

Proverbs 20:11-12

Sunday 6/11/2017

Last week, you will remember we preached on one of the great upcoming events on God's calendar in the Bible, and that would be the Great White Throne Judgment. It is the last of seven judgments found in the Bible that we will be going through and laying out as we put the Word of God together in our institute, but certainly one of the most powerful judgments that you are going to study in the Bible. It is the day God, as the Bible says in Proverbs last week, will scatter all evil with His eyes.

We know now for a fact from last week that hell, as we know it, was never prepared for you. God never intended man to go to hell. The Bible says that hell was prepared for the devil and his angels. I have never understood how a Calvinist could ever hold on to what he really believes in the face of that verse that says that hell was never prepared for you and me in the first place, how we could think that somebody would be predestined to go someplace that God never intended us to go. But that is their problem, not mine. But it is an incredible concept, the fact that hell was never prepared for you.

In the Bible, there are three great examples of why people are going to wind up in the lake of fire. There are three great examples why people are going to face God at that judgment and have to spend eternity in the lake of fire.

I. Three Reasons People Go to Hell

The first one is found back in Exodus chapter 8. I have learned, and I am sure you have too, that when you witness to people, you hear all kinds of alibis. But those alibis usually come down into three aspects which are covered in the Bible.

Back in Exodus chapter 8, Moses goes before Pharaoh, and he begins to lay out to Pharaoh what God wants Pharaoh to do. He lays it very clear: He wants him to let the nation of Israel, those people, go. Pharaoh's answer is one of the classic answers that unsaved men always say when they are faced with what God wants them to do with salvation.

In Exodus 8:10, when Pharaoh was faced with the decision to either accept what God had told him or not, he took the route that a lot of people take, and he says, "You know what, Moses, I am going to do it tomorrow." He said, "I will do it tomorrow." People will die and go to hell because they are going to put off today's salvation. The Bible says, "Behold, today is the day of salvation." You are not promised tomorrow, but that is what they always say. They always say, "Well, tomorrow."

Then you go over to Acts 24:25, and you find where Paul was talking to Felix, the Roman governor. Paul is really, really, really witnessing to him. In fact, the Bible says in verse 25 that Felix is listening to the gospel presentation. He is hearing Paul talk about the power of God. The Bible says this Roman governor, now he is married to a woman who is a Jew, so there may be a little, she may have been putting some pressure on him, but the Bible says that this pagan Roman governor is listening to the gospel being presented. The Bible says he literally trembles. He says

the second thing that unsaved people say that is going to wind him up in the lake of fire when Paul was finished: "You know what, Paul? I really appreciate what you did, but it is just not convenient today for me to get saved." That is what they are going to tell you. "It is just not convenient for me. You know, my life is too busy right now. I have too many things going. It is just not convenient for me."

Then the third example is found in Acts chapter 26, and that is where again, Paul goes up against King Agrippa. In Acts 26:26-28, Paul really is putting it to him. Paul is really, really witnessing to this guy. I always thought that that was a great example. Paul is in jail. He is in prison, or he is supposed to be. Everybody that talks about Paul says that, you know, he is under Roman captivity right now. I am going to tell you something. If there is ever a place that shows you that nobody can ever own a Christian, it is a position right here. He may be in jail, but he is in complete charge of the situation. He is standing before the king, and he is telling him the gospel story, and the king is listening, and he says to him, "King, I know you know what I am telling you is true, because the things of God are very apparent, and the things that God has done were not hidden in a corner, and you know it."

You know what King Agrippa said? He said the third thing unsaved people say. He looked at him and said, "You know what, Paul? Almost. You persuaded me to become a Christian." People are going to die and go to hell for those three reasons. Some people are going to say, "I am going to do it tomorrow." Somebody else is going to put it off and say, "It is not convenient for me." Some of them, boy, I have seen them, they say, "Well, almost, almost."

Your hymnal there, on page 251, is one of the great songs that people sing, and most churches will sing it as one of their invitational songs, and that is "Almost Persuaded." It is based on King Agrippa in Acts chapter 26.

God wants you to get saved so badly that in the book of Revelation, which is the capstone of the Bible, when He comes down and He lays all that stuff out, the last thing that He does in Revelation 22:16-17 is He gives one final invitation.

Revelation 22:16-17

I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star.

And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.

The last thing that He does before He closes out the Bible is give one last invitation. He says in verse 12:

Revelation 22:12

And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.

He says that:

Revelation 22:11

He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still.

When I was a kid, we did not have all the video games that you kids have today. We did not have all the fun things you did. We did not have the parks that had the jungle gyms in them and the great things. We had an alley, and we would make up our own games. One of the games we would play is "kick the can." Anybody ever play "kick the can?" I remember that. We would never play with all the "in free." Remember that was.

What we would do is, and I always thought about this, we would get about, you know, we would play in the alley because you could hide behind people's garages and everything. One guy would have to look for everybody, and everybody else would hide. So he would have to bury himself up against the garage door, up against something. He had to count to 100, and everybody scattered and hid. When he was done counting, he turned around, and he wanted everybody to know that he was now going to start to look for them. He says, "Ready or not, here I come."

You know what Jesus is saying right there in Revelation? "Ready or not, He is coming." He is coming. I tell you what, that was a great sermon we had last week, not because I preached it, just because of the truth that was in it. We left this with the understanding that God does not want anybody to die and go to hell.

II. Practical Lessons from Proverbs 20:11-12

Now we are going to move on today in the next set of verses. We are going to look at our next set of passage here. Again, we are going to glean some great material from it for our lives. What I think today is some of the most practical lessons of life. I hope that you listen. I hope that you pay attention. I want to talk about some things today that I think will literally change your life.

We live in very complicated times. I remember 20, 25, 30 years ago, the statistics were that half of the adult population in America had been divorced one time, and half of them had been divorced again. That was 30 some years ago. Today, divorce is such an easy route for people to get out of a marriage that they should have never got into in the first place.

I want to talk about a number of things today that I think will be great practical things for you about your family, about you personally, about your own relationship with God, and all of the things that go along with it.

In Proverbs chapter 20, we want to look at verse 11 and 12. Here is what it says:

Proverbs 20:11-12

Even a child is known by his doings, whether his work be pure, and whether it be right.

