

# GROW IN GRACE NEWSLETTER

Volume 44b, No. 22, June 11, 2019 / Southside Baptist Church / P.O. Box 1594 / 1028 South Water Avenue, Gallatin, TN 37066 (615) 452-5951 / **The Grow in Grace Newsletter is a WEEKLY Bible Study**, plus local church news notes— designed first and foremost for members and those attending services at Southside Church; and is sent forth with the desire to aid one and all, (including friends far and wide), in the experience of 2 Peter 3:18. ***“But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our LORD and Savior JESUS CHRIST.***

*To Him be glory both now and forever. Amen.”*

## **SACRED MARRIAGE— Until Death Causes Parting!**

### **(Part 7) FATHERS! DISCIPLE YOUR FAMILIES!**

**Deuteronomy 6:4-9—** <sup>4</sup> “Hear, O Israel: [**HEAR, O SOUTHSIDE DADS, GRANDADS!**] The LORD our God, the LORD *is* one! <sup>5</sup> You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. <sup>6</sup> **“And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. <sup>7</sup> You shall teach them diligently to your children,** and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. <sup>8</sup> You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. <sup>9</sup> You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates. — **Christian Fathers: Disciple-making BEGINS AT HOME and is centered in the home; and is to be led by DADS!**

**Ephesians 6:4—** “**Fathers**, do not irritate and provoke your children to anger [do not exasperate them to resentment], but rear them [tenderly] **in the training and discipline and the counsel and admonition of the Lord.**” (Amp Bible)—

**Christian Fathers:** The call to make disciples BEGINS AT HOME! [Mothers also: Prov. 1:8; 6:20; 31:1]

## **The Greatest Untapped Evangelistic Opportunity Before the Modern Church!** (Edited from Scott Brown)

I believe that we are involved in the greatest evangelistic opportunity before the church today. I am talking about the salvation of millions of children under the evangelistic and discipleship ministry of fathers and mothers in the home. **The Bible calls fathers to preach the gospel to their children every day**, when they “sit in their house, when they walk by the way, when they lie down and when they rise up” (Deuteronomy 6:7). This kind of instruction gives children a true understanding of the gospel.

**Consider the Evangelistic Impact: It is a father’s calling** in life to pass on the knowledge of God to the next generation. **A father is commanded** to expose his children day after day, to the greatness of God, the perfections of His ways, and the great stories that explain the character and nature of God.

**Daily**, he praises God with hundreds of words and practical principles. **Day after day**, his children observe him as he personally delights in the Word. **They watch him** as he places himself under its wonderful teaching.

**They see** how their daddy is comforted and confronted by it and is changed before their eyes. **They see** how good and mighty God is and how foolish it is to turn away from Him. **They have seen**, time after time, how their father might have been discouraged or confused, but the lamp of the Word made everything clear.

**This kind of earthly father** stands with his Father in Heaven and calls out, “Today if you will hear His voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion” (Hebrews 3:7-11).

**He cries out, day after day**, explaining the principles and stories that glorify the kindnesses of God, His wrath toward sinners, and His vanquishing power over all things. **Under this kind of loving and happy ministry**, the children hear the whole counsel of God from Genesis to Revelation. **They see** the flow of history from God’s perspective.

**They hear** of the great doctrines of the faith which have sustained humble people from one generation to the next. **They observe** the mighty hand of God working against all human odds. **They see** the beginning and the end of history and where they themselves stand in its stream. They know who wins the battle. They know that nothing can stand against the Lord.

**How different this is, compared to sending them to an evangelistic crusade or a concert to see if they might be saved.**

Often a young person will go to a Christian concert and walk down the aisle or make a profession of faith, without really being saved. They might go forward because they had an emotional response or a guilty conscience or because a friend went down. **But it was not because they really understood the gospel.**

This is why so few who “make decisions” at evangelistic meetings ever continue in a normal Christian life. One reason is that they never had the kind of background understanding of sin or repentance or the specifics of the life they were turning toward. They were like the seeds that fell on the shallow soil,

which sprouted up and died away because they had no root in themselves.

**This is why we have so many young people walking down aisles thinking they have been saved, when in fact they just took a walk.** They really had no idea what they were doing, or what the call really was all about. We have many people in our churches who “walked an aisle,” “accepted Christ into their hearts,” but never really understood much about the context and content of the Gospel.

**For many, the Gospel has often been trivialized and reduced to “accepting Christ”. A detailed understanding of the Gospel is exactly what a daily diet of a father’s Gospel-teaching gives. It gives both the context and content that is necessary to become a *true* follower of Christ.**

**Also, consider how different this is compared to sending them to Sunday school class and youth group once per week to see if they might be saved.** If a father engages his children in gospel teaching six days a week for eighteen years, there will be **5,616 opportunities** to speak of the goodness of God.

