

Sermon Notes 30/7/2017

Topic: Raising Children in the Christian Faith

Raising children in the Christian faith is a mandate by especially parents and every Christian adult.

During this week of mission, we have been challenged on many things that we must know and do as we seek the Lord for the healing of the land. The Lord promised in His word, that if we seek Him, we shall surely find Him, (2 Chronicles 15:2, Mat 7:7-8) and in 2Chronicles 7:14, God promises to heal the land. When promises, He also fulfills. However, When God does wonderful deeds for His people, he expects His people to tell the next generation about His wonderful deeds. Psalm 78:3-7, so that the next generation can put their trust in God.

If God's people don't tell the young ones about God and His wonderful deeds, a generation that does not know God nor His praise worthy deeds might raise up, as was in the case found Judges 2:10.

The children on the other hand are called to obey their parents as instructed in Ephesians 6:1-3.

Principles of raising children in the Christian faith: Deuteronomy 6:1-9

1. **Love the Lord your God:** It begins with the parent loving God. Jesus referred to this as the first and the greatest commandment. John 14:15 says, "If you love me you will obey my commandment". The best way to show our love for God is by accepting His son Jesus Christ as our personal Lord and Savior. Everyone who rejects the son of God rejects God Himself and lives in disobedience.
2. **Teach your children:** God expects every parent to teach children the laws of God and teach them to love and obey Him. He wants them to teach their children as a lifestyle; repeat them while at home and away, when they are resting and when they are working, when they sit and when they are walking on the road.
3. **Live their faith out:** By the same scripture, God instructs parents to put into practice God's laws for their children and for all to see that they obey God. Children learn more by seeing and imitating. They are most likely going live their lives as their parents do because they are their closest contact people and influencers. If parents live according the laws of God, their children are most likely to live that way. If they live otherwise, no matter how much they teach them verbally, children will have only head knowledge and their lives will not be transformed into godliness. So, parents and adults caring for children need to ensure that their actions match up with what they preach their children.

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