

Prepared for the Lord

The Quarterly Parent Newsletter
of the Student Ministries of BBC



A Note from our Pastor Dr. Mark Campbell

No doubt there are times when as a parent a teenager you find yourself out of time and pressed for things to get done. Allow me to take a moment and encourage you never to sacrifice your time with your teenager. They need both you and your time. When there is a concert, be there. When there is a game, be there. When there is any special event, be there. You will never forget it, and neither will your teenager.

I remember a soccer game I was playing in as a senior in high school. It was a particular cold and pouring down rain kind of day. It had rained all day and never let up the entire game. My play that day was not up to what it usually was, It seemed as if the harder I tried, the worse my play was. The weather had driven away almost all of the fans that day. However, as I looked over toward the sideline, I saw a man in his suit who had come straight from work. He had a black umbrella over his head and stood there with no one else around him. I could hear him cheer and knew that voice so well - it was my father. Twenty-six years later, I am telling you this story that I will never forget. Let this story be a good example to all of us.

For Him,
Pastor

United - Fighting for the Next Generation

Part 2

by Cary Schmidt



(Part 2 continued from previous newsletter)

A Father-led Philosophy

My first morning on staff at Lancaster Baptist Church included a 7 a.m. men's prayer meeting. I will never forget meeting in Pastor Chappell's office with a group of men that came in early to pray. This was not a staff meeting. It was a group of laymen. That morning we prayed around the room for over an hour, and one by one I heard young Christian men—recently saved husbands and fathers—on their knees, pouring out their hearts to God. They prayed for their children, their marriages, their pastor, their church, and for lost souls.

That meeting is forever etched into my memory. I knew that morning that God was going to do something great at Lancaster Baptist. Here was a pastor dedicating himself to building and discipling men to be godly fathers and leaders both at home and in the church. And since that time, God has continued to honor Pastor Chappell's commitment to disciple faithful men.

"And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also." 2 Timothy 2:2

An Age-based, Biblical Education Effort

Every now and then someone will ask me, "...is youth ministry in the Bible? Is age-graded education really a biblical concept?" The answer is a simple yes—when done biblically! While the title of "children's pastor" or "youth pastor" isn't found in the Bible, there are several passages that very clearly promote the concept of the church bringing order to age-based education.

First, in Titus 1:5, the Apostle Paul commands Titus to "set in order" the things that are wanting. This is a broad command that gave Pastor Titus a directive to establish structure and order in ministry. Then, later in Titus 2, the Apostle Paul gives a clear pattern for older men and women (not just parents) to teach younger men and women. Titus 2 is a key Bible passage for establishing a biblical ministry to youth and young adults.

He begins by telling us to teach sound doctrine, then proceeds to give a longer, more detailed list that older Christians (men and women) in the congregation should impart to younger Christians.

Finally, Galatians 4:2 gives fathers permission to appoint tutors and governors in their children's lives to assist in instruction and education.

God has blessed these simple but powerful principles at Lancaster Baptist. In ministry to young people, we focus on faith-building, Bible teaching and training. Student ministry isn't about entertainment. It's about meat—content—prepared, delivered, and applied to young lives, just as the Apostle Paul did by addressing different age groups and life-contexts in his letters. (See Ephesians 5 and 6.)

"But speak thou the things which become sound doctrine: That the aged men be sober, grave, temperate, sound in faith, in charity, in patience. The aged women likewise, that they be in behaviour as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things; That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children, To be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed. Young men likewise exhort to be sober minded." Titus 2:1-6

Lesson Updates

Topics coming up in our services

- Jr. High Sunday School

Bible Doctrines

- Jr. High Wednesday Night

Giants of the Faith

- Sr. High Sunday School

The Marks of a True Winner

- Sr. High Wednesday Night

(Part 3 will be in the following newsletter and will be the final part)

Tips for Treating Teens with Compassion

by Pastor R.B. Ouellette



Nurture Them

Ephesians 6:4 tells us, “And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.” Nurture speaks of tutoring, educating, and training. This kind of instruction includes mild rebukes and correction but does not respond in a fleshly manner.

Remember That They Are Gradually Becoming Independent

A wise parent and a wise youth pastor will gradually allow more areas of responsibility and decision-making in the life of a teen.

Treat Them with Dignity and Respect

Never call them names. Do not demean them in front of others. Ask them to do things rather than ordering them to be done.

Relate to Them

Remember that all teenagers have a lot of emotions inside them. Don't just say to them, “I know how you feel.” Ask

God for understanding and say, “Can I guess what you're feeling about this and will you tell me if I'm right?” When they believe you understand them, they will begin to listen.

Treat Minor Infractions Light-heartedly

Often a parent, a youth pastor, or a preacher will use an atom bomb to punish a teenager for jaywalking!

Demonstrate Love and Affection Even if it Is Not Reciprocated

It is always right to love people, whether they love us back or not.

Pray

There is no substitute for asking God to work in the heart of a teenager, give you the right heart towards them, and help you to understand and relate to them.

From My Desk - *Why it is More Important than Ever to Have Family Devotions*

Soon after my wife and I got married we started reading *Your Daily Walk: 365 daily devotions to Read Through the Bible in a Year* by Bruce Wilkinson. It was a fun time to spend reading

the chapters and the thoughts behind the chapter. After our daughter was born, we began to have family Bible time. Every night that we are home together, we gather at Bed time and read Bible stories together. I wanted to give some encouragement to parents to continue to meet as a family, to resurrect this time, or to begin it for the first time. Here are some helpful tips.

- **Have it at the same time daily** - Some people do mornings, I prefer evenings and have found that to be more sustainable. Some people skip Sunday and Wednesday due to church. I don't recommend that AT ALL! Daily is a daily thing, not an almost daily thing.

- **Plan what you will do** - Buy a book, borrow one from someone that will help center your thoughts. Buy a Sunday School curriculum and work through it together. Read the Bible by

topics or study a certain book or character. The ideas are endless, but the necessity to do something is enormous.

- **Make it age appropriate for all involved** - Make sure everyone has something to get from this time together
- **Make it a reasonable time** - Don't try to become a seminary teacher overnight. Just spend time in God's Word. Just start with 15 minutes and see what happens.
- **If possible, the Father should lead** - Men should be the Spiritual head of the home. Even if he is not the most qualified, it is his responsibility.
- **Spend Time Praying as a Family** - Your children need to know what you are praying for, for this is what you heart is concerned with.

This time will not replace your on personal time with the Word of God, but rather supplement that time and to demonstrate to your children what you value and how to have a walk with the Lord. It will change the attitude of your home. It is hard to lose your temper with your family when the night before you taught them about anger. Family devotions are a great source of growth in personal life as well as the life of your family!



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TEEN EXTREME Youth Camp

July 16 - 20, 2012

\$175 if you apply by April 1, 2012



Our Speaker
Dr. Johnny Pope



You will not want your student to miss teen camp. It is a great time to get to know other young people as well as to spend concentrated time growing in the Lord.