If he sends his child to Sunday school for eighteen years, there will be 936 opportunities for him to hear of the goodness of God. If they go to Sunday school for a lifetime (to age 70) they will only have 3,640 opportunities.

This means that God would have a father give his child more teaching by age eighteen, than he will get in the modern church in a lifetime.

**But if these children had been under the daily evangelistic and discipleship ministry of their fathers,** they would more likely understand why they had given their hearts to the Lord. They would have understood the love of God in all of its detail.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** The local church is to be a GATHERING OF MOMS AND DADS, [God's YOUTH DIRECTORS!] who will team up to help and encourage one another in DISCIPLING THE NEXT GENERATION— but never for 'farm out' their God-given calling to anyone else.

**Rebellion against God's Clear Commands to Fathers: GOD HAS NOT COMMANDED FATHERS to** send their children to concerts and evangelistic crusades where they only get a small understanding of the gospel. **He has commanded that** they would be teaching their children and caring for their souls diligently day by day.

The sad reality of fathers' lives in modern churches is that they are satisfied with Sunday schools and concerts and evangelistic crusades,... but they reject God's undeniable commands to personally teach their children daily. This is outright rebellion against the Lord and against His clear commands.

**Unfortunately, the rebellion continues because they usually feel like they are faithful fathers:** Fathers often feel great about it because they define exemplary fatherhood **as going to the kids' recitals and games and getting them into a good Sunday school or youth group.**

In order to rescue this lost generation of children in Christian homes from hell, we must first help fathers understand what God

has commanded. We must speak clearly of what God has commanded so that they do not miss this opportunity...

**Observations and data from many different sources is proclaiming the fact that we are losing the next generation:**

**Dawson MacAlister**, national youth ministry specialist, says that 90% of kids in active high school youth groups do not go to church by the time they are sophomores in college (*The Present Future* by Reggie McNeal, Jossey-Bass). **Data from the Southern Baptist Convention** indicate that currently we are losing 70-88% of our youth after their freshman year in college. 70% of teenagers involved in church youth groups stop attending church within two years of their high school graduation.

Thom Rainer, while he was a professor at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary launched a survey that he hoped would tell him if people understood the gospel. His survey asked the following question:

***“Do you know for certain that if you die today, what would you say to God if He asked you why He should let you into His heaven?”*** The following percentages of people answered in a way that would indicate they were born again: **Those Who Understand the Gospel by Age Group: 1. Born before 1946- 65%. // 2. Born between 1946-64 - 35%. // 3. Born between 1965-76 - 15% // 4. Born between 1976-94 - 4%** (Source: *The Present Future* by Reggie McNeal.) .... Today, 25 years later... what % would it be?

**Pray for an Uprising of Men!**

I believe that a recovery of biblical fatherhood is the greatest and most neglected evangelistic opportunity in the church today. It is not the only legitimate evangelistic opportunity, but it is the most neglected.

***Imagine an uprising of men who (By lifestyle and with words!) PREACH the gospel daily to their children.***

While the church in the twenty-first century is losing the next generation of children to worldliness, **we are encouraging fathers to return to the biblical role of the head of the household to preach the gospel and to make disciples of all of the children in the household.**

**THE IMPORTANT BOTTOM LINE:** “It is a father’s calling in life to pass on the knowledge of God to the next generation. **A father is commanded** to expose his children day after day, to the greatness of God, the perfections of His ways, and the great stories that explain the character and nature of God. Daily, he praises God with hundreds of words and practical principles. **Day after day, his children observe him as he personally delights in the Word.**

They watch him as he places himself under its wonderful teaching. They see how their daddy is comforted and confronted by it and is changed before their eyes. They see how good and mighty God is and how foolish it is to turn away from Him. They have seen, time after time, how their father might have been discouraged or confused, **but the lamp of the Word made everything clear.”** (Scott Brown) **AND DAY BY DAY... THEY SEE THEIR DADDY LOVE THEIR MOTHER AS CHRIST LOVES THE CHURCH!**

**Mike Yaconelli, (who was a big time leader with *Youth Specialties*), wrote an article entitled *The Failure of Youth Ministry*. It caused such a stink, he had to write an apology! That is sad, because why should he have to apologize for telling the truth? **Here is a quote from his article:****

“Almost every study out there shows that **when it comes to moral behavior, there's no difference between secular and Christian students.** They drink as much, fornicate as much, have oral sex as much, and party as much. Why? Youth ministry doesn't have any staying power. **Young people flock to Christian concerts, cheer Jesus at large events, and work on service projects.** Unfortunately, it's not because of Jesus; it's because they're young!

In spite of all the dazzling super stars of youth ministry, the amazing array of YS [Youth Specialty] products, the thousands of youth ministry training events, nothing much has changed... So let's be honest.