The hearing ear, and the seeing eye, the LORD hath made even both of them.

Let us pray. Father, we come to You today, and we thank You and praise You for the Lord Jesus. Father, we are going to talk today about the hearing ear and the seeing eye. I pray Father today, Lord, that You would help everyone here today to listen to what the Word of God has to say. Lord, we love You. We say we believe the book. We say we love the book. But so many times, even though we say we love it and we believe it, we do not follow it. I pray today, Father, that we will focus and zero in on everything that You have for us. We will be careful to thank You and praise You in Jesus' name, for His sake we ask it. Amen.

III. You and Me as God's Child

This is a great practical lesson on, number one, you and me as God's child and the pattern of life that we will fall into that so easily defines us. Most people do not like to be rebuked. There are a lot of people that do not like my style of preaching because my style of preaching can get to you. Well, as one of you like it, and I am glad enough, I will show up just for you. I do not even want to know who you were, but I know who you were. Thank you.

It is a thing where, you know, that is the way God designed preaching to be. You know why God wants you to come and get your hide ripped off on Sunday morning and get good, hard preaching? Because you all have sin in your life. I have sin in my life. When you go to Sunday morning and a preacher gets up there and preaches hard to you and you get it right with God, you know what that does? That saves God the job of coming down and meeting you on a freeway on the way home. That is a good thing.

Right now, I am not everybody's best friend, but I will tell you, we get to the judgment seat of Christ, I am going to be your best friend. I will be the one guy on the planet that always told you the truth. You did not like it all the time. Oh, you see, I do not like it all the time. There are people who tell me things that I do not want to hear. I grew up just like you did. People do not like to be rebuked. People sometimes do not like to be held accountable for their actions in most cases.

You know, and you know it is true. Once you start discipling people or you work with people in discipleship, you have all seen it. You get four or five people like this, and then you get one jewel that will just do whatever God tells you to do. If God said stand on your head for six months, that is what they would do. But you all know as well as I do, you start working with somebody in discipleship, and everything is fine until you hit those real issues that you have to talk about. You get into the things of their life that now they have to be confronted with.

Let us be honest. Human nature is such that we always want to work on the things in our lives that we really do not have to work on. We do not want to work on the things that really need work. People always want to work on the issues that need no work. So they never have to deal with the real issues in life. That is the difference between churches that just play with the Bible and somebody else that will preach the Bible to you.

Yet we as God's child are known by our doings, and patterns of human nature become very clear. We have the people ministry that many of you are involved in. People ministry does a lot of things. But I will tell you primarily what it does: it lays out the patterns of human nature. It

shows you why people do the things that they do. It will show you patterns of everything and every aspect of life.

I would say, based on my time in the Bible and dealing with people, the biggest problem you had before your salvation will usually be the biggest problem you have after your salvation. Now, I know you have been taught and you have been told all your life that once you get saved, all your problems are over. That is not true. I think that is very misleading sometimes because people get saved and they head out the next day and they still have their problems. It is not a true statement. Getting saved will not take all your problems away. Getting saved will give you the ability to solve the problems you have. That is what it does.

We get in our lives, we get to the place where we have these things in our life that we have to deal with. The patterns. The patterns of human nature. The patterns of biblical principles. It is a truth that whatever we struggled with before we got saved, it is going to be your biggest issue probably after you get saved. But the difference is, before you got saved, you had no ability to fix it. Once you get saved, now you have the ability. You know what the question is? It is always the question: Are you going to do what you have to do to fix it? Are you going to change about you what you need to change?

I know none of us like to think we have to change anything. Wear your clothes for about six weeks and then ask yourself, "Do I need to change them?" In a spiritual sense, we all stink sooner or later. It is time to change some things in our lives. The learned behaviors of the patterns of human nature. The key to the Christian life will be our ability to change the things about us that need to be changed.

Last couple of weeks we have been talking about the mixed multitude. Nobody wants to be put in that category. I certainly would not go to somebody and say, "Well, here is a mixed multitude." I would not do that. Who wants to hear that? I mean, nobody wants to be put in that category. People would become upset if I would even suggest that. "You are high. I really, you are part of the mixed multitude. Do you know that?" She is not going to like that. So she is not now. She is even farther out than the mixed multitude. I am just kidding. I am coming over to him in just a minute. Do not worry. I will vindicate you.

Nobody wants that. I am always very careful, you know, that when I preach, I never preach with somebody in mind. I preach with me in mind. And then everybody else after that. I mean, it is one of those things where it is, you know, but it is a truth based on Proverbs 20:11. People do not define you. There is no need for me to say to you, "You are part of the mixed multitude." There is no need for me to say anything to you and try to define you. My job is not to define you. My job is to preach the truth to you. You know what happens? The Holy Spirit of God, you will define yourself. You will define yourself.

The Bible says in Matthew chapter 7, "By their fruits, ye shall know them." It is not a question of somebody defining you. It is a question of the truth ferreting you out, and you feel guilty about it. So you think the spotlight is on you. That is not a spotlight of life. That is the Holy Spirit of God.

If there was one truth about human nature that I have learned in all of my years, it is the truth that you can fake a lot of things in life. You cannot fake true spirituality. You cannot. I mean, I have seen a lot of people try. I have always appreciated the folks who just never tried. What you see is what you get.

I used to call. I used to. People would not come to church for a while, you know, and I would call them up on the phone or go to see them. I would say, "Hey, you know, I really, I missed you the last couple of weeks," and they would just, you know, "Well, you know what? We have been sick, you know, or we had this or we had that." You know they are lying to you. I mean, nobody could be that sick in the hospital. I wish sometimes I would just call somebody up and I would say, "Hey, I missed you for a while." And they say, "You know what? Yeah, we are not there because we do not like it. You know what? Your sermon, your sermon, I did not appreciate it. It got under my skin. So we are going to take a couple of weeks off to lick our wounds." I would go out and buy that person dinner. You know what? That is an honest person. I keep twenty dollars in my wallet tucked away someplace. So if I find somebody that tells me the truth and I ask them something about that, I just give them twenty dollars and thank them for being an honest person. Nobody wants to be honest today. Nobody wants to be honest.

It is an incredible thing for Christianity. I am going to tell you, you can fake a lot of things. You cannot fake true spirituality. The Bible says in 1 Corinthians 8:3, one of my favorite verses:

1 Corinthians 8:3

But if any man love God, the same is known of him.

