

**Apple Tree
Christian
Childbirth
Program**

**Apple Tree Christian
Childbirth Educator**

Apple Tree Affiliate



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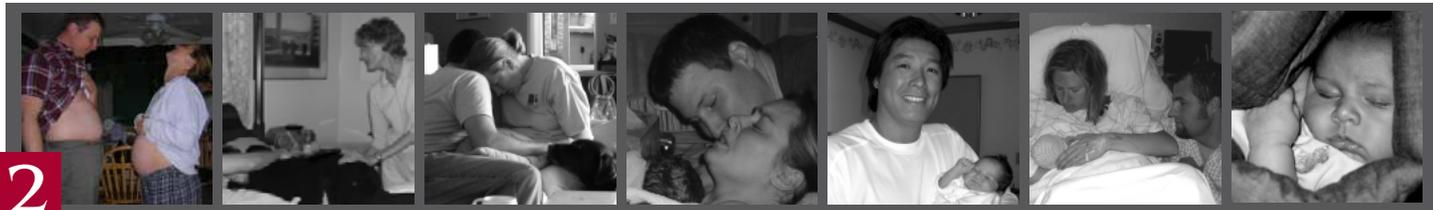
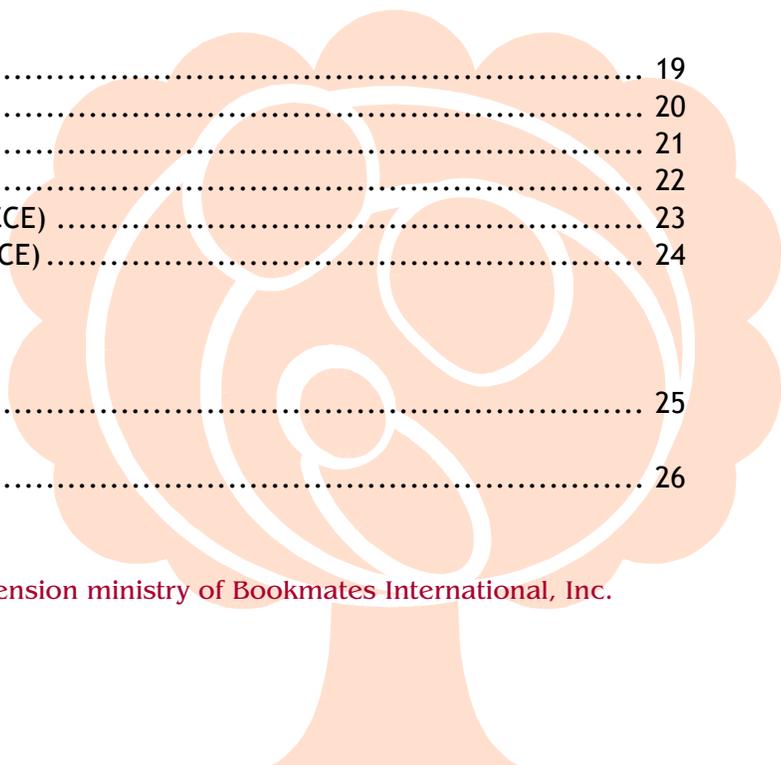
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Apple Tree Family Ministries is an extension ministry of Bookmates International, Inc.



The Apple Tree Christian Childbirth Program

The season of pregnancy, birth, and early parenting is a sensitive one—physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Parents are often overwhelmed by choices as they face many new experiences.

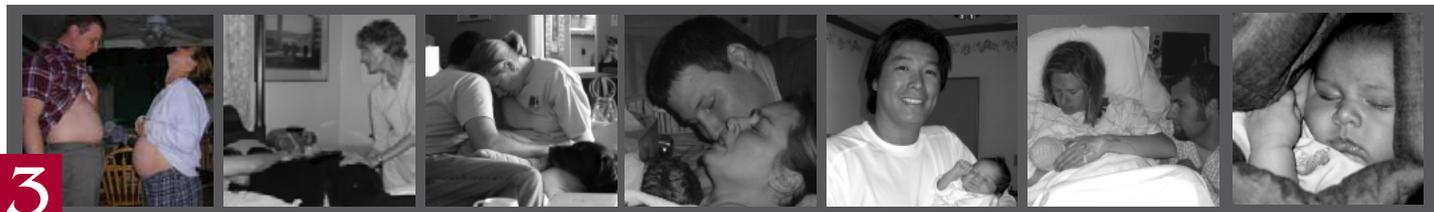
Since 1978 Apple Tree Family Ministries has provided the **all-important spiritual perspective** at this crucial time. **Our vision** is for each birth to build bonds with God and within the family.

Our mission is to help parents accomplish this through:

- **Biblically-based education** about God's design in pregnancy, childbirth, breastfeeding, and early parenting
- **Encouragement** to make choices that will facilitate a comfortable, natural birth and enhance relationships
- **Prayer** for God's wisdom, strength, and protection
- **Fellowship** with experienced Christian birth professionals and with other birthing parents
- **Healing** when needed because of fear or disappointment in birth or parenting

The Apple Tree Christian Childbirth Program **trains Christian women and couples** to work in two ways with expectant and new parents. **Apple Tree Christian Childbirth Educators** offer classes for expectant parents to prepare them for birth, and **Apple Tree Affiliates** are already-trained birth and lactation professionals who use ATFM's materials to add the spiritual dimension to their work.

Both programs include access to ATFM resources, ongoing support, and phone/website referrals.



