Work it Out...

Choosing Curriculum

How to get the most out of this worksheet...

- Take time to watch the corresponding video first. Grab a journal or open a fresh online document and start working these questions out. These worksheets are not editable by design—rather, they give you a little room for brainstorming before you take to really working out your vision and dreams for your family.
- Really take time to think through the questions here and thoughtfully answer each one. The questions are here to help you think through things that you may not have taken the time to truly consider before, and you'll be amazed at how much clarity you'll get just by stopping to write down what's in your heart for your children

It's not wise to jump into the nuts and bolts discussions about curriculum, planning your day, organizing your things, etc. until you have a solid foundation and focus for what you're doing. Because that is what will inform the specific decisions you make in each of those areas. One of the cool things about the process of choosing curriculum is that as you grow in your knowledge and exposure to different resources, you'll find that your ideas about curriculum really expands.

Before you start writing, let's review some of the important points from this lesson:

- Always choose curriculum that's in line with your worldview. It's very important for Christian homeschool families to choose a curriculum that is written from a biblical worldview. You probably understand how that's super important in areas like science, history, Bible, and critical thinking— but did you know that it's actually LITERATURE classes in college that many young people who decide to walk away from their faith after attending a state university note as putting them over the edge? LITERATURE... would you have thought of that being a danger zone class?
- Do you want to have your children learning things in their textbooks or resources that you
 have to "unteach" in conversation? Do you want to run the risk of confusing their young
 hearts and minds?
- Be sure you consider your ultimate goals when you're choosing curriculum— that will
 impact how much time you want to invest in preparation, how expensive the option is, and
 much more.
- Don't hold on to a curriculum that isn't working. If you're going for the heart in your homeschool and you make a decision to stick with a curriculum that is driving your child (or you) crazy, you may be weakening your platform with that child.

What curriculum are you most interested in right now? I encourage you to check into the origin of that curriculum and make sure it is well in line with your world view. There are some curriculums on the market that look like they're Christian, but they are not. They even use "Christian" words, and if you're not careful, you can easily confuse your kids by how close they sound and yet how far away they actually are. Read carefully! Be diligent in evaluating everything you expose especially your young children to. Do not take things for granted in curriculums that you aren't sure credible and solid. If you choose to use them, read with your children to make sure you aren't missing errors being taught. Then, as your kiddos get older, teach them to be discerning by discussing errors you find with them—the more subtle, the better! That will make them more able to spot subtle errors for the rest of their lives.

Another thing to think about when choosing curriculum is your goals— and what you're looking for to constitute success within your family. You know and understand your calling— so how does your choice of curriculum factor into that?

Have you checked out our Homeschool Family Favorites Guide? That ebook has a great list of curriculums recommended by Teach Them Diligently families last year. Also, be sure to join us for a Teach Them Diligently event in the Spring-- you can check out tons of resources in person! Allow your children to have a say in the curriculum choices. By letting them weigh in, you'll often find that they'll be more excited to get started and they'll be more engaged along the way-- so do your research together!