

## HELPING MY KIDS KEEP THEIR FAITH, Part 1

Sermon Series: I Am The Church

Sermon Outline

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- + 1 Corinthians 4:8-11, *“Though we experience every kind of pressure, we’re not crushed. At times we don’t know what to do, but quitting is not an option. <sup>9</sup>We are persecuted by others, but God has not forsaken us. We may be knocked down, but not out. <sup>10</sup>We continually share in the death of Jesus in our own bodies so that the resurrection life of Jesus will be revealed through our humanity. <sup>11</sup>We consider living to mean that we are constantly being handed over to death for Jesus’ sake so that the life of Jesus will be revealed through our humanity” (TPT).*
- + Hebrews 12:1, *“... let us rid ourselves of everything that gets in the way, and of the sin which holds on to us so tightly, and let us run with determination the race that lies before us” (GNT).*
- + 1 Corinthians 9:24, *“You know that many runners take part in a race, but only one of them wins the prize. Run, then, in such a way as to win the prize” (GNT).*
- + Isaiah 7:9b, *“If you do not stand firm in your faith, you will not stand at all” (NIV).*
- What it is that you need and your kids need to build in your faith. One word — \_\_\_\_\_. The dictionary defines this word as “the strength, durability, sturdiness, steadfastness, adaptability, toughness, recoverability and rigidity to thrive and outlast.”
- + Proverbs 24:10, *“If you compromise when the pressures are on you, then you have a very weak faith. What you need is God’s resilience” (PAR).*

### How Do I Help My Kids Keep Their Faith Under the Pressure To Compromise?

#### 1. I must help my kids know what it means for them to have their \_\_\_\_\_.

- The phrase “in Christ” is used \_\_\_\_\_ times in the New Testament and the phrase “in Him” is used \_\_\_\_\_ times in the New Testament. We call ourselves Christians. Do you know how many times the word “Christian” is used in the New Testament to refer to us? — \_\_\_\_\_. God’s best description for us is not believers. It is not disciples or followers. It is “in Christ” and “in Him.” And of those 89 times “in Christ” is used, \_\_\_\_\_ times it tells you what your identity is.
- + Proverbs 22:6, *Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it” (ESV).*
  - (a) The Hebrews word translated as “train up” is [חָנַךְ, chanokh]. It originally referred to the \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (i) Implication #1 > This Hebrew word was used to describe developing a \_\_\_\_\_.
      - + Psalms 42:1-2, *“A deer thirsts for a stream of water. In the same way, I thirst for you, God. <sup>2</sup>I thirst for the living God. When can I go to meet with Him?” (ICB).*
    - (ii) Implication #2 > This Hebrew word was also used to breaking or binging into \_\_\_\_\_ a wild horse by a rope in its mouth.
    - (iii) Implication #3 > This Hebrew word was also used to refer to a parent instilling \_\_\_\_\_ in a child through instruction just as the parent does also.
      - + Proverbs 20:11, *“All children show what they’re really like by how they act. You can discern their character, whether they are pure or perverse” (TPT).*
  - (b) The Hebrew word translated as “child” is [נֶאֱרָא, naar] and it refers to any \_\_\_\_\_ but it also refers to any child who \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (c) The Hebrew word translated as “the way he should go” is [דֶּרֶךְ, derekh] means “\_\_\_\_\_”
    - (i) This means using language, terms and concepts that a child at their \_\_\_\_\_ can \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (ii) This means using whatever means you can to help your child grasps God’s law and God’s Word in a way that works best for them. This is less about the \_\_\_\_\_ you use and more about the \_\_\_\_\_ you use.
  - (d) The Hebrew word translated as “old” is [יָזָק, yazqin] and it originally referred to \_\_\_\_\_. So how does this apply to a child? When does a child or boy begin to get \_\_\_\_\_.
- + Galatians 6:7, *“Don’t be misled or deceive yourselves; remember that you can’t ignore God and get away with it. A man will always reap just the kind of crop he sows” (TLB).*

- † Ezekiel 18:20, "The child will not be punished for the parent's sins, and the parent will not be punished for the child's sins. Righteous people will be rewarded for their own righteous behavior, and wicked people will be punished for their own wickedness" (NLT).
- Think of it this way: what isn't \_\_\_\_\_ to my children can easily be \_\_\_\_\_ by others.
  - To be "in Christ" is a \_\_\_\_\_ by somebody who had decided to follow Jesus Christ for \_\_\_\_\_, in \_\_\_\_\_ by the \_\_\_\_\_.
- † Matthew 4:19a, "Jesus said, 'Come and follow Me . . .'" (NLT).
- Jesus Christ says to all of us: "You make the \_\_\_\_\_ to follow Me and I will \_\_\_\_\_ you to be more like Me."