There are some things about loving God that you just cannot fake. I mean, you can fake a lot of things. You can fake when you are happy, when you are not. Some of you wear your feelings on your face. I mean, you can be 100 yards away, "Well, he is having a bad day." I mean, but some of you can fake it very well. I try to never let people know what I am feeling because I have got to be in a position where I have got to always be positive. But I will be honest. Sometimes I am up here, pretty bad. I am not very positive, but you will not know it because I can fake it good. So.

But I will tell you, when it comes to your relationship with God, "If any man love God, the same is known of him." There are just certain patterns that are present when you love God, the Lord. I mean, I will give it to you. You can fake a lot of things. You can fake a lot of things. But there are patterns to salvation. You know why I worry about some people in my own church that I wonder if they are really saved or not? People that were here and gone, maybe some that are even here. I worry about you. I do. The reason why I worry about you is because you are a great guy or a great gal, and you are a great person. But I have never seen in your life the pattern change. What it should be when you got saved. Now, I am not making a judgment on anything. I am just telling you there are patterns in salvation.

When you start to deal with people, you will be able to tell pretty quickly when somebody is trying to sham you. You know why? Because there are patterns of deceptions in the Bible. Learn

the pattern. Everybody falls into them. The human nature in the Bible is the same human nature that we face every day. The Bible will define us so clearly that a blind man could see it.

IV. Our Children

Our great second practical lesson here out of Proverbs 20:11-12, where the first aspect deals with you and me as a child of God, the second one here will be a reference to your children, our own children. The verse says:

Proverbs 20:11

Even a child is known by his doings, whether his work be pure, and whether it be right.

This is a great principle for understanding some aspects of training up your children. We have a very young church. Most of you in here are young couples, and you are having kids left and right. Your kids are always, somebody is always with child, and there are always babies being born. There are always showers happening. There is always, you know, a nursery is full back there, and people are. That is a good thing.

But it is a great principle here. When God formed His plan to reach the world, He did it through the family. That was His plan. He did it with children that are totally dependent on the parents. That was His plan. Get a mom and a dad who love God, put in their family through a natural union children. Then mom and dad, long before that child gets to the age of accountability, long before that child gets to the point where he understands anything about God. In the Bible, you have a virtuous woman who is a type of a church, and you have a son of God who is a type of a church. Those are two concepts. So a child growing up, he begins to see the virtuous woman in his mother and the right relationship of a child of God with his father. It begins to form for him a pattern.

Now, you have got to see what I am trying to tell you today. You have to see this. This is why children, when they come into your world, into your family, they are innocent. They do not know anything about sin. They are transparent. You know exactly. There is no guile in them. There is no deceit. There is no betrayal. They are just little kids in innocence that are trusting, that are straightforward, that if you ask them something, they do not know the lie yet to tell you. They will just tell you. Now, they will get to a place where they can do that, but that is not the way it starts out.

Children are very innocent. They are very honest. I know they have got an old-sin nature, but yet the Bible says in Romans 5:13, in that innocent stage, no sin is imputed to them yet. They are like Adam and Eve and little children in the garden. They are innocent. It did not bother Adam and Eve to run around naked all day. So your kids will run out the front door naked down the street, not bothering them at all. It is a thing where there was an innocence to them. In their transparency and their innocence and their simplicity, they become very moldable and very teachable.

God's design is to lay a foundation in their life. This will be the time when you do not have to deal with sin in a way you are going to have to deal with it if you wait until later. You know why

so many parents have problems with their kids when they are 9, 10, 11, 12, or 14 and 15, when they decide they are going to do what is right and make them toe the line? You know why that is? I am going to tell you why that is, because you missed the innocent time in their life. You missed the time in their life where they had no other interests. They had nobody else pulling on them. There was no opposition at that point in life to God or God's truth. Most parents completely missed this.

Having a successful child will simply depend on that best time in their life, who lays the foundation that you will build on for the rest of their life. You and God, or you and the devil. It is just that simple. As a parent, the greatest aspect you can provide for your family will be a simplicity of life, not a complexity of life. This is a great mistake that parents make today, and they wonder why their kids have problems. They wonder why their children have issues. Most of the time today, parents completely destroy the innocence of their children by making life so complex. God never intended it to be that way.

Many times, parents only think of themselves, and making one bad choice after another, and then they drag their kids at an early age through all of those troubles and problems, and those kids lose their innocence long before God intended it to. A child by God's design will be very simple and very transparent, and because he is, he is very moldable, he is very teachable, because he is very trusting. God designed it that way. So the parents would have the advantage to mold them, and to train them, and to teach them.

But when you drag your kids through divorce court, you have your children illegitimately outside of marriage. When I grew up, and it was, you know, Matty is right, I am 67 years old this week. I remember when I was a kid, your age, Matty, 15 or 16, divorce is something that movie stars did. I remember when Liz Taylor, she is dead now, but Elizabeth Taylor, I mean, I think she was married five or six times. I remember the first guy she was married to, and then she got married to somebody else, she was married to somebody else, and so on and so on. Every time it would hit the tabloid, all the people would be shocked, because nobody got a divorce back then.

Now, not only today is divorce commonplace, but having children outside of marriage, and having illegitimate children with no really father to their name, in a legal sense. It reminds me of the verse back in Proverbs, where the wicked woman just does her sin, and then wipes her mouth like she just finished eating and goes her way.

We today have been entrusted with the greatest, greatest, greatest treasure the world has ever seen. It is our children. God has given them to us in the early stages in complete innocence. We are the ones who destroy that innocence. Where God wanted them to grow up in a very simple and a very nice and a very easy life, we make it so complex. They have to deal with divorce court. They have to deal with no legitimate father, or a legitimate mother. They have to deal with restraining orders. They have to deal with fighting and cussing and going back and forth. They need to have to deal with physical abuse, mental abuse. They have to deal with court orders that say, "You cannot go here, you cannot be here." They have to deal with visits from the DFS that come down and ask them all kinds of questions that they do not know, and they are afraid that they may be taken out of the home. Years of fear, years of uncertainty. Multiple parents. A child

being put into a position that they have to choose between a mom and a dad. Many times the parents will use that kid as a pawn to get back to the other.

