

Getting in the Right Place, A Mis-Placed Burden  
Oct. 2016 Orientation

What I am about to say is not to point a finger at anyone here today. You are here because you are parents that want God centered homes and children armed with God's Word. You want your family saved. But I know how easy it is to get sideways in life. I know what a battle it is with keeping the main thing the main thing when it comes to children. So this is just something to alert us, to re-focus us..

We all have dreams for our children that can cause us anxiety. We are concerned that they are walking and talking and developing on schedule, that they are learning the ABC before preschool and that they are excellent in their school studies and popular with their friends. We want them to be the class president and the star of the talent show. We want their paper to be displayed in the hallways of honor in their schools. **We want success for them and we worry and fret to have them at school , at practices , at science fairs, whatever it takes to see them accepted and excel.**

There is nothing wrong with wanting your child to be the most brilliant and celebrated human to ever breathe. We have to have dreams with goals to motivate ourselves through life to accomplish anything. **But is what we want for our children all about what will best benefit them in life successes, or is it to feed our pride, give us bragging rights?**

The problem, and its a serious problem, is when our focus is on these achievements, and we are consumed by them to the point they are our priority. **That is not what God intended when he entrusted us with the responsibility of parenting our children.**

**We become emotional wrecks when things aren't going as planned with our kids, when the simple truth is we have misplaced burdens**. Our burden is heavy as we desperately want them to succeed, as we want them to eat right to be healthy, as we want them to be accepted by peers and have lots of friends, as we want them to shine with talents and abilities; and even as we want to dress them in the finest and to enjoy the best of everything.

You may never have considered these concerns as a burden but that's what they are...something that is **worrisome & concerning**. But if we compare these burdens to what scripture says, we will find **Our burdens are misplaced...we are burdened for the wrong things**.

This verse describes mis-placed burdens .

Romans 8:5 "Those who live according to the flesh (If men are controlled by their earthly natures) have their minds set on what the flesh desires (they give their minds to earthly things) ; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires.

6.For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace.

As parents what we are focusing on , if our burden is misplaced, it will set our children on the path of life, focusing on things of the flesh, starving their spirit.

As far as I can find there is one commandment for parents in the Bible, mentioned in a couple of places.

Deut. 6:6-8 "And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt TEACH them DILIGENTLY unto thy children , and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, AND when thou walkest by the way, AND when thou risest up. And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes."  
(Also Deut.11:18-19 )

Ps.78:1-6. For he established a testimony in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which he COMMANDED our fathers, that they should MAKE THEM KNOWN TO THEIR CHILDREN: That the generation to come might know them, even the children which should be born; who should arise and DECLARE them to their children: THAT THEY MIGHT SET THEIR HOPE IN GOD, AND NOT FORGET THE WORKS OF GOD, BUT KEEP HIS COMMANDMENTS:

We know God's Word will keep them anchored physically and spiritually but also it will lead them in a blessed life. We are promised if they stray away from God and give in to the pull of the world, when they are old...God will get them back one way or the other.

**Read commentary notes below \*\*\***

Psalms 119:11 says, "Thy Word have I hid in my heart (MEMORIZED) that I might not sin against thee".

**We quiz to get the word from their heads to their hearts. From short term memory to long term memory.** It's one thing to be taught in Sunday School about God's word or hear it preached...**it's a whole other level of power to know it.**

**When we as parents are obedient to God we are placing a covering of protection and power over our children.** You will have the power of obedience to stand on when that child faces a problem or sickness. **You have the power to tell God: I did what you said. My priority was to teach them your Word, now God they need you to keep your Word and take care of them.** And if they stray from God , you have the power of that obedience to remind God...**I obeyed and taught them your Word. You said they will not depart from it. Let the power of your Word rise up in them, restore them and save them.** We buy all kinds of insurance to protect our family but there is no insurance as valuable as this insurance of God's Word over your child and family.

So our MAJOR burden should NOT be for their academics, their popularity, or success as the world defines it. The gospels say to consider the lilies, and talks about God knowing every bird that falls...doesn't he care even more about us?

He's saying don't allow yourself to be caught up in the carnal side of life He didn't say one time in His Word that a parents focus should be on academics, or food, or clothing! **If we put God first, if our focus is a burden for our child's spiritual well being, on where he will spend eternity , the rest of life will happen and fall into place as God wills it.** He will bless their lives and they will become productive successful, responsible adults because their parents set right priorities that set them on a power packed life filled with the Word of God. And no matter how tough things got these parents stayed the course and didn't waiver. What powerful lesson does this example teach a child?

***Our priority as a parent is to equip our children that they are strong and have the weapons and tools needed to get through this battle we call “life” and into heaven. That is our sole responsibility to our children.*** We are only commanded to teach them God’s Word. And the Word says that when we put God first, all the other things we have need of, even desires, will be added.