**Youth ministry as an experiment has failed... if we want to see young people have a faith that lasts,** then we have to completely change the way we do youth ministry in America. I wonder if any of us has the courage to try?”

**MOREOVER, as to churches, certainly in Baptist Churches MOST ‘converts’ and baptisms are of children. By the hundreds of thousands they are ‘led’ through prayers, pronounced as ‘saved’ by pastors and evangelists; and then baptized.** This looks ‘good’ on religious reports! It is granted that children can be genuinely saved. **However, the great majority of present day ‘conversions’ are not the “Acts 2: 37-42”/“2 Timothy 3:15” variety!** They give forth no

evidence of life. Indeed over the last 20 years Southern Baptist baptized 7.1 MILLION folks! About 6.5 million went AWOL.

Having bypassed Holy Spirit conviction, repentance, and new birth— most modern ‘converts’ SOON follow their hearts **which were and REMAIN wed to the world’s ‘hog-pens’**— 2 Peter 2:22! **DADS, PARENTS— YOU must proclaim/teach the gospel to everyone in YOUR households and by your teaching and lifestyle give your CHILDREN a 1000 reasons to believe the gospel of Christ!**

**Fulfilling the Great Commission begins at home!**

Great Grace to All! James Bell / [www.southsidegallatin.org](http://www.southsidegallatin.org)

**\*\*\*\* SHARE the Preaching of the Word of God!**

**<http://www.southsidegallatin.org/>**

**[Listen\\_to\\_other\\_sermons\\_on\\_sermonaudio/](#)**

## **SOUTHSIDE NEWS NOTES:**

**TUESDAYS:** Come and sing every Tuesday night at Gallatin Health Care Nursing Home. Meet at the front door at **5:15PM**.

**WEDNESDAYS: → 6:30pm— Wednesday CHURCH PRAYER SERVICE → Enter via IRON STEPS, side door.**

**WEDNESDAYS: → 6:30pm— Youth** Activities and Bible Study— enter, side double doors.

**WEDNESDAYS: → 6:30pm— Young Family Prayer Time!** THIS IS a time of Bible study and prayer geared toward **families with children in the nursery and pre-K class.**

**\*\*\* LADIES BIBLE STUDY— DIFFERENT SCHEDULE FOR JUNE: NEXT MEETING WILL BE ON JUNE 18, 2019 @ 11:00am; Continuing in LUKE.** ENTER at the back of the church building, [*Doors open at 10:30am... re-locked at 11:10am*]

**\*\*\* MEN's Fellowship/Bible Study:** EVERY SATURDAY @  
**8:00am: (STUDY: THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN!) ENTER AT**  
 THE back of Church building... under the drive-thru awning. **[DOORS**  
**OPEN FOR FELLOWSHIP, Juice, coffee, Hardee's biscuits, & Donuts**  
**at 7:30am!]**

## **SUNDAY SERVICES, JUNE 16, 23, 30**

**9:30am— Sunday School Classes for All Ages**

**10:45am— Sunday Morning Worship Service**

### **SPECIAL EVENTS ON THE FOLLOWING SUNDAYS:**

**\*\*\* JUNE 16 — LORD'S SUPPER, at the end of the Morning**  
**Worship // HOME GROUPS... some at 5pm**

**\*\*\* JUNE 23 — 6:00pm - 7:00pm, Church-wide EQUIPPING**  
**DISCIPLES by developing Christ-honoring Marriages:**  
**Paul David Tripp's 'WHAT DID YOU EXPECT? (Redeeming**  
**the Realities of Marriage)**

**\*\*\*\*\* JUNE 30 — AN EVENING OF SCRIPTURE and PRAISE @**  
**6PM**



\*\*\*\*\*

## **SOUTHSIDE DAY CAMP**

**JUNE 26-28 / 9:30am - 12:30pm**

There will be **no cost** for this camp. Lunch and snacks will be provided. **REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED!**

**1. Ages 0-4** - This class will be taught by Rhiannon Allen and will last from 9:30 - 12:30. This age group is welcome to stay for the afternoon activities, but a parent must pick them up at 12:30 and stay with them for the rest of the day.

**2. 3. Ages 5-8** - This class will be taught by Bethany Troutt and will last from 9:30 - 12:30. This age group is welcome to stay for the afternoon activities, but a parent must pick them up at 12:30 and stay with them for the rest of the day or other arrangements for a responsible adult must be made.

**Ages 9-18** - This class will be taught by Jaden Allen and will last from 9:30 - 12:30, followed by a craft time and an activity time ending at 3 pm.

**FOR MORE INFO and/or TO REGISTER— Contact Jaden Allen:**

Email at [jadenrallen@gmail.com](mailto:jadenrallen@gmail.com) Or text/call at 615-939-0318