God gave us our children because they are transparent, and a child is known by his doing. You ought to be able to look at your child in its innocence and its transparency, and because you can mold them, you know exactly where that child is. No, no, no, no. We are dragging all the complexity of all the things of life that were our bad choices. Their little fragile emotions are torn apart because of two parents. The other spouses. Mom and dad. A mom who wants to do what is right, and a dad who does not, so he gets back at the mom, she tries to come to church, bring him to church, and a dad undoes everything they do at church. Or vice versa. The dad wants to do what is right, but the mom has got to go see him. How do you win in that? It is all because of our bad choices. It is all because of the fact that at some point in our life, we simply did not follow the principles.

Now I want you to get something. You may be saved this morning and on your way to heaven. The devil can do nothing about it, and he is never going to get your soul in hell, but I guarantee you he will be after those kids. Now there are two things you can begin to do, and I see it here a lot, and I am not castigating anybody who has been divorced or whatever. Please, I am not. We all make mistakes. Do not get the wrong impression. I am talking about the innocence of our children and the things that we do.

There are two things that you can do right now:

1. Stop making bad choices.
2. That will automatically bring about the second one when you start to reverse the process.

V. Simplicity in Christ

Now, going back here for a second, when it comes to you and me as a Christian, over there in 2 Corinthians 11, Paul was worried about us. He wrote it to the church at Corinth, and he was worried that the devil would corrupt us from the simplicity that is in Christ as God's child. He said in 2 Corinthians 11:3:

2 Corinthians 11:3

But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.

You know that is what is wrong with Christianity today? The devil did exactly that. Paul's worst fear has been realized because there is nothing simpler in the world than Christianity. There is nothing simpler in the world as a relationship with Christ. There is nothing simpler in the world than the Bible. You think it is tough and hard because Christianity has told you now, and it has taken from you your innocence. They have taken from you the simplicity that was in Christ and made it complex. That is exactly what they have done.

Eve was corrupted from the simplicity that was in Christ. Yes, she sure was. Eve was corrupted from the simplicity that was in Christ. The total corruption of our minds from the simple

simplicity of Christ. When God put Adam and Eve down there in Eden, it was a garden. A very simple life. A very basic life. A very innocent life. A life where there was no great toil or work. It was the most peaceful, innocent, the most simplistic concept that you could ever have. It was man, a murderer, who built the first city in the Bible. With that city comes all the complexity.

In Christianity, Paul was afraid that somebody would take from you the simplicity of the Bible, Christ, and everything that God wants to do, and now make you think that it is complex and hard. In like manner, when it comes to our children, we will live our lives outside the principles and never see our children being destroyed by us. Taking the number one thing God intended them to have, and that is the innocence, the innocence, the innocence to grow in simplicity. You making their life simple. You keeping their life as peaceful and content and as simplistic as it can be. You keeping their life to the point where it just is absolutely the most basic fundamental things of love and warmth.

Then we wonder why our children do not obey authority. The answer is because we did not obey authority. Little children follow the patterns through simplicity. They will watch mom and dad. They will watch mom as the virtuous woman, the Proverbs 31 woman. They will watch dad as the son of God. In that, they will be trained. They will be influenced. At a time in their life where they do not have anything pulling on them. There is no friend trying to get them to do this. There is nothing else. Sin has not been imputed to them yet. The parent can look at that child through his transparency and know exactly what that child is doing, know exactly what he is thinking because they are so open and they are so honest.

Yet, they grow up at four, five, and six, and they are disrespectful. I have had kids at four, five, and six, when I hear stories in the nursery back there, where some of you will try to correct them, and they will stick their tongue out at you. They will go, "Ugh." I had a kid one time, I walked over and said hi to him. He is about five, six years old. He kicked me. How does a kid at four, five, and six get so disrespectful that when an adult talks to them and tells them to do something, that they stick their tongue out at them and defy them? They grow up at six, seven, and eight, and now they begin to lie. They will lie about everything. They grow up at ten, eleven, and twelve, and now they will steal. They grow up at fifteen, sixteen, and seventeen, and now defy authority. They grow up at eighteen, nineteen, twenty, and the world has them.

Yet the truth of the matter is, the parents taught them every one of those things. Every one of those traits that go against the principles were to God, the world did not teach them. Mom and dad taught them. The mistakes we continue to make by making bad choices.

My advice to people who have had a failed marriage is real simple. I do not fault anybody. You know me. I understand. I realize that some of you got into a marriage before you found the truth. I get that. I understand. I also understand that some of God's people knew the truth and they keep making bad choices. I get that too. I understand. I will take you either way. This is not a judgment or a criticism on anybody. If you think it is, then that is between you and God and your conviction.

But I will tell you what. My advice to people who have had a failed marriage: do not have another one. Find out where you failed before you start another one. Because here is the deal. We

always want to blame it on the other spouse. We always want to say, "Well, you did not know my ex-wife." "Well, you did not know my ex-husband." Hey, they may be the most terrible person in the world. I get that. I understand that. But it takes two to tango. Probably did not get that on camera, but I made a great sweeping turn as I came back on the other side. Because in any situation, it will always be the children to pay the price.

Hey, you just go on with another relationship, and you are so caught up in yourself and what you want to do. You will never get honest with yourself and stop and say, "What is wrong with me? Where did I fail?" Look deep inside my head. Instead, we just go into another relationship, and you know what? We bring all that drama into the next one. The children are always paid a price, the price for the lack of discipline in principles.

Yet I have seen some parents in bad situations that do an incredible job. Our church has got a number of people in it who went through bad marriages, and they turned it around. Their children are wonderful. They did everything that they needed to do right, but that is the key. They looked at themselves and they got honest, and they said, "You know what? I have got to fix about me some things that need to be fixed."

VI. The Hearing Ear and the Seeing Eye

Now look at the next verse. Verse 12:

Proverbs 20:12

The hearing ear, and the seeing eye, the LORD hath made even both of them.

Going back to you and me now, as God's child, God gave me ears to hear, ears to hear His instructions and the eyes to see its value in life. In the Bible, you will find where God will say, especially in the Gospels, He will say, "He that hath ears, let him hear." In other words, there are times in the Bible where God says, "You really need to hear this." Israel's biggest problem over in Matthew 13:15 was the fact that their ears were dull of hearing.