## 2. I must help my kids understand that to be "in Christ" means \_\_\_\_\_.

- † Romans 12:2, "Stop imitating and conforming to the ideals, opinions and customs of the culture around you, but be inwardly transformed by the Holy Spirit through a total reformation of how you think. This will empower you to discern God's will and purpose for your life as you live a beautiful life, satisfying and perfect in His eyes" (TPT).

### When I Fail To Help My Kids Understand Point #2 Above, It Creates Two Problems:

(a) \_\_\_\_\_ to non-Christians me.

- † 1 Corinthians 14:33, "'For God is not a God of confusion but of peace'" (ESV).
- Being "in Christ" means I have made a \_\_\_\_\_ to be different from my \_\_\_\_\_. Being "in Christ" means I have made a choice to no longer be a \_\_\_\_\_ of my culture, but to be \_\_\_\_\_ from my culture.

(b) \_\_\_\_\_ in-Christians around me.

- † 2 Timothy 1:7, "For the Spirit that God has given us does not make us timid and fearful; instead, His Spirit fills us with power, love, and self-control" (TEV).
- The word translated as "power" is the Greek New Testament word [δύναμις; dunamis] and it is where we get our English word \_\_\_\_\_.
  - The word translated as "love" is the Greek New Testament word [ἀγάπη; agapē] and it refers to the \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus Christ.
- † Matthew 9:36, "When He saw the crowds, He had compassion on them because they were confused and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd" (NLT).
- The word translated as "self-control" is the Greek New Testament word [σωφρονισμός; sōfronismos]. This word literally means "\_\_\_\_\_."

- † Philippians 2:5, "You must have the same mindset as Christ did" (NIV).
- † Revelation 3:15-16, "I know your deeds. You're neither cold nor hot. How I wish you were one or the other. So because you are lukewarm, neither hot nor cold, I am about to vomit you out of My mouth" (BSB).
- † Matthew 5:48, "You are to be perfect, even as your Father in heaven is perfect" (NLT).
- The word that is translated as "perfect" is the Greek New Testament word [τέλειος; teleios]. This word does not mean "without sin." This Greek New Testament word means "to reach \_\_\_\_\_; to fulfill \_\_\_\_\_; to become mature."
- † Philippians 3:14, "Run straight toward the goal in order to win the prize, which is God's call through Christ Jesus to the life above" (GNT).
- † Ephesians 4:22-24, "Everything—and I do mean everything—connected with that old way of life has to go. It's rotten through and through. Get rid of it! <sup>23</sup>And then take on an entirely new way of life—a God-fashioned life, <sup>24a</sup>life renewed from the inside and working itself into your conduct as God accurately reproduces His (Christ's) character in you" (MSG).
- Our \_\_\_\_\_ must match our \_\_\_\_\_ for Christ. Our \_\_\_\_\_ must match our \_\_\_\_\_ that we are "in Christ."
- † 2 Corinthians 5:20, "So we are Christ's ambassadors. God is making His appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, 'Come back to God'" (NLT).
- Living for Jesus is \_\_\_\_\_ for us and we will be \_\_\_\_\_ for it.
- † John 15:18-19, "Just remember, when the unbelieving world hates you, they first hated Me. <sup>19</sup>If you were to give your allegiance to the world, they would love and welcome you as one of their own. But because you won't align yourself with the values of this world, they will hate you. I have chosen you and taken you out of the world to be Mine. This is why the world hates you" (TPT).
- It's a \_\_\_\_\_ to follow Christ. There is a \_\_\_\_\_ to be different and there's a \_\_\_\_\_ that comes with this call to be "in Christ." Our children need to both expect this and be equipped for it.