

STUDY QUESTIONS

FOR THE CHILDREN'S SAKE

Pam Barnhill and Mary Reiter • yourmorningbasket.com

CHAPTER 1

- How was Charlotte Mason's view of children different from the prevailing view of her day?
- How is it different than the prevailing view of children today?
- On pg. 7 Macaulay states "Christians can't develop a Christian view of education by accepting the usual aims and views of our society and then adding a 'Christian message' or interpretation. No, we start from a different basis. We have another world view -- another people view!" Do you agree or disagree?
- On pg. 9 Macaulay reminds us that Jesus tells us not to put stumbling blocks in front of our children. She states that some schools are nothing more than stumbling blocks for our children. Are we homeschool moms sometimes guilty of putting up stumbling blocks for our kids?
- What stabilizing effect might ordinary families have on society?
- What is the overall theme of chapter 1?
- What arguments does Macaulay use to support her theme?

CHAPTER 2

- Pg. 12 suggests a deeper definition of "knowledge" than merely the accumulation of facts. What is knowledge?
- What is "twaddle?" How is the definition offered in the book different and similar to the definition regularly thrown about in homeschool circles today?
- What is the difference between education and vocational training? How do we reconcile this understanding of education with the need to create a transcript or prepare our children for a career?
- What is the importance of play? What is the parent's role in play?
- What are the characteristics of Charlotte Mason's method of reading to children as described in the book. How does this differ from the methods of sharing books with children that we commonly see in schools today?
- What is "literary power?" Name some books that have "literary power." Is it relative or absolute?



CHAPTER 3

- Does Macaulay's writings on in this chapter convict you to make any changes in the way you "do discipline" in your home?
- What is the responsibility of the child in the discipline dynamic. What should they be expected to do?
- List three responsibilities of the parent in the discipline dynamic. What should they be expected to do?
- Do you agree with Mason on the idea of "prompt, mechanical obedience?" How do you ensure you do not "add extra burdens that will clutter up the child's life?"
- What is your favorite Bible verse or story about discipline or obedience? Be prepared to share or discuss.
- What practical questions do you have about discipline that the group can help you brainstorm solutions for?
- What struck you most in this chapter and why?

CHAPTER 4

- Has education changed from the education CM described (the passage in the beginning of chapter 4)?
- Which of the 20 principles speaks to you most?
- Which of the principles do you struggle with most?
- Which of the principles do you feel you do well?
- According to CM how should we motivate students?
- What are some aspects that make up the "atmosphere" of education?
- What are some ways we can help children achieve the habits of discipline?
- What are some ways we can bring "life" to our homeschools?