You know, our ears get dull of hearing sometimes. We do not want to hear the truth. Some of the things I have said already right now, you have already turned out. You do not want to hear it. You do not want to deal with it. You will never look inside you and say, "What do I need to fix?" But you will sure fix all the things you do not need to fix. You are like the guy across the street. He paints his house every six months. Does not need painting. I paint mine every 25 years. It needs it after 25 years. He is out there painting it every six months. Every six months he is repainting it. You know why? It is a waste of time. It does not need it. Quit working on the things that you do not need to work on and start looking at the things that you need to fix.

The Bible says over there to the church in 2 Timothy 4:4 that ears that turn away from the truth. Yeah, absolutely. That is saved people too. You see, when you listen to something, you just pay attention. But when you hear something, there is an application to change. God gave us ears to hear. Most of God's people on Sunday, they come and listen, but they never hear anything that is said. Some of you do. You are taking notes down there. You are digging into it. But you have got people that come every, at every church across the country. They will come, they will sit, and

they will hear what I say. They will even say, "That was a great show." And they will go out and continue to do exactly what they are doing. Nothing changes in their life.

A guy said to me one time, "Why do not I come to Bible study anymore?" "Because you guys just talk about the same old stuff." I said, "Yeah, you do not learn it anyhow, do you?" The price of learning is repetition. You have got to go over and over and over things in life to get them down. For me and you, we are to hear what the book says and then to look at the models and the examples He has given me in life through the Word of God, and then let those things affect the change in me.

Then God gave you eyes. He gave me eyes to see the things of God. To read His precious word and to see His heart and everything, His hands and everything in life. Eyes to see and understand God as He really is. Eyes to be able to see and understand the principles of God's Word.

Proverbs 3:21

My son, let not them depart from thine eyes: keep sound wisdom and discretion:

Always before you. Always be looking at it. Always be looking at it.

VII. Children Learning by Association

Now, as it applies to our children, going back to the second aspect, verse 12:

Proverbs 20:12

The hearing ear, and the seeing eye, the LORD hath made even both of them.

Our children, just like you and me, were given eyes and ears by God. Our children will learn by association early on in life. That is why God made them so innocent. That is why God made them so separate from the world, imputed no sin to them, made them transparent, made them in the simplest form. You know why? Because that is the best way for association to soak into them. Our children will be taught and trained by just two things:

3. What they hear us say as parents.
4. What they watch us do as parents.

They will associate with that. Our child will not be all that they need to be just because you pray with them or read the Bible to them, though that is very important. But they are smarter than that. They watch what you do. They understand the pattern, they do not even understand the verse, but "if any man loves God, the same is known to him." Without even understanding the doctrine, they know that there are certain things that go along with loving God, that they do not see them.

Let us face it, parents can be so selfish when it comes to their kids. They want what they want in life at the expense of their kids. They get bored and this and bored and that, so they will venture out into some new deal, not to think about the kids. They will do what they want to do, never think about the damage of taking that little child and dragging them through all of the turmoil and all of the chaos. All of the stuff that goes along with it, all of the drama.

You know, it is just that good. What is important to you will become important to them. It is just that simple. As a parent, when your life is filled with bad choices after 10 or 12 years of it, you know, I mean, you have got more baggage than American Airlines. You know what? When we shut down and you have got to work through life and you have got to get into this and you have got to deal with that, you have to deal with that baggage. But you know what? You are so selfish in it that you do not understand your children have got to deal with the same baggage. You think they are stupid. You think they do not know when you do the things that you do and you try to hide it from them. You think they are not smarter than that.

Parents make a great mistake with thinking their kids are so stupid. They do not know what is going on with mom or dad. They do not see it that when mom and dad want to do their own thing and they want to go their own way that the kids do not catch that. Parents just never see how the choices that they make will affect the breakdown of the family, destroy their innocence way before the time.

Yet I say it again. There is always something you can do. But you have to change some things. You cannot fix the problems that you and I have with the same thinking that caused those problems. You have to stop. We have to look inside ourselves and we have to be honest with ourselves. We have to say, "Okay, here are some things I need to change. I had a bad situation here. What is going to keep me from dragging it right into the next one?"

Most people, as I said, started, they do not want to hear it. I see things in people's lives that I wish I had the license to go up and say, "Hey, I love you, but you are headed for a mess." You do not have that. Please do not run up here afterwards and say, "You have the license with me." I have been shot more that way than I have the other way. You say that way now because you are halfway decent with God. When you get out of fellowship with God, you are going to rescind that order. I do not do it. I just do not.

I have seen many things in my Christian life with people that I wish I had the license to go up and they would listen, but they would not listen. They would not. They would rationalize it. They would get upset. They would justify it. They would say, "Well, you are judging me," or they say this or this or that. So you just stay out of it. Sometimes you have to make a real mess out of things before you see the issues involved. You know what? The tragedy is sometimes you make multiple messes and you still never see it because you listen, but you do not hear.

Some of you guys, your wife will tell you what is wrong with you and what you have got to fix. You will listen, but you will not hear it. Some of your wives, your husbands will try to tell you what is going on with you. You will listen, but you will not hear it. There is always something you can do. Pride will always keep us from getting to that point. We always want to focus on the fact that there is nothing wrong with me because we really like to believe that there is nothing wrong with us. There is plenty wrong with us.

VIII. Preserving Innocence

Now look at the last part of verse 11:

Proverbs 20:11

And whether it be right.

A child will never learn what is right as long as mom and dad keep doing what is wrong. In time, they steal that innocence. Not from the world or the devil, but mom and dad, through the choices that they bring in, destroying way before they are ready. Parents and their tragic mistake on a continual basis will reproduce those same mistakes into their children. It may take a different format.

My wife, through his parents, is simple. Do everything in your power to keep your kid in that simple, loving, warm, biblical atmosphere of innocence as long as you can. Keep his life, her life, simplistic. Let them enjoy the basic things of life. Your daughter gets to be 12, 13 years old. Do not let her dress like she is 20. That destroys the complexity. Do not let her make up too soon when she looks like a possum hunter at Folksberry time. Let her enjoy it. Let her enjoy it. You are just right. You are just perfect. You are just right. I get my hair colored. Can you tell?

