



# Communiqué 3

## Fortress Home

### The need to teach the Bible

The worst accident in American aviation history was the crash of American Airlines' Flight 191 minutes after leaving Chicago, killing all 271 passengers and crew. The left-hand engine tore loose from the wing just as the plane was preparing to lift off at speed from the runway. The cause of the crash: incorrect maintenance procedures by American Airlines who ignored the manufacturer's 'bible'!

But disastrous as this was, it is as nothing compared to the 'incorrect maintenance' of children in their formative years by schools and so many homes. To deny the child Bible knowledge is a form of abuse that will reap grizzly results for the whole of society.

**Weapon 1:** Teach the Bible. It is the book of Life as well as a book for life! The word of God reveals the only God-given means of transforming its reader from being a sinner into a saint.

**Weapon 2:** Know your history. The earliest schools for children were founded by Christians. Then, schools gave lessons in 'Bible Instruction' and taught reading from the Bible. When the state took over responsibility, Bible knowledge went downhill. Soon, the term 'Religious Instruction' was introduced, weakening the Bible as a sole source of knowledge. This subject was further weakened by the term, 'Religious Education'. Of this subject, Ofsted now complains that "many pupils leave school with scant subject knowledge and understanding.

**Weapon 3:** Teach the uniqueness of the Bible. It contains an accurate account of man and his sin. But it shows, also, the mercy of God and the special work and person of the Lord Jesus Christ as our Saviour. Does this sound too difficult for a child to grasp? Not at all. Age is no determinant.

**Weapon 4:** Don't just stick to the favourite stories, great and necessary as these are for learning God's principles. Teach the storyline of the book to bring an understanding of the Bible as a piece of literature. Teach the origin of man, his fall in Genesis 3, his need for a redeemer, the appearance of the Redeemer (long foretold by the prophets), the Redeemer's vicarious death, His resurrection, His establishment of the Church, His ascension and, finally, His promised return. Children like the idea that the book begins in a garden and ends in a city.

**Weapon 5:** Teach children that important as education is, it is only for life on this earth, whereas Bible knowledge is good for all eternity. Remember, after death earthly education has no value. Only what we can take into the next world will be of worth. If the Bible teaches that eternity will select out the gold, the silver and precious stones of our existence from the wood, hay and stubble, we may be sure that Bible principles and their fruits in our children's lives will be among the precious metals and stones to withstand the test of fire.

**Weapon 6:** Teach the order of the books of the Bible. The sixty six books are classified into groupings. A knowledge of these classifications helps to understand the Bible as a piece of literature. A song on the internet will help with the task of memorising the names of the Bible's individual books.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EuNwryJeaE>

**Weapon 7:** There are difficult questions posed by the Bible. Acknowledge that as the adult you are still learning and discovering the truth of things that you once found difficult to understand. (Better have an example ready, though!)

"For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds."  
2 Cor.10:4

## Create a Fortress Home