

Parents Missing It

1 Corinthians 1:18

Preface

On behalf of everyone at Barnwell Baptist Church I would like to thank you for allowing your children to be a part of our 2009 Vacation Bible School. It has been a pleasure and a blessing to have over 100 children participate each day,

I would also like to say thank you to everyone who helped and worked so faithfully in our VBS this year. It could not have been a success without the contributions of labor and money by the members of our church.

One grandmother told me she had never seen children so excited about coming to church and learning about God. It is a joy to see these children come each day.

However, I must be honest with you. As I stood at the door and watched these children be escorted in each day, I could not help but think about you the parents. I wonder why many of you parents do not attend church yourself.

Why is it ok for you to bring your children to church but not necessary for you to attend on Sunday? Is God necessary for your children but not for you? Are their problems so great that they need God but your problems are so minor that you do not? You and I both know that is not the case.

1. You are missing the most important part of parenting

God's word tells us parents should be a Christian example to our children. We should bring them up in the way of the Lord. We should attend church with them and speak to them about God.

For all we try to do as a church, there is no substitute to these children for Christian parents.

The Bible says, *"Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds;... Teach them to your children, talking about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up."*

Are your children learning about God through your words and your example? If not you are missing the most important part of parenting.

Quote: A child is not likely to find a father in God unless he finds something of God in his father.

I'll never in my life forget the look on one little girl's face a few months ago. She had been coming to our AWANA children's program and was to be baptized this particular Sunday. When she came in the back door, she was glowing and smiling from ear to ear. I spoke to her and asked if she was ready to be baptized. She responded with a face full of excitement, "My step daddy is here today."

That little girl, her mother, her sister and her step daddy come every Sunday faithfully now.

It will mean the word to you, your children and to God if you will take your children to church.

2. You are missing the greatest blessing of your life

As a Pastor, I hear all sorts of explanations from people about why they do not attend church services. Absolutely none of them hold water.

The Bible tells us if Jesus Christ is the Lord of your life, you will want to worship him, you will want to study His word and you will want to be with other believers.

The truth is for many, Christ is not the Lord of your life. For some, you have not experienced the life changing power of the cross.

¹⁸For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. 1 Corinthians 1:18 NIV

The questions we must each answer is this; **"Is the cross foolishness to you or is the cross the power of God?"**

Romans 10:9 says; *"If you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord", and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."*

"While we were yet sinners, Jesus died on the cross that we might be saved."

Jesus said, I am the way the truth and the life. No man comes to the father except by me.

³⁶What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, yet forfeit his soul? Mark 8:36

Conclusion

Some of my testimony, 4 fathers, etc. Became a child of God and found peace. Married 27 years, etc.