You want to keep that innocence as long as you can. When they are little, that innocence is the key, that transparency. The Bible says a child is known by doing. A parent ought to be able to tell where that child is at just by watching where they go. Hey, I have two dogs, and when I take them out to go to the bathroom, I can know in 15 seconds or less if they really have to go or not. They are just sniffing around, and they are just sniffing the air. I know I am wasting my time. If they are going around in a circle and the one is going back and forth, back and forth, she will start out from here and go 10 feet out of the center. She goes back and forth. As her distance shortens, she gets closer to going to the bathroom. Now, I can see you all have dogs the same way.

My point is this. If I can figure my dogs out, and you know how I know those dogs when they have to go, when they do not have to go, association would take them out three times a day. I did not read a book on when the dogs have to go. I did not take a psychology class on the dumpings of dogs in your life. I just took them out, and through association of how the dogs fall into a pattern of going to the bathroom. Right there. I say, "Come on," I will go out and go up that thing, boy. If Buddy goes up there, if he is just dinking around, I say, "Come on, you do not have to go." If he is up there and he is serious about it, he is serious. You can tell when they are serious.

Dogs are transparent. Dogs do not lie to you. They do not. If they do not watch it, they will bite you. I have never had a dog wag his tail and lick you and then bite you. They will either bite you or lick you. They are transparent. They are innocent. They do not have old-sin natures. You know, they just, it is all association with them. They listen to what I say. You know, we think the dogs know their names. They do not know their names. It is like they are sitting in there. "My name is Brutus." They do not know their name. They know association with what you call them.

I did an experiment one time. My dog was sitting there, and I said, "You know what? I am going to get in the garage. Tails are wagging. You know, I am going to get in the garage, and I am going to get an axe. And I am going to start cutting your tail off, then your legs. Then I am going

to quarter you right down the line, and I am going to straddle your pieces in a trash." And he is going, tail is going. He is excited about it. Then I went back and I said, "I love you. You are the best dog I have." Tail between his legs and underneath the deal. I do not know what I am talking about. They learn by association.

Your children learn by association. They watch what you do. They listen to what you say. They make association to it. You train them. If I can take my dogs out and know when to go to the restroom, you ought to know when your kids are doing right and doing wrong because they are in that innocent state. That is when you mold them. That is when you train them. That is when you give them the time when the world is not coming after them. You do not have any competition. It is just you and them.

If you have had a failed marriage, that is okay. It really is. I have known churches where if you were divorced, you had to go to a special class so you would not taint the rest of the church. That is so stupid. You know, we want to have a divorce class for divorced people. Like, that is going to keep them from mingling with people who have not been, you know, you do not have to do that. You just fix what was wrong with you the first time. So the second time you do it, it works well. That is all you have to do. You get back to that simple basic structure of life based on the Word of God and God's principles so that when you do decide to find a spouse, in 1 Corinthians 7 it says you can. This time it is run by the principles of the Word of God instead of around them.

You know, I have talked about it many before. Genesis 24 has 19 principles of finding a spouse. You will not find anything better on this planet. But they do not follow it. I would say learn from the mistakes you made in life and do not go through life making the same ones over again.

I had a, you know, nobody remembers this so I could use it. We had a guy here a number of years ago. He had been married five times. He was a nice guy, nice guy. But he had some real relationship problems. Now I want to say something. If you are, I will give you the first one because we all can, you know, but you get married 3, 4, 5, you have some relationship problems. There is something wrong with you. This guy was a charmer. He could charm women, you know, and women would fall in love with a big, good-looking guy, you know. But once he got, when they got a relationship, he treated them terrible. Absolutely terrible. Once he got into married him, he was a control freak. He told them what they could spend, what they could go, what they could do. He just kept going through. He just, he just could not have a normal relationship.

We had a lady here a while back, a long time ago, you do not remember that. My last count, she had been married nine times. I mean, you talk to her about her former exes, she cannot keep the name straight. She keeps on a little scorecard. Now, you know you are married nine times. You have got some issues in life. They only ever last about a year and a year and a half and then move on to somebody else. Do not you know that that is, that is, those are problems and relationships that have to be fixed? I obviously do not think they could be fixed. But you have got some relationship issues. Maybe you have some anger issues. Maybe you have some trust issues. Maybe you have just basic fundamental relationship issues. But they have got to be fixed before you move on to the next one.

In both cases, when you talk to those people about their former, it was always the other ex's fault. "Well, he was a jerk." Well, he may have been. I would think after nine marriages, I would think you would be able to figure out what a jerk is and what a jerk is before you married him. What is your problem? You know, it comes down to getting honest with ourselves. Honest on ourselves in relationships and honest with ourselves with our children. Or you will just carry it right on to the next relationship and your kids through association will get their innocence destroyed.

IX. The Light of the Body

"Hearing ear and the seeing eye." The Bible says that the light of the body is the eye.

Psalms 94:8-9

Understand, ye brutish among the people: and ye fools, when will ye be wise?

He that planted the ear, shall he not hear? he that formed the eye, shall he not see?

Fools never see or hear what they need to hear or see. They are always getting offensive by it or blaming it on somebody else, but they will never turn it inward really and look at themselves. Israel, the greatest condemnation of Israel was a thousand years of bad choices. A thousand years in their history.

Proverbs 29:13

The poor and the deceitful man meet together: the LORD lighteneth both their eyes.

Psalms 119:105

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

Psalms 119:130

The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple.

Matthew 6:19-23

Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal:

But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal:

For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light.

But if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness!

You see, verse 22 says, the light of God in your life and your body depends upon the singleness of your eyes. Both eyes are single in the area. They see things in a single way. The Bible says a double-minded man is unstable in all his ways. They look at something in a simplistic way. Both eyes focused on one single thing, the principles of the Word of God. Singleness of eye will lead to singleness of mind which is in the singleness of heart. That is the simplicity of Christ. Just simple. There are a lot of things. Single, singleness.

