there were about four hundred men with him (1 Samuel 22:1-2 – NKJV).

... God can redeem negative foundations