Program Option 1: Apple Tree Certified Childbirth Educator (ATCCE)

This program is for aspiring childbirth educators who have not had previous training or who wish to obtain additional certification from ATFM. It includes:

- Training in childbirth education and in the spiritual dimensions of the childbearing year through written materials, clinical experiences, and an online Workshop series
- ATFM teaching curriculum, DVD videos, and handouts for the *Apple Tree Christian Childbirth Series* (which also may be used to teach secular classes)
- One-year initial certification, renewable for three-year periods by meeting recertification requirements

Steps to Certification:

1) Meet Qualifications

- Be a woman (or married couple) who has had an unmedicated birth and has breastfed for at least a year or has obtained a waiver from ATFM
- Be a Christian who is active in a local Christian church or fellowship, agrees with the *ATFM Statement of Faith* (p. 9) and *ATFM Basic Principles* (pp. 10-11), and is willing to abide by *ATFM Policies* (pp. 12-14)
- Be a current member of ATFM
- Read required portions of *The Joy of Natural Childbirth* by Wessel (see addendum) and discuss any questions with ATFM since this book is the foundation of the program

Couples apply together for a single membership fee, application fee, and program fee, but each must complete all requirements, including the online Workshop at the couple fee rate.

2) Apply

- Submit an application (pp. 15-18) and references (p. 19) and be admitted to the program

3) Read or View Resources

Current editions:

- *The Pregnancy Book* by Sears and Sears
- *The Birth Book* by Sears and Sears
- *The Thinking Woman's Guide to a Better Birth* by Goer
- One of: *The Nursing Mother's Companion* by Huggins, *Breastfeeding Made Simple* by Mohrbacher & Kendall-tackett, or La Leche League's *The Womanly Art of Breastfeeding*
- Portions of *The Complete Book of Christian Parenting and Child Care* by Sears and Sears (see addendum)
- *Impact of Birthing Practices on Breastfeeding* by Kroeger
- DVD: *Comfort Measures for Childbirth* by Simkin

Resources must be purchased, not borrowed, so you can create a lending library.

You will learn the most from the online Workshop if reading is done before participating.

Births should be within the past few years; you may be a labor support person.

Classes that encourage and prepare for unmedicated birth (like ATFM or Bradley®) are strongly preferred.

4) Observe

- Two births in your community where unmedicated birth is attempted—from the time active labor begins through birth
- A four-meeting series of La Leche League meetings (strongly preferred) or at least three hours of breastfeeding classes from a *certified* lactation specialist
- Not required but highly recommended: CPR certification and observation of another childbirth education series

Option 1 Continued: Apple Tree Certified Childbirth Educator (ATCCE)

5) Participate

- Designated sessions of the online ATFM Christian Childbirth Program Workshop

6) Submit

- Reviews (pp. 20 ff.) of required reading, births you observed, and La Leche League meeting series or breastfeeding class, with optional CPR certification and optional review of childbirth series

7) Pass

- A final exam with a grade of 80% or higher

Exam is taken with a proctor you arrange. After two tries, the Workshop must be repeated.

Deadlines

- **Workshop** sessions completed within two years of accepted application
- **Reviews** submitted all at once within three months after completing all Workshop sessions
- **Final exam** passed within three months after it is sent by ATFM (the exam is sent once reviews are approved)
- One three-month **extension** may be granted for good cause, for an extra fee

If any requirement is not satisfactorily completed within the deadline (including any extension), ATFM will close the application as incomplete. The program may be repeated with fees, and Reviews that are still current may be resubmitted.

Fees

Regular Fees

- One-year ATFM General Membership..... \$35
- Non-refundable Application Fee..... \$35
- Workshop Registration Fee Individual \$300 or couple \$500
- ATCCE Program/Curriculum Fee (submitted with Reviews)..... \$300

Program/Curriculum Fee includes curriculum & handouts (computer files or printed), DVD videos, Final Exam, and first-year certification (if requirements are satisfied).

Possible Additional Fees

- Deadline Extension Fee..... \$50
- Repeat Workshop Fee..... \$250

Option 1 Continued: Apple Tree Certified Childbirth Educator (ATCCE)

Post-Certification Fees

- Annual ATFM ATCCE/ATA Membership \$50
- Recertification Fee (every three years) \$150

These costs vary with the educator's own choices. ATFM can suggest lower cost resources.

Other Costs

- Resources and teaching aids
- Continuing education required to recertify

Certification

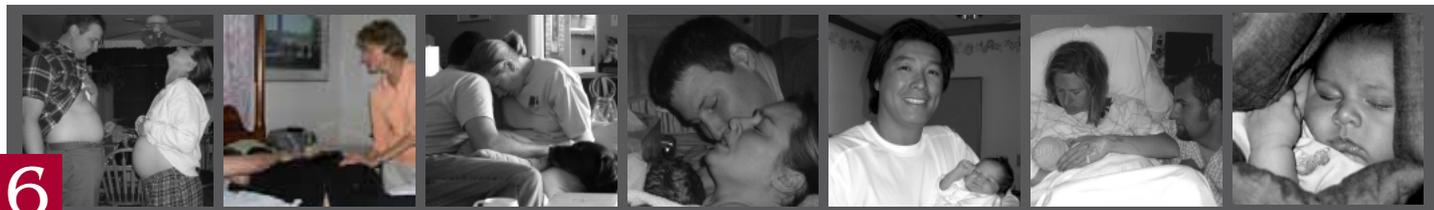
Initial certification is granted for **one year**, during which the educator must:

- Teach an Apple Tree Christian Childbirth Series to at least two expectant mothers or couples
- Submit teacher's self-evaluation of each class session
- Submit satisfactory student evaluations of the series from at least two expectant mothers; father or other support person evaluations not required but encouraged
- Read and submit a report on current edition of *The Complete Book of Pregnancy and Childbirth* by Sheila Kitzinger
- Read and submit a report on a breastfeeding book not selected during initial certification (see Resource list, p. 4)

If **first-year requirements** are completed satisfactorily, certification may be **extended for three years** as long as the educator continues in good standing and maintains current ATCCE Membership in ATFM.