**Bible quizzing makes your job as a parent, easier and rewarding.** It gives strength, confidence and comfort to know you have obeyed and God will not ignore that. You have a priceless insurance policy on your family.

Quizzing is a ministry to help us keep our priorities right. It is a ministry that makes a parent accountable, which is motivation to be consistent and faithful.

**If you will faithfully teach your child the Word ever day without Bible quizzing, I applaud you in a big way.** But for most of us it’s too easy to let life’s demands push aside the best intentions. Bible Quizzing holds “your feet to the fire” as the saying goes..It **holds you to a commitment that will also example to your child good character, faithfulness, determination and dependability.** And will teach them the disciplines of study, of mind control, of time management and being detailed.

**Quizzing is not a choice we should push off on an immature child to make.** The choice of spiritual involvements is way too serious for immature children to understand. Children will not select the wisest option and be committed to it.

Children select according to **fun**, according to **taste**, according to their current **mood**, according to the **work, effort or thought processes it requires.** If they are given the option of **broccoli or cake, school or the park, taking a bath or being dirty, Bible Quizzing or playing** , which will they select? For their own good children aren’t allowed options on most of these things. Why would a parent allow Bible Quizzing, or daily memorizing God’s word, to be an option?

Think about this, if your child was ill and the doctors told you the only way they would live or have good health again would require you to work with them daily. The activity that would be stressful, strenuous requiring discipline, determination and consistent dedication. Would you question it, find excuses why you couldn’t do it or ask your child if they want to do this? I think the answer is no to all of the above. Then why, would we be any less determined and ready to do whatever we could to make sure our child’s soul was strong, healthy and full of power? **We have mis-placed burdens! We have got to get focused on what is really important, the spirit over the body. The spiritual over the physical ...**

And I might add right here....this is not just for mom’s. Dad’s, you are the spiritual leaders of your home and if you are pushing all the responsibility of teaching the Word, of Bible Quizzing, to your wives, shame on you. You should spend one-on-one time with your child every day and Bible Quizzing makes that happen. **There’s nothing better** to do with your child than learn God’s word, not tossing a ball, not playing tag, but sitting in the grass or at the table or on the floor learning and quoting the scriptures. It’s a precious time even when it’s a struggle.

If we can just get our priorities right, our burden in the right place, it will make raising our children a much more rewarding journey, because we know we are doing the will of God for them. We are being a good steward of precious lives God has entrusted us with.

"The Word of God hidden in the heart is a stubborn voice to suppress." ~Billy Graham

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Having said this...to help you as quiz parents (father & mother), in keeping this commandment; your responsibility in the Bible Quiz ministry is to [make sure your child stays on track with daily memorization and stays up with tournament schedule](#). You will need to [make sure your quizzer quotes every verse every day & repeats the reference with every verse](#). If they have problems with a verse they may need to quote it more than one time each day and even write it. When they come to practice we will have activities to reinforce what you are doing at home and make it fun.

I am thankful for each one of you who have shown up here today. You are here today because you honestly want your children to be saved. You honestly want your priorities to be right ,so that your child will live with right priorities and walk in the power of God's Word. It's a struggle , a battle to keep our lives from the clutter of this world and allow our burdens and focus to be misplaced. We are told to fight the good fight of faith..so we know it's not easy. It is a battle. We are in this together as a family, as support and a reminder of why we are doing this.

I pray that if your burden for your children has been misplaced, that today will be a turning point. I pray a burden for your child's soul will grip you! That the fear of the Lord and keeping His commandment will hold you to a spiritual burden that will be strength to you in *days you want to give up*; on days when quoting or memorizing is tough...days when the enemy is fighting tooth and toenail, days when the kids are just being kids who don't want to do anything that takes effort or thought, days when your schedule is ripped to shreds, days when you are just plain worn out...

Here are reasons we must be more determined to stay faithful to quizzing than ever before, to never to give up, no matter how frustrated or discouraged we get!

Abortion - 14 states have a law that a minor can have an abortion without their parents consent and parents are notified after the fact. in 3 states no notice is required. Our children must understand what God's Word says about this so they can stand if approached.

The teaching of Islam and praying to Allah are being encouraged by the Pope. Even Rick Warren and Hillsong are promoting it , a step into one world religion. Children must know what God's word says about these things.

Bible quizzing takes time which is protection from the world of technology and the dangers that they represent.

