



Three Things the World Will Teach Our Children

The World and Its Messages

- Biblically, “the world” is the section of humanity that, at any given time, finds itself separated from God.
 - John 3.16 – Jesus died for all who have sinned.
 - John 12.46 – Jesus came to give light to those in darkness.
- “The world” is in constant competition with godliness and the Gospel.
 - John 14.17 – “the world” does not receive God’s message.
 - John 17.25 – “the world” does not know God.

The World Will Teach Our Children Morality

- Consider the immorality that is accepted by the world:
 - Lying, Drunkenness, Revealing our bodies, Sexual sin
- How can we counter the world's morality?
 - Engaging in thoughtful conversation (Deuteronomy 6.7-9).
 - Limiting intake of the world's messages (Ephesians 5.8-11).
 - Exposing the world's messages (Ephesians 5.12-16).
 - Ephesians 4-5 expose all the immorality addressed earlier!

The World Will Teach Our Children Love

- How is love pictured in entertainment today?
 - Full and uncompromising acceptance of whatever anyone wants to do or to be.
- The world is wrong about love:
 - Love recognizes the value of all – Genesis 1.26f
 - Love reaches out for others – Romans 5.8
 - Love challenges us to do what is necessary – Mark 10.21
 - Love recognizes an ultimate standard and acts according to what is good – Romans 12.9

The World Will Teach Our Children Priorities

- What is not competing for our time?
- The reality is: our priorities are seen in the time and energy we dedicate to tasks, things, and people.
- Are we teaching our children the proper priorities?
 - We must care for ourselves – Mark 12.31
 - We must make others a priority – Mark 12.31
 - We must make God the priority – Mark 12.30

“Satan called a worldwide convention of demons.

In his opening address he said, ‘We can't keep Christians from going to church. We can't keep them from reading their Bibles and knowing the truth. We can't even keep them from forming an intimate relationship with their Savior. Once they gain that connection with Jesus, our power over them is broken. So let them go to their churches; let them have their covered dish dinners, but steal their time, so they don't have time to develop a relationship with Jesus Christ. This is what I want you to do,’ said the devil: ‘Distract them from gaining hold of their Savior and maintaining that vital connection throughout their day!’

'How shall we do this?' his demons shouted. "Keep them busy in the nonessentials of life and invent innumerable schemes to occupy their minds," he answered. "Tempt them to spend, spend, spend, and borrow, borrow, borrow. Persuade the wives to go to work for long hours and the husbands to work 6-7 days each week, 10-12 hours a day, so they can afford their empty lifestyles. Keep them from spending time with their children. As their families fragment, soon their homes will offer no escape from the pressures of work!'

'"Over-stimulate their minds so that they cannot hear that still, small voice. Entice them to play the radio or cassette player whenever they drive. To keep the TV, VCR, CDs and their PCs going constantly in their home... Have them return from their recreation exhausted. Keep them too busy to go out in nature and reflect on God's creation. Send them to amusement parks, sporting events, plays, concerts, and movies instead. Keep them busy, busy, busy!'

'And when they meet for spiritual fellowship, involve them in gossip and small talk so that they leave with troubled consciences. Crowd their lives with so many good causes they have no time to seek power from Jesus. Soon they will be working in their own strength, sacrificing their health and family for the good of the cause. It will work! It will work!'

It was quite a plan! The demons went eagerly to their assignments causing Christians everywhere to get busier and more rushed, going here and there, having little time for their God or their families and friends. Having no time to tell others about the power of Jesus to change lives.

I guess the question is, has the devil been successful at his scheme?"

-Author Unknown

The world is teaching — am I?

- Am I demonstrating God as a priority?
- Am I talking about what love actually is?
- Am I emphasizing morality in my family?
 - *Am I modeling morality in my family?*
- Am I pointing my home toward Heaven? (Colossians 3)