Re-certification for each subsequent three-year period will require:

- Continuous ATCCE Membership in ATFM
- Reading and reviews of three books on subjects covered in ATFM classes and in harmony with ATFM's beliefs—must be selected from ATFM's Highly Recommended Reading list until all have been read
- Re-reading the required portions of *The Joy of Natural Childbirth*
- Submitting documentation for fifteen hours of approved continuing education on subjects covered in ATFM classes and in harmony with ATFM (at least ten hours related to childbirth)
- Submitting review copies of any class or promotional material not provided by ATFM
- Continued good standing with demonstrated competence based on student evaluation forms and teacher report forms for at least one class series



Program Option 2: Apple Tree Affiliate (ATA)

This program is for birth and lactation professionals who have been licensed or certified by other organizations and who wish to add a spiritual dimension to their work. It includes:

- Training in the spiritual dimensions of the childbearing year through written materials and an online Workshop series
- ATFM teaching curriculum, DVD videos, and handouts for the *Apple Tree Spiritual Dimensions of Birth Series*
- Three-year affiliation, renewable for three-year periods by meeting reaffiliation requirements

Steps to Affiliation:

1) Meet Qualifications

- Be a certified or licensed professional such as a childbirth educator, doula, midwife, lactation consultant, nurse, or physician or obtain a waiver from ATFM for a lapsed credential
- Be a Christian who is active in a local Christian church or fellowship, agrees with the *ATFM Statement of Faith* (p. 9) and *ATFM Basic Principles* (pp. 10-11), and is willing to abide by *ATFM Policies* (pp. 12-14)
- Be a current member of ATFM
- Read required portions of *The Joy of Natural Childbirth* by Wessel (see addendum) and discuss any questions with ATFM since this book is the foundation of the program

2) Apply

- Submit an application (pp. 15-18) and references (p. 19) and be admitted to the program

Resources must be purchased, not borrowed, so you can create a lending library.

You will learn the most from the online Workshop if reading is done before attending.

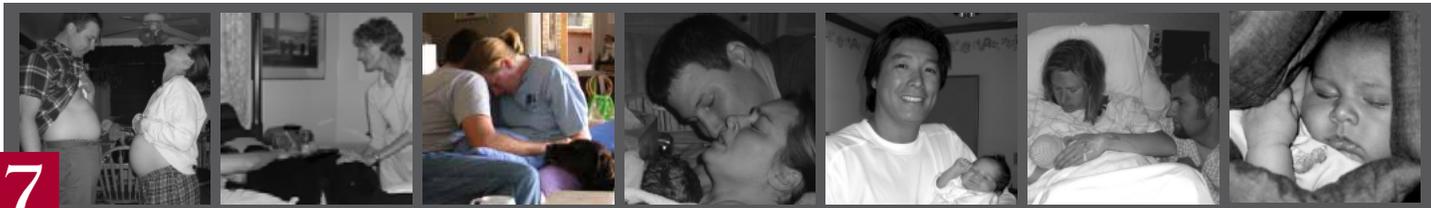
3) Read Resource

Current edition:

- Portions of *The Complete Book of Christian Parenting and Child Care* by Sears and Sears (see addendum)

4) Participate

- Designated sessions of the online *ATFM Christian Childbirth Program online Workshop*



Option 2 Continued: Apple Tree Affiliate (ATA)

5) Submit

- Reviews (pp. 20-21) of required reading

Deadlines

- **Workshop** sessions completed within two years of accepted application
- **Reviews** submitted all at once within three months after completing the Workshop sessions

If **any requirement** is not satisfactorily completed within the deadline, ATFM will close the application as incomplete. The program may be repeated with fees, and Reviews that are still current may be resubmitted.

Fees

Regular Fees

• One-year ATFM General Membership.....	\$35
• Non-refundable Application Fee	\$35
• Workshop Registration Fee	\$100
• ATA Program/Curriculum Fee.....	\$100

Program/Curriculum Fee includes curriculum and handouts (computer files or printed), DVD videos, and three-year affiliation (if requirements are satisfied).

Post-Affiliation Fees

• Annual ATFM ATCCE/ATA Membership	\$50
• Reaffiliation Fee (every three years).....	\$50

Other Costs

- Resources and teaching aids
- Maintenance of your license or certification or substitution (see “Affiliation,” below)

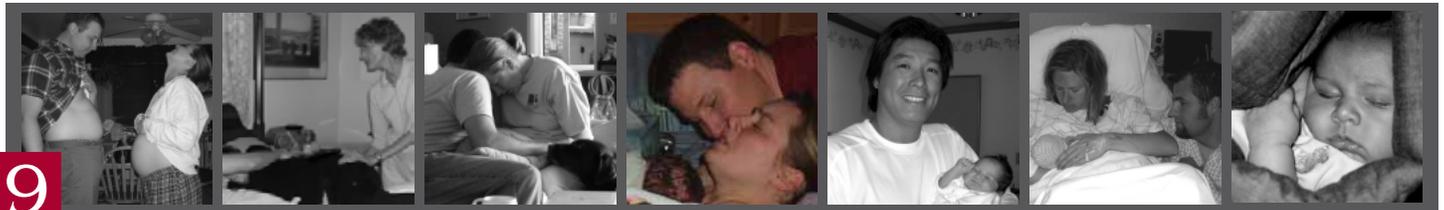
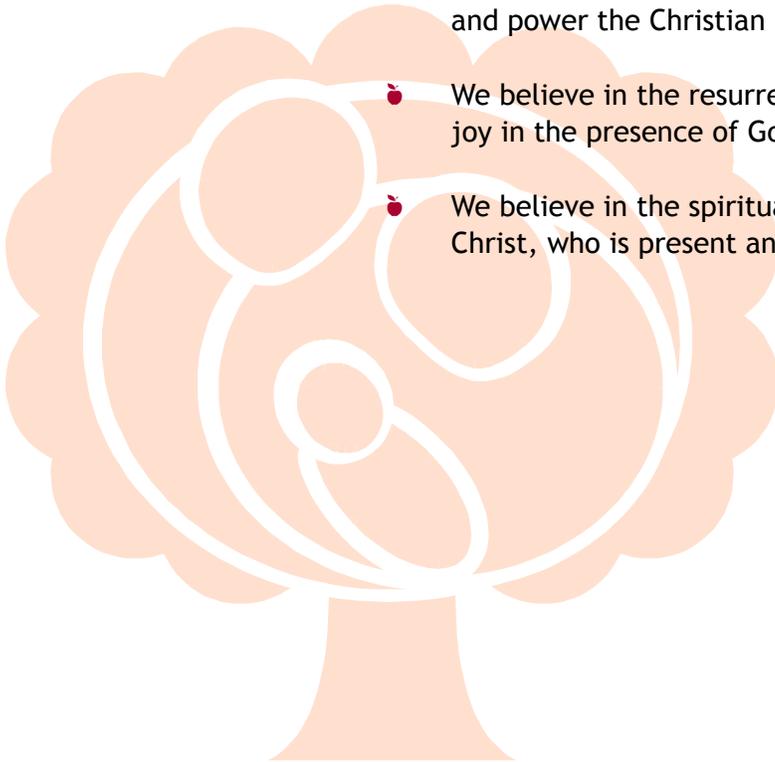
Affiliation