Pediatric Occupational Therapist & biologist Cris Rowan said this past March, parents and teachers should ban children un age 12 of having handheld devices. 10 reasons why-

1. Rapid brain growth by overexposure to technologies. This is associated with attention deficit disorder, cognitive delays, impaired learning , increased impulsiveness and decreased ability to self-regulate, e.g. tantrums
2. Delayed Development - it restricts movement. 1 in 3 children enter school developmentally delayed, negatively impacting literacy and academic achievement. Movement enhances attention and learning ability.
3. Epidemic Obesity- Children allowed devices in bedroom have 30% increased incidences of obesity , which causes diabetes, early risk for stroke and heart attack..21st century children may be first generation who will not outlive their parents.
4. Sleep Deprivation - 75% of children are sleep deprived because of devices in the bedroom and grades are detrimentally impacted.
5. Mental Illness
6. Aggressive Behavior
7. Digital Dementia
8. Addictions - 1 in 11 children are addicted to technology
9. Radiation Emission
10. Unsustainable Education - pornography

Bible quizzing gives quizzers a conscience that protects them. If your quizzer has a hand held device monitor it strictly and put it to good use, see that any time spent on it is to take advantage of the games and drills on [upcquiz.com](http://upcquiz.com).

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SCRIPTURE REFERENCES :

**MISPLACED BURDEN:**

Romans 8:5 Those who live according to the flesh (If men are controlled by their earthly natures) have their minds set on what the flesh desires (they give their minds to earthly things) ; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires.

6.For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace.

**COMMANDMENT**

Deut. 6:6-8 "And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt TEACH them DILIGENTLY unto thy children , and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, AND when thou walkest by the way, AND when thou risest up. And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes."

Deut 11:19 And ye shall teach them (God's Words) to your children, speaking of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, when thou liest down, and when thou riseth up.

Ps.78:1-6. For he established a testimony in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which he COMMANDED our fathers, that they should MAKE THEM KNOWN TO THEIR CHILDREN: That the generation to come might know them, even the children which should be born; who should arise and DECLARE them to their children: THAT THEY MIGHT SET THEIR HOPE IN GOD, AND NOT FORGET THE WORKS OF GOD, BUT KEEP HIS COMMANDMENTS:

**PROMISE**

Prov. 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

**PRIORITIES**

Deut 11: 18 Therefore shall ye lay up these words (God's Word) in your heart (memorize) and in your soul, and bind them for a sign upon your hand that they may be as frontlets between your eyes.

Psalms 119:11 "Thy Word have I hid in my heart that I might not sin against thee".

\*\*\*Matt 6:33 But seek first the Kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

GOD'S WORD® Translation (©1995)But first, be concerned about his kingdom and what has his approval. Then all these things will be provided for you.

This verse is a commandment to total and complete trust, proper focus and priorities. A continuation of the lesson that in God's economy, in order to receive what we need we must first give it away. We want a successful life in this world for our children then we must teach them first to give it totally to God, Seek him first, memorize his word (for the Word is God) Focus on doing God's Word..and He will open to them, give them, whatever thy need in life.

Jamison –Faussett–Brown CommentaryThe "seeking" of these is the making them the **object of supreme choice** and pursuit; and the seeking of them "first" is the seeking of them **before and above all else**. The "all these things" which shall in that case be added to us are just the "all these things" which the last words of Mt 6:32 assured us "our heavenly Father knoweth that we have need of"; that is, all we require for the present life. And when our Lord says they shall be "added," it is implied, as a matter of course, that the seekers of the kingdom and its righteousness shall have these as their proper and primary portion: the rest being their gracious reward for having right priorities & not seeking them. We must make it first in

importance. Everything else must give way before its demands. (3) It must be first in our affections, have our whole hearts. We must love the Lord our God with the whole heart

**Gill's Exposition of the Entire Bible** To Parents:

And thou shalt teach them **diligently** unto thy children,.... Care and diligence are to be used, and pains taken, to instruct children, as soon as they are capable, in the knowledge of God, and of his commandments; this is to bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, Ephesians 6:4, it may be rendered "thou shalt whet or sharpen them" (s), the words or commandments; it is expressive of diligence and industry in teaching, by frequent repetition of things, by inculcating them continually into their minds, endeavoring to imprint them there, that they may be sharp, ready, and expert in them:

and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house; at the time of meals, or at leisure hours, or even when employed in any business in the house which will admit of it; every opportunity should be taken to instill the knowledge of divine things into their tender minds:

and when thou walkest by the way; in a journey, and any of his children with him; or for diversion, in the garden, field, or vineyard: and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up; at the time of going to bed, and rising from it; which, as they are seasons of prayer to God, may be improved in instruction of children.

\*Ps.78:4We will not conceal them from their children, But tell to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, And His strength and His wondrous works that He has done. 5For He established a testimony in Jacob And appointed a law in Israel, **Which He commanded our fathers That they should teach them to their children,...**

(Matthew Henry Commentary -The law of God was given with a particular charge to teach it diligently to their children, that the church may abide for ever. Also, that the providences of God, both in mercy and in judgment, might encourage them to conform to the will of God. The works of God much strengthen our resolution to keep his commandments. Hypocrisy is the high road to apostasy: those that do not set their hearts right, will not be stedfast with God. Many parents, by negligence, become murderers of their children.