Then it talks about your eyes, your whole body will be light of God's word. But it says if the eye be evil your whole body will be full of darkness. Then verse 23 is an incredible verse. It says a light that is in you that is darkness. Now how can a light be darkness? Because it is a false light. It is something that may look Christian or spiritual but is not biblical or scriptural. It is something that sounds good. It is something that sounds plausible. It sounds like good advice but in actuality it is going to lead to a disaster in your life. A false light. A false light of tradition, religion. A false light of rules. A false spirituality that are not found in the Bible that will kill the innocence and destroy any family. It leads to us to do our own thing in a false biblical way. Boy have I seen God's people ever go their own way, do their own thing and honest before Lord Almighty actually try to justify it without any principles in the Word of God. You know what that is? That is a light that is in you that is darkness. That gets us into trouble and destroys all that God has for us. And takes from our children the number one thing that they will have to have to build everything in their life. Simplicity. Simplicity of life. Simplicity of Christianity. Simplicity of a relationship with God. And simplicity of the Bible. Allowing your child to enjoy those years of innocence and building God's Word into their life through that process.

Now I want to tell you something. Your child when they are born and they are not young before that sin is imputed to them, they are in innocence. The Bible says the child is known by his doing. You can know everything about them because they are so open if you are paying attention. If you are watching. If you are using the principles. You are going to find that it is a great. The greatest model in the Bible is Adam and Eve. Adam and Eve were like little children. You find the characteristic of little children in Adam and Eve. Adam and Eve were out there. They run around naked and did not bother him. So your kid run around naked. They are not ashamed. Adam and Eve when they did something against God they ran and hid. So when your kid does something they run and hide. Adam and Eve when they finally got caught. They blamed it on the other. When your kids get caught they will blame it on the brother or sister. You sit down there with a bowl of fruit or put a bowl of fruit over here and vegetables over here. Your kids will take the fruit every time. Why do you always have to tell your kid, "Quit putting that in your mouth. Do not put that in your mouth." They have an affinity for putting something in their mouth. It goes back to the characteristics all the way to Adam and Eve who were like children. They were transparent. They are easy to read.

When God came down after they had sinned and they are hiding from Him. God is walking through the garden says, "Adam, where art thou?" People get the idea that God did not know where they were. God knew exactly what bush they were hiding under. Sometimes God will ask you where you are at when He already knows where you are at just to see if you get honest to say where you are really at. Then what did Adam say? He said, "Did you eat that?" "Well, yeah, the

wife you gave me." Like it is your fault God. Then she said to Eve, "Did you eat that?" "Well, the devil made me do it."

Your child is in innocence. But that is only last for so long. Ecclesiastes 12:1 says:

Ecclesiastes 12:1

Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them;

I am going to tell you something. Every parent in this room. You better listen to me. There is an evil day coming in your kid's life. There is an evil day coming where they are going to lose their innocence. You better hope by God's grace that you are not the one who breaks that innocence and brings that evil day to it before it gets there. It will come on its own. Your job in that innocent period of time is to build them up and get them ready not to isolate your kid from the world but to insulate your kids from the world because it is coming. It is coming.

There is a day coming when that kid is going to face that evil day that they are going to have to be on their own and the decisions they make are going to go right back to what you did with the innocence in their life. And how simplistic that life was that you saw that and you built into their life. That evil day comes for one reason, that evil day is aimed at one thing and it will accomplish it. It will destroy the innocence of your child, no longer will they be innocent. Now they will know right and wrong. Now they will be faced with decisions. Now they will have friends that will try to pull them away. Now they will have influences in their life that they hear everything they see everything they read for the rest of their life will have one purpose that to pull them away from God. If you did not take the innocence of that time and that transparency of that kid and yet you brought it all your baggage you introduce them to all the things of the world by your mistakes long before they would have had to deal with it. All that evil day comes just like it did with Adam and Eve when a devil showed up and their evil day came. He simply said, "Yea, hath God said?" Now the evil day has one purpose and that is to get them to question what God told them. It comes down to what you built into their life when they were innocent which way they go.

There is an evil day coming on to your child's life, a day when they will lose that innocence and then they will be faced with all the things of the world that they have to choose now. Right now young children their mindset is when it comes to the world and the sin of the world when they are little when they are innocent you know what they say, "I have no pleasure in them." You the parent have the opportunity to train and to mold them without the world without the influence through their innocency without any sin without any guile without any of the issues. But so many parents it is not the devil or the unsaved world that destroys the innocence of that child before it is time it is the parents themselves. With all the issues that they bring in the great drama queens the great drama kings and in every case the kids pay the price they always will.

Ephesians 6:13

Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

We talk about the armor of God, we preach on it, we all know it, seven pieces of armor that God gives us that we might be able to withstand and stand for the Lord. Ephesians chapter 6 is a great study in the armor of God but I want you to notice the context of Ephesians 6:1:

Ephesians 6:1

Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right.

The context of Ephesians 6 is your children. You know when you start putting the armor on your kid. As soon as you start putting clothes on them you build it in their innocence you build the word of God and the principles and the armor in their transparency before there is any sin when they still come to the place that they trust you explicitly. That they believe everything that you say there is no other outside influence now going to creep in at this time and you now have what 5, 6, 7, 8, maybe 9 years. That the end of that time period through the simplicity the non complexity through you recognizing that child can be known by his doings and building and molding him through that innocence and that transparency. The simple fact children are not destroyed by the world children are destroyed by their parents and the quicker you get that the better off you are going to be.

Parents that in their lives introduce the world the flesh and the devil way too soon in their children's lives by the reckless lifestyle that they have made. I have had people I had a woman one time she she had a child and she did not do right with the child and the child just totally rebellious totally. The child as it got older just manipulated the mom unbelievably. The child had kids and she would hold the kids hostage against the mom you know grandmother and just get everything she wanted she worked that woman up one side down the other and that woman would come in and talk to me and I would always tell her what she needed to do she never had the courage to do it. She went from person to person in the church whining about her situation and how desperate she was but everybody told her the same thing and she did not want to hear it. One time I did a series on child training and I went really hit the thing hard I did not even think about her I just preaching to all the other people that I had in my church. She got mad and she left the church.

You know I am always pleased. When people leave my church because I preach the truth. I would be heartbroken if somebody left because I did not preach the truth that would really bother me. But when I take the Bible and I lay out what you are supposed to be as a parent and you know what you are supposed to be and you know what you are supposed to do and yet you are such a stronghold in your life that that child dictates everything in your world. I get it like leaving is going to fix your problem. But that is that is moms and dads you see that is I want to fix everything else in my life that do not need fixing but the real thing that broke I do not want to get near and I do not want you to tell me about it. Sorry.

