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An Example in Repentance

by Tim Tripp

I had a friend who at one time was notorious for being impatient with service employees at stores and restaurants. If things were not going his way, he would quickly take an inflexible attitude and if his attitude was not met with satisfying results, he would ask to speak to the manager or supervisor. He was known to go up the chain of command until he got what he wanted or until he was ultimately denied. As you can imagine, his tough approach and “unhappy customer” schtick often succeeded in getting what he wanted but it came at a price as he became notorious around town for his unpleasant demeanor.

An additional cost to his behavior was the impact it had on his children. He told me once of having his oldest son, who at the time was 5 or 6 years old, with him on an occasion when he was having some difficulty resolving some issue at a store. His son recognized his father’s agitation with the young store employee and before my friend did his usual move to climb the chain of command, the son, in a very firm voice exclaimed, “We want to talk to the manager!”

There can be no overstating of the impact of the example that parents set for their children. Nothing screams ‘fraud’ like a parent who claims to be a follower of Jesus but engages in language and behavior that is far from what Jesus would do. It gives rise to acceptable dualism. You can act like a Christian at church and with Christian friends then anything goes everywhere else. It makes sin acceptable or worse yet a rite of passage. I overheard a Christian teen ask her Christian mother if she could go see an ‘R’ rated movie. When mom said no the teen replied with, “You and dad go see those movies.” To which mom responded, “We are adults.”

So apparently there is an age at which sin is OK?

I believe most Christian parents try hard to set examples of godly living for their kids. Most try to be people of integrity and try not to lie or use foul language. There is however, one area where Christian parents routinely fail in setting an example for their kids. That is in openly confessing and repenting of wrongs.

No parent, even a Christian parent is going to get it right every time. It is so important that when their child witnesses them doing something wrong that the parent owns up to it. I witnessed a young mother one time in frustration utter a word that was clearly not allowed in the home as evidenced by her daughter’s widening eyes and audibly catching her breath. Right away, she got down on her child’s level and said, “I am so sorry. Mommy should never use that word and I will try hard to never use it again.” Sweetly her little girl said, “It’s OK mommy. We all make mistakes.”

Parents, be humble before your kids. Admit when you are wrong. It sends the proper message that we all struggle against sin. It also demonstrates the proper coping skills when you make a mistake. Confess it. Label it as wrong and then repent, change your behavior. Your kids will be validated when they learn that you make mistakes too and when they are older, your kids will respect you for your honesty.

DIOS LE BENDIGA! (God Bless You!)

by Aris Ortiz

The church was growing rapidly, strong and everywhere. They were not only sharing the gospel ,but material possessions or blessings with each other. There was unity and purpose to obey God and to love one another. Yes, they had many problems too (because Satan has been there too since the beginning of the church) but they knew about keeping the faith, doing the work and reaching souls. Salvation was the number one priority for the church. They did not have those conflicts as the church has today, because of the distance, the schedules or “culture changing” issues. Yes, life is different today as it was back then, definitely, but we can all agree that God, Jesus and the Spirit, are the same today. They have not changed a bit. Not even a “comma” because they are not affected by time, space or by matter. They belong to eternity. So, we can expect from them the same intentions and the same results. Today my West Side family, we have a great opportunity to share the Gospel of Salvation like the first century church had. All we need to do is be the same as them, go and be with others, invite others and make friends to share the love that we have received. We have the Scriptures, church, the prayers, we have God, Jesus and the Spirit to support us on the great commission that we have ahead! Our Faith will take us to eternity so here on earth, we can do all in Christ who strengthens us!!! May God bless his church !!

Gathering Times

Sunday Morning 10 Am Worship
& Kids for Christ
ages 1yr-5th grade

In- Person Adult/Teen Bible Study
Wednesdays 6:30pm - Room 3 & Cornerstone

Friendship Cafe and Conversational Christianity
Sunday Mornings at 8:45

In- person Adult Bible Study
Sunday Mornings at 9am

West Side News

Baby Shower

Join us at Old Post Park for a baby girl shower in honor
of Erin Grice Putman *this afternoon* (10/17) at 2pm!

Pavilion #8

Erin and Cory are registered at babylist.com

www.babylist.com/baby-erin-putman

Cookbook

It's time to order your copy of the new West Side
Delights Cookbook! Order forms are available at the
Friendship Cafe as well as the West Side Friends &
Family facebook page. Deadline to order is 10/31!

Cookbooks will be here December 5th!

\$20 each and proceeds benefit our KFC program!

Sign up for WS emails at
westsidear.org/subscribe

Week of: 10-3-2021

Weekly Giving: \$ 10,911

Attendance

Weekly Budget: \$ 13,820

Sunday AM - 264

YTD Giving: \$ 549,661

Wednesday PM - 63

YTD Budget: \$ 566,610

Family Illness and Recovery

Please continue to remember Sid Womack and family as he battles
esophageal cancer. Pray for effective treatment, strength, and
complete healing.

Margaret Grant is scheduled for knee replacement surgery on
October 26th. Please pray for successful surgery, lessened pain,
and a rapid recovery.

Sympathy:

We extend our sympathy to Mark Hixson and family in the recent
loss of his uncle Floyd Davis, Jr. of Oklahoma. Please keep Mark
and Sandi and the entire family in your prayers for comfort and
peace during this additional time of another loss.

Welcome Baby!

Congratulations to Jake and Tasha Greer and family in the recent
arrival of Epperly Lynn. Epperly was born Tuesday, 10/12 weighing
in at a healthy 9lbs 13oz! Mom and baby are doing great.

OTHER NEWS

Transportation Assistance

Randy Powell has offered to provide transportation to anyone
needing assistance in that area, especially for doctor's appointments.
He has experience loading wheelchairs and would love to help out if
needed. Feel free to reach out to him directly at 479-567-4235, or if
you prefer, you can call the office and let your need be known.

Love. Share. Disciple.