

Special Announcement!

Baptized into Christ! As a result of Bible studies with Mike, Glen Colletti was baptized on Friday evening! His address is 83115 Caribe Avenue, Indio, CA 92201; his phone number is (760) 442-8823.

Children

"A child can teach an adult three things...To be happy for no reason; to always be busy with something; and to know how to demand with all his might that which he desires." - Paulo Coelho -

"While we try to teach our children all about life...our children teach us what life is all about." - Angela Schwindt -

"The soul is healed by being with children."

- Fyodor Dostoevsky -

June Birthdays

9 Debbie Pescador
12 Celina Perales

20 Mike Bruni
23 Agripina Carrillo

June Anniversaries

5 Kurt & Debbie Hoffman 11 Marcos & Celina Perales

Regular Meeting Times

Sunday.....9:45 a.m.
Sunday.....10:45 a.m.
Sunday.....6:00 p.m.
Wednesday.....7:00 p.m.

Preacher:
Mike McKnight

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(760) 342-1859

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"Children...a Blessing...a Responsibility"

Children's Rights

(from Housetohouse.com)

Someone has said: "Pray for the children who must live in the world which their parents have made for them." Parenthood involves a duty, a responsibility, and a privilege. What do children have a right to expect of their parents?

Every child has a right to be loved. Do you know the number one killer of children under five? Not accidents. Not crib death. Not leukemia. Child abuse! Two-thirds of abuse occurs with children under four; and one-third, six months or less. Every child (and stepchild) deserves to be loved (Titus 2:4-5; 2 Timothy 3:3). Parents must realize they owe a child love before he even gets here. Isaac was wanted by Abraham and Sara long before his conception (Romans 4:18-21; Genesis 21:1-3). Hannah desperately wanted a son (1 Samuel 1:11, 20) as did John's parents (Luke 1:13,14, 25). Children are a blessing, not a burden (Psalms 127:3-5). From an evolutionary viewpoint a child is merely a biological product of the physical union of two reproductively mature adults. It is a little package of flesh and nothing more. But the Bible teaches that every child is the offspring of God (Acts 17:28-29; Proverbs 17:6). For them to develop the capacity to love, they must first be loved (1 John 4:19). A loving family provides a child with a sense of being wanted, while discord, quarrellings, and broken homes make a child feel insecure and unwanted.

Every child has a right to have his/her needs met. (1 Timothy 5:8) No child should have to worry about food, clothes, shelter, or any other material need. Certainly these will vary according to the family income, but we have a responsibility to support those we bring into the world. Let us also give them the education we can afford that will fit them for today's complex world.

Every child has a right to a unified home. The first recorded command in the Bible has reference to children (Genesis 1:28). The primary purpose for the foundation of marriage was the procreation (the conception, birth, and rearing of children) of the human race (cf. 1 Timothy 5:14). Under normal circumstances, God intended for children to be in homes with both mother and father...as was the case with Adam and Eve and the other famous homes of Scripture (Genesis 2; cf. Titus 2:3, 4; 1 Timothy 3:2-4, 13). Children deserve parents who take time for them. They are children for only a short time, and these years speed by so quickly. Parents and children should work together, worship together, play together, picnic together, take vacations together. In our culture, divorce robs many children of unified homes; homes often split because of trivial matters. It is too often just the selfishness of parents who say they do not want to live together any longer that makes casualties of children. Several studies suggest that children from broken homes have more difficulty progressing in school. The FBI reports that a child from a broken home is six times more apt to get in trouble with the law. As parents, let us work toward happy homes for the sake of our children. Let us make home a place where they feel secure and where they can bring friends without embarrassment.

Every child has a right to be taught God's truth.

It is not enough just to bear children; we must train them (Deuteronomy 6:6, 7; Ephesians 6:4). It is not enough to feed their bodies; we must nourish their souls. Children are spiritually undernourished if they lack regular instruction in God's Word (1 Peter 2:2). Some people wait too long to start training a child. They wait to put them into Bible classes, for instance, because they think they are too young to know what it is all about and to behave

themselves. A mother asked a prominent educator: "I have a son at home, sir. When would be the best time to start training him?" The educator asked, "How old is he?" She said, "Five." He replied, "Hurry home, lady, you've wasted the best years of his life already." Research shows that from years 1-6 a child forms attitudes; from 6-12 years they form habits; and from 12-18 years they form character. Character is the only thing our children will take from this world that they did not bring into it. The righteousness of the next generation depends upon the instruction of this one. The poet was right when he arranged these words:

I saw tomorrow look at me from little children's eyes, and thought how carefully we would teach if we were really wise.

"Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them...."
Psalm 127:5

Show Your Child

"My son, give me thine heart, and let thine eyes observe my ways" - Proverbs 23:26 -

When it comes to religion, more is caught than taught. In her autobiography, Linda Ellerbee, then co-anchor of NBC News Overnight, once received this letter from a little girl: Dear Miss Ellerbee, when I grow up I want to do exactly what you do. Please do it better.

What a thought for parents! Little eyes are watching us; little feet are following us; little minds are scrutinizing us. Our character is a river flowing past our children hour by hour. One day our steps likely will be their steps, our thoughts will be their thoughts, and our words will be their words.

"And he walked in all the ways of . . . his father; he turned not aside from it, doing that which was right in the eyes of the Lord"

1 Kings 22:43