


# The Reminder

The weekly newsletter of the church of Christ in Bellaire, TX

## “Thoughts On Raising Children”



“We” have been blessed lately with the birth of several babies to our young couples “at church”, and expect several more in coming months. These are exciting times. For new parents, they are somewhat trying times as they wake up for early morning/late night feedings, changings and getting used to the roller coaster of raising children. They thrill our heart, break it, then thrill us again. As exciting as the beginning is, the best can be yet to come. Depending on our efforts and how our children respond to them, their grown years provide a comfort, peace and companionship unknown in earlier times.

Paul instructs “older” men and women to teach the “younger” how to love their husbands and children (Titus 2:1ff). “Older” folks aren’t always old, and not every person is qualified to instruct. Some get to old age without having learned anything. But some have demonstrated wisdom and ability. Seek them out and listen. “Loving” our spouse and children doesn’t always come naturally. There are guidelines we could all use. Let me offer some thoughts on raising our children.

1. Teach them to listen and obey. That thought doesn’t come from experience, but from the Bible. Isn’t that what God tried to teach Israel and Jesus teaches us. Get their attention before you try to instruct. Then insist on obedience.

2. Don’t wait until they are teenagers to establish boundaries. If you enforce rules and require obedience when they are young, they will carry those behaviors into their teenage and adult years. Do not consider misbehavior when they are toddlers “cute”.

You really only have about 10 years to establish the foundation and the roots of their behavior. Beyond that, you provide guidance and wisdom as they develop and make their own decisions.

3. Train them at home. Too many parents allow children to “run wild” at home then expect them to behave at a restaurant or grocery store. They can learn to sit still at the dinner table, say “please” and “thank you”. Good manners will be appreciated by all who come in contact with them. This reflects well on our home.

4. Don’t burden them with too many rules, especially ones you can’t or won’t enforce. God could have given a 1,000 commandments. Instead He gave 10. Jesus summarized them in two (Matt. 22:36ff). As they grow older, be prepared to explain “why” these rules are important.

5. Don’t set them up to tell a lie. If they made a mistake, broke something in the house, or any error you become aware of, don’t ask them if they did it. You already know, and you have a pretty good idea they will lie to cover it up. Just like we did when we were young.

6. It’s the adults house. God didn’t put a three year old in charge. Don’t live in fear of their reaction. Treat children with kindness and consideration, but realize who is the responsible party. If they don’t approve of the dinner menu or TV program, that’s too bad. When they get their own house, they can be in charge.

7. Have family dinners. Talk to them, listen to them every day. Share the “little” things in life with them, and they will share the ‘big’ things and tough decisions they face as they grow.

Continued

**SUNDAY**  
**OCTOBER 4, 2015**

### **BELLAIRE**

church of Christ  
8001 South Rice Ave  
P.O. Box 1029  
Bellaire, Texas 77402  
[www.bellairechurchofchrist.org](http://www.bellairechurchofchrist.org)

### **Schedule of Services**

#### **Sunday:**

9:30 AM Worship  
11:00 AM Bible Study

#### **WEDNESDAY:**

7:30 PM Bible Study

#### **GOSPEL MEETING:**

November 13, 14, 15  
- Fall Singing  
- Jeff Wilson - Lessons  
from Isaiah.



## Morning Lesson

"The Joy Of Obedience"  
Steve Garrett

### News and Notes:

Continue praying for those of our number who have on-going health issues. Deb Haley, Janice Kimbrough, Jan Cooper, Curby Stech, Laura Claburn and Don Hurd.

Our monthly song service is this afternoon at 2:00

Mark mentioned to us Wed. night that baby Eliza is back in the hospital. Keep the family in your prayers. Kim's cousin, Skylar, was here to consult with doctors. Received some treatment and is now back home. My younger sister was diagnosed last week with breast cancer. The tumor appears to be small and in the early stages. She will have surgery to remove it (lumpectomy), followed by radiation treatment.

On a happier note Sarah and Ryan have their new baby. The Facebook pictures show a happy family. May that continue.

Anita leaves tomorrow morning to take her sister back to Alabama. Then on to Kentucky to visit family there. I plan to fly up on the 12th to visit a day or two, then drive back with her.

Many gospel meetings in the area. Notices are on the bulletin board. Support them if you have opportunity.

## "Thoughts on Raising Children"

8. The marriage comes first. It's easy to build your life around your children and forget to nurture your marriage. One day the children will be grown and it will be the two of you. Don't be strangers when they leave. Take time to go on dates, talk and focus on one another when the kids go to bed, take trips without the children.

9. Let them know how important they are. Jobs are necessary to provide for the needs of our family, but save time and energy to play. Don't forget how to have fun. You're making memories. Be sure they're good ones. They grow quickly and you won't get to go back.

10. My grandmother thought you couldn't raise kids without a rocking chair. I think she was probably correct. Kids need a lap to sit in as much as they need food.

11. Don't live with guilt. When we first become parents we're clueless in many respects. We don't always learn quickly. We will make "mistakes". "If I only knew then what I know now" is a wish that holds true in most areas of life. But we didn't know "then". Move on with life. Enjoy what's left of it.

12. Remember to enjoy them throughout life. Each stage is exciting and new. And most parents survive.

Jack Smith

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There is no greater name for a leader than mother or father. There is no leadership more important than parenthood. - Sheri Dew

The quickest way for a parent to get a child's attention is to sit down and look comfortable. - Lane Olinhouse

## WHO ARE WE?

A group of Gods children, striving to maintain the organization, doctrine and worship as taught in the New Testament.

## ASSIGNMENTS

### Morning Service

Opening Prayer - S. Clanton  
Hymn Director - W. Hodge  
Lords Supper Lesson -  
M. Miles  
Announcements - B. Haley  
Closing Prayer - J. Moon

### EVANGELIST

Jack Smith  
Steve Garrett

### ELDERS

Brian Haley  
Mark Mann  
Matt Miles  
Mike Pharris  
Jack Smith

### DEACONS

Scott Clanton  
David Davila  
Dan Kimbrough  
Jesse Knapp  
Alex Morolez  
Gregory Williams

### BIBLE CLASSES

- Joshua and Judges  
(In the Auditorium)
- Great Lessons from Jesus  
(In Room 204)

### Directory Updates

email: clanton4@gmail.com