Initial affiliation is granted for **three years**. It may be **renewed** for additional three-year periods as long as the affiliate maintains a current ATA Membership in ATFM, maintains their other license or certification, submits review copies of any class or promotional material not provided by ATFM, and continues in good standing with demonstrated competence based on student evaluation forms and teacher report forms for at least one ATFM series. If the other license or certification lapses, the ATCCE recertification requirements and an additional \$50 fee may be substituted.

ATFM Statement of Faith

Apple Tree Family Ministries is a Christian nondenominational project. The following Statement of Faith is basic and broad enough to include Christians who may hold differing theological views on many other issues.

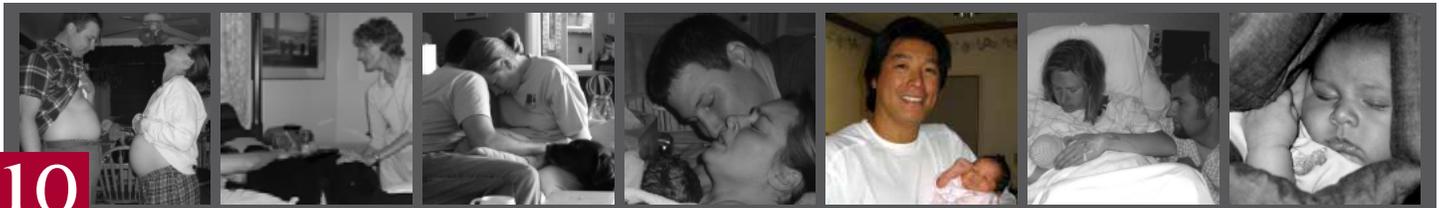
- We believe the Bible to be the inspired Word of God, with supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct.
- We believe there is one God, who has existed eternally in three persons: the Father; the Son, Jesus Christ; and the Holy Spirit.
- We believe that every person must be born anew by accepting the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ as atonement for his or her sins and receiving new life through the Holy Spirit.
- We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit, by whose indwelling and power the Christian becomes able to live a godly life.
- We believe in the resurrection of all people: the believer to everlasting joy in the presence of God, and the unbeliever to judgment before God.
- We believe in the spiritual unity of all believers in our risen Lord Jesus Christ, who is present and active in their lives.



ATFM Basic Principles

In addition to our Statement of Faith, Apple Tree Family Ministries adheres to the following biblically-based principles, which provide an overview of ATFM's programs.

- God created the world and human beings perfectly for relationship with God, but the human “fall” into sin marred God’s design. God did not “curse Eve” to suffer in childbirth, but God’s judgment on the earth has lifelong consequences for all humans, male and female.
- God invites us to live as closely as possible in harmony with God’s design as revealed in the Bible and in creation¹ and to deepen our dependence on God, especially when that harmony is disrupted by the fallen nature of our world.
- Husband and wife both benefit from understanding the bodily symptoms of fertility. Their childbearing decisions should reflect openness to God’s plans even when they differ from our own, respect for God’s involvement from the moment of conception, and God’s creation of each child as a blessing.
- From the moment of conception, the child is a reality affected by his or her spiritual heritage and by the parents’ choices.
- The experience of giving birth deeply affects a woman for the rest of her life, so it is important for her to learn about God’s design for giving birth naturally, comfortably, and joyfully.
- Under most circumstances², women who have learned how to cooperate with the intense sensations of childbirth and who receive skilled emotional support do not need to “escape” through distraction or medication. Intense pain is a signal that a problem needs to be corrected.
- Medical interventions can be beneficial when complications occur or when the laboring woman is unable to cope with her labor, but they can do great harm when applied indiscriminately.



