

MOTHER'S DAY 2021

"Repeat Them Diligently"

Scripture Reading: DEUTERONOMY 6:1-9

-) **SLIDES 1-6**. Bible Jeopardy!
-) **SLIDES 7-10**. Read today's Scripture text.
-) **SLIDE 11**. Today we take a break from GALATIANS to talk about moms. Actually, we will be talking about moms and dads and grandparents and anyone who has an influence on both young and old children. That means I'm speaking to all of us. I have titled today's message *"Repeat Them Diligently"* (v7).
-) Remember the story of Jonah and the Ninevites? Jonah did not want to preach to those ungodly people of Nineveh. But because God's sovereign plan cannot be thwarted, even by a headstrong prophet, Jonah preached three days through the city of Nineveh.
-) What we see happen after that is the largest revival recorded in the Bible. The Bible tells us that 120,000 people repented in sackcloth and ashes at the preaching of Jonah. That is quite a large number of people turning their hearts towards God. All that happened around 760 BC.
-) Nineveh was the capital city of Assyria. One generation (40 years) later, in 722 BC, King Sargon II of Assyria and his army conquered and captured the Northern Kingdom of Israel. The capital city of the Northern Kingdom was Samaria. Sargon II records the capture of this city and writes: *"Samaria I looked at, I captured. 27,280 men who dwelt in it I carried away."*
-) Three years after this attack and conquering of the Northern Kingdom of Israel, the kingdom of the ten northern tribes of Israel came to an end.

-) Let's look at the chronology here. 120,000 of one generation of Ninevites repent, and the next generation are attacking and conquering Israel. What happened? Did the children and grandchildren of those who repented in Nineveh 40 years prior know anything about Jonah's revival? Were they told about God?
-) I wonder if the repenting Ninevites shared any of their revival experience with their children? Would things be different if they did? Did they share that experience, and their children just didn't listen? What can we learn from this?
-) What are we teaching our children and grandchildren about God and His Word? How are our young people being raised? What do they hear from us? What do they see in us?
-) We all know that we live in a country whose morals are quickly being flushed down the toilet. Could our godly influence alleviate our children from a future that's less than desirable? Let's see what the Bible tells us about this important subject.
-) **SLIDE 12.** PSALM 127:3,5.
-) **SLIDE 13.** Children are a gift of the Lord and therefore a **RESPONSIBILITY.** We just don't have them and then forget about them, although many parents do.
-) There was a book written by Hillary Clinton titled "*It Takes a Village.*" Folks, it doesn't take a village. It takes responsible parents (and grandparents).
-) As a parent (or grandparent) there are things we must do to them and for them—and we must do things 1) regardless if our parents did those same things for us (or not) and 2) because it's our Biblical responsibility to do so. What are those things?
-) **SLIDE 14.** DEUTERONOMY 6:6-7.
-) **SLIDE 15.** As Christian parents we are responsible for teaching our children **BIBLICAL** values.

-) And Bible teaching within the family by the parents isn't something that should be done when time permits, but rather it is as a way of life. It's the norm and not the exception.
-) **SLIDE 16**. EPHESIANS 6:4. Not a suggestion, a command.
-) We should never get to the point as Christians where we expect someone else to Biblically train our children. Our children are our responsibility. What they learn in church is good. What they learn in Sunday School is good. But what they learn from mom and dad remains with them for a lifetime.
-) **SLIDE 17**. PROVERBS 22:6. The child will always remember what e/she has been taught.
-) **SLIDE 18**. A good, solid, Biblical **FOUNDATION** for our children needs to be set.
-) The apostle Paul wrote two letters to a young man named Timothy. Here's a little history about that man.
-) **SLIDE 19**. ACTS 16:1-2.
-) **SLIDE 20**. 2 TIMOTHY 1:5.
-) **SLIDE 21**. 2 TIMOTHY 3:14-15.
-) When should a parent start teaching their children God's Word? Timothy was taught from infancy. It's never too early to start teaching God's Word. Infants and young children are capable of learning more than you think. And that is the time to teach them.
-) The Early Childhood Education website says this: *"It would seem logical to think that babies first start learning when they're born, but in fact the learning process actually starts much earlier than this. Believe it or not, but babies begin to learn when they're still a small fetus in their mother's womb. Various studies have shown that this is the case."*

-) *“For example, in one study by doctors in the Netherlands, they were able to tell that unborn babies were learning how to remember and react to certain sounds, when they were aged between 37 and 40 weeks.”*
-) Sounds like a great idea for moms-to-be to start reading the Bible to their unborn babies. It’s never too early!
-) **SLIDE 22.** HEBREWS 12:9-11.
-) **SLIDE 23.** Godly discipline yields the peaceful fruit of **RIGHTEOUSNESS**. Discipline in the right form and in the right measure is necessary in training our children.
-) **SLIDE 24.** PROVERBS 13:24. Discipline doesn’t always mean we whack them on the backside every time they fail. Sometimes it means we don’t give them everything they want. Sometimes we need to say “no.” (restaurant)
-) The Christian Parents website says this: *“Parents have reared their children in a home without meaningful discipline, and these kids KNOW their rights (as taught to them in school, and by the media). The parents of these children fear their own offspring, and the kids ‘do their own thing’ and dare anyone to even attempt stop them. I get phone calls and e-mail from parents who are unable to control their youth, and they really have no idea they are usually the ones at fault for the situation they have created at home.”*
-) This book, the Bible, the Word of God, has the right answer for everything including parenting. We need to repeat these words diligently to our children, our grandchildren, and the younger ones in which we have influence.
-) If we don’t, who will teach our children? The public school system? Social media? Liberal news networks? Our government? As Christian parents, it is our responsibility to build a strong, Biblical foundation for our children through the teaching of God’s Word and the necessary discipline.

-) Make no mistake, our children are going to be their own person. They will succeed at times and they will fail at times. We all have. But let's not allow them to fail because we failed to be the godly mom or the godly dad, or the godly grandparent or even that godly friend that God has called us to be.
-) Would history be different had the people of Nineveh who repented from Jonah's preaching done things differently with their children? We don't know. But we, today, have a golden opportunity to lay a Biblical foundation for our youth that they so desperately need. Let's make sure this (the Bible) is the biggest part of their lives.

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