

Sunday, October 25, 2015  
Did You Know?

## Ten Things Your Children's Pastor Wished Parents Knew

In no particular order, Children's Pastors wished parents:

- 1. Took responsibility for spiritual leadership in their homes.**  
Many parents believe that it's the church's job to educate their children about spiritual matters. While the church certainly plays an important role, the parents have the primary responsibility for their children's spiritual welfare. (see Deuteronomy 6 and Ephesians 6) Fathers, you play an especially important role as the leaders at home. You set the spiritual temperature for your family. Will you rise to the challenge?
- 2. Knew how important it is for their family to make church a priority.**  
(see Acts 2:42-47) The community of believers in the book of Acts gathered together frequently and devoted themselves to the apostles teaching, fellowship, sacraments and prayer. We do this today every week on a Sunday and throughout the week on Wednesdays at Wednesdays in the Word or AWANA. We also do this in life groups.
- 3. Knew how much it means to be generous with their time and resources towards Children's Ministry.**  
When parents want to serve and are generous with their support/resources in different areas, it shows that they care. This speaks volumes to their children, shows that they care about their spiritual well-being and gives great encouragement to pastors, teachers and volunteers.
- 4. Knew that it is a ministry and not a baby-sitting service.**  
When reading Deuteronomy 6, it is important that we raise our children to fear the Lord and to walk in the ways of the Lord. Our prayer for our children should be that they would use us to rise up and to carry the Gospel further than we could/did.
- 5. See that Children's Ministry serves the most spiritually impressionable group in the church.**  
Children are the most impressionable; even Aristotle said, "Give me a child until he is 7 and I will show you the man." It is in this life stage where impacts are made that will carry throughout their lives (see Proverbs 22:6).
- 6. See that Children's Ministry is hard and needs your support and encouragement.**  
Children's Ministry is one of the most challenging, complex ministries to lead in the church, period. It is flat out hard! Children's Ministry leaders need to know that you understand them, believe in them and support them.
- 7. Knew that we are a people in Covenant with God (and responsible before God for our children and the next generation of believers)**  
We need to know that we live in responsibility to God and that includes our children (see Genesis 15, Deuteronomy 6 and Jeremiah 31:31-34). The law and knowledge of God needs to be placed in our minds and hearts and know that God is our God. Parents and the Church need to work together, in the power of the Holy Spirit and truth of the Word of God, to bring this about.
- 8. Knew that we do not just live for the here and now, but that we live in view of eternity and for God alone.**  
It is so easy to get caught up in the present time where we worry about our children's piano lessons, hockey lessons and math lessons and so forth, that we fail to worry about their eternity with God (see Titus 3). We need to be a people that raise the next generation to do good works that actually focuses on and impacts eternity. It is the Word and truth of the Word of God that is eternal. Do you truly believe that?
- 9. Knew that there are only two ways to grow God's church**  
-- through new converts and through raising our procreation in the ways of the Lord. Lord willing, let's do both well together as a church.
- 10. Knew that Children's Pastors, Teachers and Leaders, at the end of the day, do want the best for your child.**  
We understand that there are times where you criticize, but we also hope that you can be the solution.

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