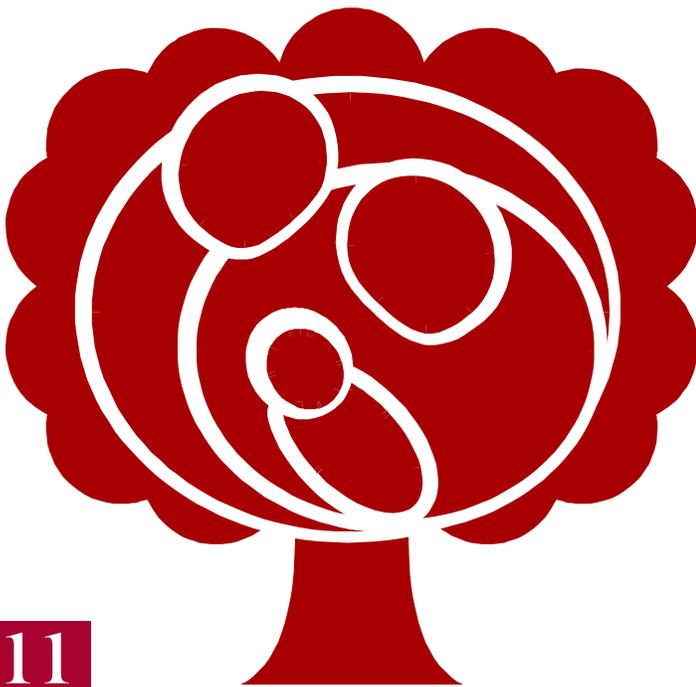
ATFM Basic Principles, Continued

- Parents have the right and responsibility to make informed, prayerful decisions for their birth and their baby, including the choice of attendants, location, and procedures.
- Both mother and father have unique and important roles that are encouraged by prenatal bonding and by continuous contact with their child beginning immediately at birth.
- Breastfeeding is the most natural and beneficial way of meeting the emotional and physical needs of both mother and baby and ideally should be continued until the child outgrows the need.
- Responsive parenting practices that reflect God’s own character and nature by encouraging strong parent-child attachment³ are the foundation of God’s design for parenting.
- God’s people are called to encourage and support one another in all these things and, when any of them is not possible, to aid in the God-designed and important process of grief and healing.

¹ Theologians call these “special revelation” and “general revelation,” respectively.

² ATFM believes this ideal should be pursued whenever possible. However, we also recognize that past sexual abuse and other psychological stressors can make it difficult and should be responded to with compassion and appropriate support.

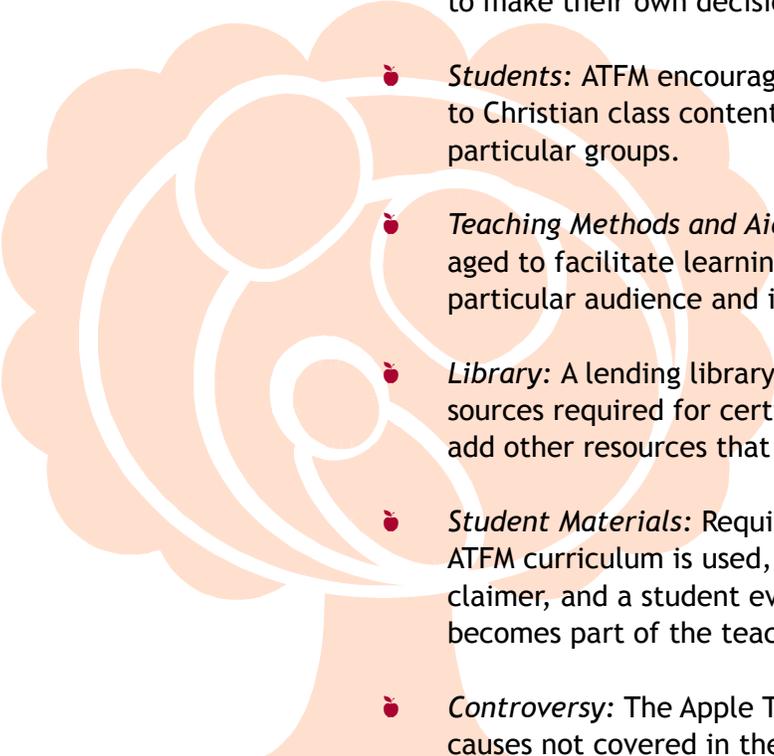
³ The “attachment parenting” approach developed by author and ATFM friend Dr. William Sears suggests tools he calls the seven “Baby Bs”: birth bonding, breastfeeding, “babywearing” (using a cloth carrier), bedsharing, belief in baby’s cries, beware of “baby trainers,” and balance/boundaries.



ATFM Policies

Apple Tree Family Ministries staff and teachers—Certified Childbirth Educators (ATCCE) and Affiliates (ATA)—are committed to the following policies in order to maintain high standards of quality, consistency, and biblical ethics.

Class Content

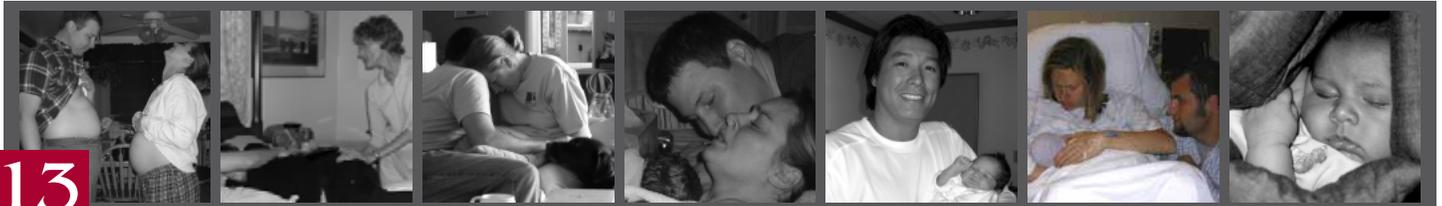
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- **Decisions:** ATFM teachers offer education in order to assist parents in making decisions, but they respect the parents' rights and responsibilities to make their own decisions.
 - **Students:** ATFM encourages teachers to welcome all students who are open to Christian class content, but some teachers may choose to work with particular groups.
 - **Teaching Methods and Aids:** Varied teaching modes are strongly encouraged to facilitate learning, as are visual aids that are in good taste for the particular audience and in harmony with ATFM beliefs.
 - **Library:** A lending library is provided for students, with at least the resources required for certification or affiliation. Teachers are encouraged to add other resources that are in harmony with ATFM.
 - **Student Materials:** Required materials are given to all students when an ATFM curriculum is used, including an introduction letter, a medical disclaimer, and a student evaluation form that is sent directly to ATFM and becomes part of the teacher's recertification or reaffiliation process.
 - **Controversy:** The Apple Tree series is not a forum for discussing issues or causes not covered in the *ATFM Statement of Faith* or *ATFM Basic Principles*. ATFM teachers guide class discussion accordingly.