I have a tremendous responsibility and I feel a tremendous responsibility to your young couples here. I do and I say you are the best couple we bring in a lot of guys and a lot of gals who have had bad marriages I covet them I think they are the best thing in the world because most of them come in here really wanting to fix and get on with their life. I am absolutely in your camp. You can have as much as me as you can stand to help you wherever you are at because I believe in

that kind of deal and I realize that this kind of ministry that is what God does. It is an oasis for so many people who are broken. It is a place to get a fresh drink of water in a world that will drive you to thirst. It is a place where you can come in with any problem you got with all the baggage you got and you know what you do not have to go through a thing. I will go through all your baggage for you. I will do it. You do not have to do it. Throw them up on a table. Okay. You will not need these anymore. Lucky strikes are out. Jack Daniels is out. I will keep that. Yeah, you are definitely going to need this. Yeah, wash this. Nope. Do not need those. Nope. These are running shoes. You do not need running shoes anymore. You are not running anymore.

One time years ago, Bill and Missy, before they were long before they were married, Missy came in to see me and she was struggling with some things in life, you know, she had come to church and she, she was just going through a lot of things. Long time ago. I got this. You came in one afternoon to my office and she says, "Bob," she says, "I want you to help me." I said, "I will be glad to help you." She said, "I want you to know before we go any farther before I came in here. I threw away my running shoes. I am not running anymore." She, she was wrong. She is running. She just run the right direction. She is running pretty good. So get rid of the running shoes. I will go through your baggage for you. Because I know what happens when you go through it. It is like cleaning my garage. No, I cannot throw that away. I have not used it in 20 years. But I am not throwing it out in case I ever need it. I have got a, got a broom, just got a handle broke on it. You know what? I can make something out of that handle. I am going to keep it. I have got this over here that I have not, I did not even know I had it. And you know, somebody would look at it and say, "Oh man, I might not need that. I have not seen that in 30 years." I see it and says, "Man, where has it been?" So I do not want you going through your luggage. I will go through your baggage. I have one of my people go through your baggage.

I always looked at discipleship as, it does a lot of things. Discipleship is something that really lays the foundation in life. Ten basic lessons, you know, just gives you an understanding of the Bible and God. They are great. I think they are really good. Many of you, most of you, not all of you do a phenomenal job with it. But I look at discipleship as, as a little more than that. Discipleship is your first introduction to a new life in Christ many times, or a real life in Christ. I know that when people come in, they have got baggage. It is like going into a foreign country. I have come, I have traveled all around the world and Africa was the worst. I mean, they just, they, they, they open up everything. They take everything out and then they wait for you to give them money. And you give them this, they will put this back. You give them this, you put this back. I just finally, after four or five trips, and I said, "Okay, let us cut to the quick. How much for the whole deal?"

But that is what discipleship does. When you come in here, everybody has got issues. We want to help you with our issues. We are not against anybody. We are not, we are not going to hurt anybody. This is probably, I have designed this church to be the one thing a church should be. I know it is different, just got its issues like all churches. I know that I get it. I get it. But I will tell you one thing I have designed this church in one way to be what every church should be. I cannot speak for the rest of them, but I will guarantee you. I cannot guarantee everything about this church, but I can guarantee you one thing. This will be the safest place you ever be. No one

will be here. No one will hurt you here. You may hurt yourself, but no one will hurt you here. We may hold you accountable. Try to, but no one will hurt you here. This is your safe haven. This is your place where you can come busted, broken, beat up, broken legs, busted ribs, bloody nose, and you can come here and you can heal. You can find out how you can go on with your life and never have to get another busted leg, bloody nose, ever again. Because that is what churches are supposed to be.

A child is known by his doing. When we understand that great principle and we take our children and we see that age of transparency where they are so, just so perfectly moldable. That innocent, that trust, that childlike faith and the molding of his or her life, all that God wants them to be. We do it through our life. Kids do not just look at what we say, they listen and look at what we do, ears and eyes. That is why this lesson is such an important thing. It shows, first of all, you and me to God. That our relationship with Christ, do not make it complicated. Do not make it complicated. People call me with questions in the Bible all the time and I always tell them, "You are making it too complicated. It is not that complicated. It is very simple." Everything about God is simplistic.

You know, salvation is the most simplest thing on the planet. It is. But what does man do? We try to make it baptism. We try to make it work. We try to make it joining a particular church. We try to make it everything that makes it complex. It is not. It is just simple. Do you know you are lost? You want to go to heaven? Christ died for you. Here is what you do. Just that simple. Want to have a relationship with God, fear God and keep His commandments. How simple is that? Just realize that the book God gave you is now your flashlight in the world of darkness. Flip it on and walk through the life and skip the manholes and all of the booby traps the devil plays for you. It is just that simple. Yet we try to make things so complex.

Then the second thing is our children. Take them in their innocence. Mold them. Make them. Love them. Give them that. Give them that innocent time. Guard it. Make it the most simplistic thing in their life. Do not let them grow up too quick. They will come fast enough. Keep that evil day at bay as long as you can to get as much time in their world. But it will come. It will come. When it comes, they will be set. They will be ready to go. Then you will already have the relationship that nobody on this planet, nobody, no science teacher, no gym teacher, no coach, no friend, no boyfriend, no girlfriend will ever have more influence in your child than you do. Because you spent the time in their innocence laying that foundation.

Well, we will hold up there. Father, we do thank You and praise You for the Lord Jesus. We love You. Thank You for the Word of God and for its truth and for its power. Thank You for the folks here today. Thank You for the blessings of the Word of God and thank You for our good children. I love them. We have got some of the best kids in this church that You could ever want. It goes back to the parents. Parents doing what the Word of God says, taking their children seriously, realizing that even if they made mistakes in life, that they can turn those things around and they can get profitable and they can do it and they can make things happen the way they did. Even if a kid is 12 or 13 years old and he missed that innocence, there is always something you can do to redeem the time. Lord, we are here to help them. We are here to make that happen. We are here to love them, to give them a safe place of innocence that they can grow with You. Bless us now,

give us a good day and thank You for all the things that You do for us. In Jesus' name, for His sake we ask it, amen. All right, we will hold up.