Privileges & Responsibilities

- **Teachers:** Individual women or married couples may become ATFM teachers.
- **Teacher Titles:** ATCCEs use the title "Apple Tree Certified Childbirth Educator" (ATCCE) or, when teaching secular classes, "Certified Childbirth Educator" (CCE), where permitted under local law. (Contact ATFM with questions about this.) ATAs use the title "Apple Tree Affiliate" (ATA).
- **Professional Development:** ATFM teachers strive for proficiency through continuing education, associations with other birth professionals, and student evaluations and teacher reports submitted to ATFM.

ATFM Policies, Continued

- **Curriculum:** ATCCEs may teach the current and full *Apple Tree Christian Childbirth Series* or may omit spiritual portions to teach secular childbirth classes; any additional material must be approved in advance by ATFM. ATAs may teach the current and full *Apple Tree Spiritual Dimensions of Birth Series* curriculum, either by itself or by integrating it into their own classes and making clear that only ATFM's curriculum represents ATFM's views. Both ATCCEs and ATAs may present individual curriculum topics at extracurricular speaking engagements, with credit to ATFM.
- **Class Titles:** Classes taught with an ATFM curriculum are called *Apple Tree Christian Childbirth Series*, *Apple Tree Childbirth Series* (for secular classes), or *Apple Tree Spiritual Dimensions of Birth Series*. (If a different title is preferred, permission may be requested.)
- **License & Term:** ATFM curricula are provided to teachers under license, not purchased. The privileges of ATFM certification or affiliation, including the license to teach ATFM curricula, extend only as long as the certification or affiliation remains current. ATFM may, at its discretion, permit a teacher to fulfill new requirements and resume certification or affiliation after a leave of absence.
- **Name & Logo:** The name "Apple Tree Family Ministries" and the tree-and-family logo are protected servicemarks, and all ATFM materials are copyrighted; all are protected in full by law. Except for materials specifically designated by ATFM for class distribution and for the other uses listed below, no ATFM servicemarks or materials may be reproduced or transmitted for any reason, at any time, in any form, by any mechanical or electronic means, including storage and retrieval, without written permission from ATFM.
- **Printed and Online Material:** ATFM teachers may use ATFM's name and logo on class-related forms, business cards, promotional items, advertising, class handouts, websites, and electronic communications as long as they are in harmony with ATFM's beliefs and policies. Copies of these items are submitted to ATFM for approval when originally created and again as part of the regular recertification or reaffiliation process.
- **Finances:** ATFM teachers have full responsibility for their own finances, including complying with all legal requirements. They set their own class fees according to the standards of their community and of fairness, and as they are led by God. Fees, terms of payment, and refund policies are clearly communicated by the individual teacher.



ATFM Policies, Continued

- *No Warranty:* ATFM provides training in how to teach its curricula. It offers no warranty as to the teacher's ability to obtain students or to satisfy any particular requirements of employers or of laws in the teacher's community.

Ethics & Professionalism

- *Integrity:* ATFM teachers maintain high Christian standards of integrity and personal conduct in teaching and in life.
- *Excellence:* ATFM materials and classes are presented with the highest standards of excellence possible in each situation in order to honor God and the people we serve.
- *Respect:* ATFM teachers demonstrate respect for all individuals as human beings created in God's image, even when they may disagree.
- *Confidentiality:* ATFM teachers respect the privacy of their students and comply with the law by holding all personal information in strict confidence.
- *Conflict of Interest:* Participation in any other causes or organizations (including the ATA's certifying or licensing organization) is in harmony with ATFM's beliefs and policies.
- *Other Disciplines:* ATFM teachers do not practice medicine or any other professional discipline such as doula or midwife unless they possess separate credentials for it. In that case, care is taken to distinguish any practice in the separate discipline from one's role as an ATFM teacher.
- *Copyrights:* Copyrights are honored out of respect for the law and for intellectual property. This includes using copyrighted material only with appropriate permission, without altering the material, and with required copyright notices. (If there is a need to alter ATFM's material, permission may be requested.)
- *Academic Standards:* Generally recognized academic standards such as verbal acknowledgement, footnotes, and bibliographies are followed in order to acknowledge others' ideas and work.
- *Disputes:* ATFM attempts to resolve any concerns or disputes through the biblical means of discussion and mediation. However, certification or affiliation may be revoked at any time without prior notice if ATFM requirements are not followed.

Application (ATCCE, ATA)

Submit this four-page application and three references (p. 19) first, to request admission to the Apple Tree Family Ministries Christian Childbirth Program. (Reviews are submitted later.) Attach additional paper if needed. *Be sure to keep a copy for your records.*

Personal Information

Your Name:

Street Address:

City/State/Country/Zip or Postal Code:

Phone:

E-mail:

Church or Christian fellowship where you are active:

Applying for:

Apple Tree Christian Childbirth Educator

Apple Tree Affiliate—include copy of current license or certification or request waiver on p. 17

About You

Why do you feel called to be an ATFM teacher?



ATFM Application Continued

Your Name:

ATCCE Applicant Only: tell us briefly about your own birth(s).

ATCCE Applicant Only: tell us briefly about your own breastfeeding.

ATFM Application Continued

Your Name:

Is there anything else you would like to share with us? Any questions about *The Joy of Natural Childbirth*, ATFM's Statement of Faith, Basic Principles, Policies, or anything else? (If you are requesting a waiver for the ATCCE birth or breastfeeding requirement or for the ATA current licensure/certification requirement, explain here.)

ATFM Application Continued

Agreement

By submitting this application, I am requesting admission to the Apple Tree Family Ministries (ATFM) Christian Childbirth Program. I understand that admission is solely at the discretion of ATFM, that I am entering a voluntary training program only, and that I am not in any way an employee of ATFM. I understand that Apple Tree Certification or Affiliation is not and should not be represented as qualification for me to be a labor assistant, doula, midwife, or other at-birth or lactation practitioner and does not authorize me to provide medical services of any kind.

I agree with the *ATFM Statement of Faith* and *ATFM Basic Principles* and agree to abide by *ATFM Policies* and program requirements as currently written and as they may change at ATFM's sole discretion from time to time, as long as my certification or affiliation remains current. I may resign my certification or affiliation at will by providing written notice to ATFM, and if I do not abide by this agreement, ATFM may revoke my certification or affiliation at any time by providing written notice to me.

ATFM and I, as Christians, believe the Bible commands us to make every effort to live at peace and to resolve disputes with one another in private or within the Christian community in conformity with the biblical injunctions of Matthew 5:23-24, Matthew 18:15-17, and 1 Corinthians 6:1-8. Therefore, I agree that any controversy or claim regarding my relationship with ATFM will be resolved first with personal discussion, then with the assistance of a Christian mediation service or, as a last resort, through legally binding arbitration, and that these methods will be the sole remedy for any controversy except to enforce through the civil courts a legally binding arbitration decision.

Your Signature: _____

Date: _____

Your Name (printed): _____

Fees

\$ _____ Application Fee \$35

\$ _____ One-year ATFM General Membership Fee \$35 or I am a current member

\$ _____ Total

Payment (U.S. funds, please)

Application will be processed when payment is received. ATFM uses PayPal for credit card payments. Select a payment option:

Check enclosed

I will use my PayPal account to send payment to kathy@applefamily.org. (If you do not have a PayPal account, you can set one up easily at www.paypal.com by registering your credit card.)

Please send me an ATFM/PayPal invoice at my e-mail address: _____.
(Requires only one-time entry of your credit card information.)

Fax application to (562) 925-0149, scan & e-mail to kathy@applefamily.org,
or mail to: ATFM, PO Box 759, Artesia, CA 90702, USA.

Reference (ATCCE, ATA)

Give this reference to people who will be able to answer the questions from personal knowledge of you—one to a pastor or other leader of your church or Christian fellowship and two to other people of your choice. For ATA applicants, at least one client of your birth-related profession is preferred.

Instructions

GThank you for providing this reference for an applicant to Apple Tree Family Ministries' Certified Childbirth Educator or Affiliate program. Please reply candidly based on your knowledge of the applicant; use extra paper as needed. Send the completed form directly to Apple Tree Family Ministries.

Applicant's Name:

Your Name:

Your Phone:

Your e-mail:

Your Relationship to Applicant:

What have you observed about the applicant's personal relationship with God?

The applicant has applied to teach Apple Tree Family Ministries classes related to the spiritual dimensions of childbirth. What strengths do you feel they will bring to that role?

Do you have any concerns about the applicant's ability to fill that role? If so, please explain.

May we share your comments with the applicant? Yes No

Fax form to (562) 925-0149, scan & e-mail to kathy@appletreefamily.org,
or mail to: ATFM, PO Box 759, Artesia, CA 90702, USA.

Cover Sheet for Reviews (ATCCE, ATA)

Submit all Reviews *together at one time with this cover sheet, copy of CPR certification (optional), and your Program/Curriculum Fee* no later than three months after completing the online Workshop series. *Be sure to keep a copy of everything for your records.*

Your Name:

Street Address:

City/State/Country/Zip or Postal Code:

Phone:

E-mail:

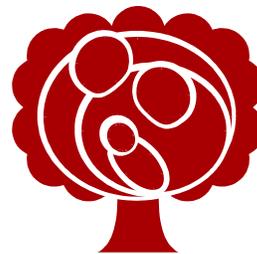
Fee:

\$300 ATCCE or \$100 ATA Program/Curriculum Fee

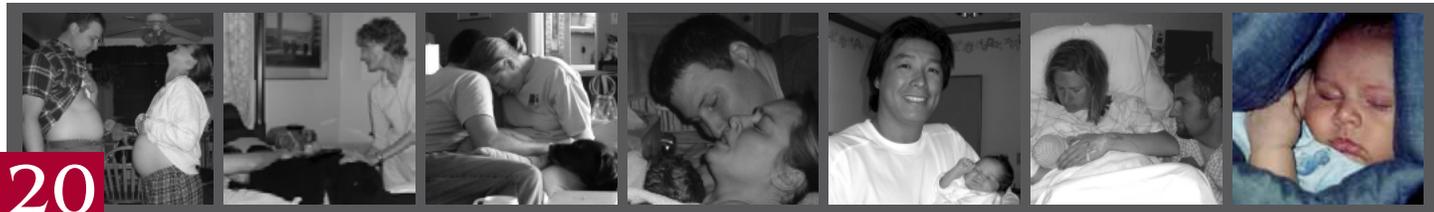
Payment (U.S. funds, please)

Reviews will be processed when payment is received. ATFM uses PayPal for credit card payments. Select a payment option:

- Check enclosed
- I will use my PayPal account to send payment to kathy@applefamily.org. (If you do not have a PayPal account, you can set one up easily at www.paypal.com by registering your credit card.)
- Please send me an ATFM/PayPal invoice at my e-mail address: _____.
(Requires only one-time entry of your credit card information.)



Fax reviews to (562) 925-0149, scan & e-mail to kathy@applefamily.org,
or mail to: ATFM, PO Box 759, Artesia, CA 90702.



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Resource Review (ATCCE, ATA)

Duplicate this form and submit one for each required Resource. Attach additional paper if needed. *Be sure to keep copies for your records.*

Your Name:

Title:

Author(s):

Edition or Date(s) of Publication:

Did you purchase? Yes No

Briefly summarize the content.

What did you like most?

What did you like least?

Did you disagree with anything? What and why?

Labor & Birth

Review (ATCCE only)

Duplicate this form and submit one for each birth. First have it signed by one of the people indicated below and then complete the questions. Attach additional paper if needed. *Be sure to keep copies for your records.*

I (parent, doula, nurse, doctor, or midwife) certify that the person named below was present:

Signature

Printed Name

Your Name:

Date of Birth Observed:

Location of Birth:

Summarize the course of labor and birth, including when you arrived.

Briefly describe the role played by each person at the birth, including yourself.

What about the birth do you feel was positive and negative, and why?

LLL or Breastfeeding Class Review (ATCCE only)

Submit this review of a four-meeting series of La Leche League meetings (strongly preferred) or at least three hours of breastfeeding classes taught by a *certified* lactation specialist. First have it signed by the leader or teacher and then complete the questions. Attach additional paper if needed. *Be sure to keep a copy for your records.*

I certify that the person named below attended this series or class:

Leader/Teacher Signature

Printed Name

Your Name:

Date(s) of LLL Meetings or Breastfeeding Class:

If a class, number of hours:

Leader's/teacher's credentials:

Where did you attend?

What new things did you learn?

What did you like most?

What did you like least?

Would you recommend this group or class for your students? Why or why not?

Other comments:

Optional Childbirth Series Review (ATCCE only)

Submit this review of a series of childbirth classes. Classes that encourage and prepare for unmedicated birth (like ATFM or Bradley®) are strongly preferred. First have it signed by the teacher and then complete the questions. Attach additional paper if needed. *Be sure to keep a copy for your records.*

I certify that the person named below attended this series:

Teacher Signature

Printed Name

Your Name:

Dates of Childbirth Series:

Teacher's Credentials:

Where did you attend?

What was the general "birth philosophy" presented?

What seemed most helpful for the students?

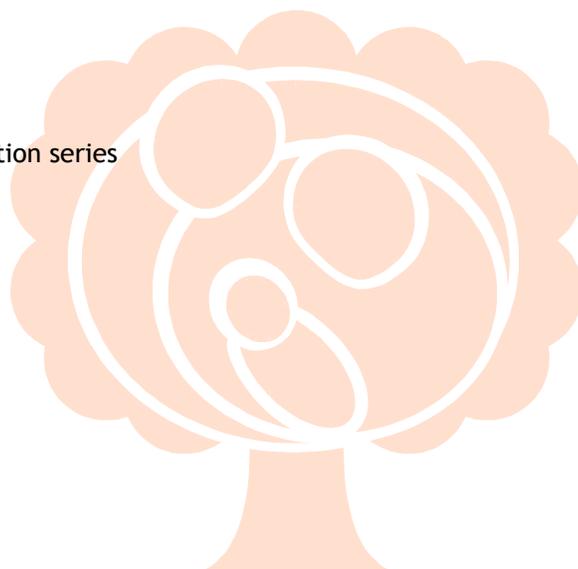
What would you do differently?

Other comments:

Checklist

Apple Tree Certified Childbirth Educator

- Read required portions of *The Joy of Natural Childbirth* and discuss any questions with ATFM
- Review ATFM Statement of Faith, Basic Principles, and Policies
- Submit Application, non-refundable Application Fee, and Membership Fee if not current member—keep a copy for your records
- Purchase and read/view required resources
- Observe two births
- Observe LLL meeting series (or breastfeeding classes)
- Optional but highly recommended: obtain CPR certification
- Optional but highly recommended: observe childbirth education series
- Register for online Workshop series
- Participate in designated sessions of online Workshop series
- Submit all at once—keep copies for your records:
 - Cover Sheet for Reviews
 - Resource Reviews
 - Labor & Birth Reviews
 - LLL Series or Breastfeeding Class Review
 - Optional CPR Certification
 - Optional Childbirth Series Review
 - ATCCE Program/Curriculum Fee
- Take Final Exam

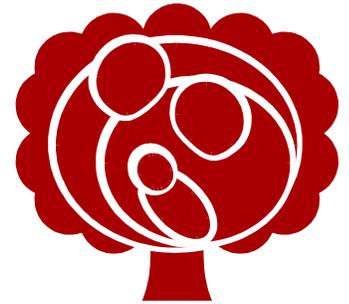


Apple Tree Affiliate

- Read required portions of *The Joy of Natural Childbirth* and discuss any questions with ATFM
- Review ATFM Statement of Faith, Basic Principles, and Policies
- Submit Application, non-refundable Application Fee, and Membership Fee if not current member—keep a copy for your records
- Purchase and read/view required resources
- Register for online Workshop series
- Participate in designated sessions of online Workshop series
- Submit all at once—keep copies for your records:
 - Cover Sheet for Reviews
 - Reviews
 - ATA Program/Curriculum Fee



ATFM Staff



Kathy Nesper, ATCCE, CD(DONA) President

Kathy's passion to help couples encounter God in childbirth led to her role as co-founder and president of ATFM. She is a certified childbirth educator and certified birth doula who has trained and supported new parents since 1977, soon after the birth of her first child. Kathy is co-author or editor of ATFM's publications and has written for others including *Childbirth Instructor* magazine, *Spero News*, and *Mutuality*. She has spoken to the American College of Nurse-Midwives, National Family Ministries Conference, California Association of Midwives, Christian Midwives International, Trust Birth Conference, La Leche League conference, and more.

Kathy and D.W. have been married since 1972 and are parents and parents-in-law to three sons and their wives: Zac and Ellen, Preston and Angie, and Tyler and Samantha. Kathy and D.W. live in Southern California, and they delight in their children and grandchildren.

Lynn Johnson, ATCCE, IBCLC Vice-President & Director of Education

Lynn's experience as a hospital parent education coordinator and lactation consultant and as past director of a residential program for single mothers qualifies her to address the needs of parents and babies in a wide range of circumstances. She is a certified childbirth educator and International Board-Certified Lactation Consultant (IBCLC) who has provided labor assistance and breastfeeding support for hundreds of parents in various settings.



Lynn and Loren were married from 1975 until he passed away in 2010. Their children are Kati and husband Justin, and Rodney and wife Anne. Lynn lives in Central California and greatly enjoys her role as grandma.

Apple Tree Family Ministries

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