

# THE FOREST HILL NEWS

Published weekly by the Forest Hill church of Christ

*Visit our Website at [www.foresthillchurch.org](http://www.foresthillchurch.org)*

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Leonard Watson

### **Minister:**

Barry M. Grider

## **VISIT US SOON!**

### **Sunday:**

Bible Study..... 9:30 A..M.  
Morning Worship.. ...10:30 A.M.  
Evening Worship..... 6:00 P.M.

### **Wednesday:**

Bible Study .....7:00 P.M.

## **HOME OF MEMPHIS SCHOOL OF PREACHING**

### **Missions Supported:**

Memphis Hispanic Ministry  
Kakinada, India  
Manila, Philippines  
Murmansk, Russia  
Far East/World Evangelism  
In Search of the Lord's Way

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## **THREE "R's" OF PARENTING**

Jimmy Clark

The Book of Proverbs is filled with passages on the subject of parenting. Proverbs 29:15 says, "The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame." This passage shows the effects of both good and bad parenting. God did not create man to train himself by his own wisdom. Paul wrote, "Let no man deceive himself. If any man among you seemeth to be wise in this world, let him become a fool, that he may be wise. For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God..." (1 Cor. 3:18-20). Parents need God's wisdom in the inspired Word. Look at some aspects of parenting which are found in the Scriptures for instruction.

**Role Models.** A critical aspect of parenting is being the proper example to a child. Many children are brought into this world by some male and female only to be abandoned for someone else to take responsibility for rearing them. There are even children who live in the same house with their biological parents, yet spend very little time with them due to busy business schedules or various personal interests that exclude the kids. Children "left to themselves" find other people or things to fill up the void in place of their parents. Those "surrogates" in many cases do not hold the moral and spiritual values needed for the proper development of a child. Some professional athletes clearly proclaim, "I am not a role model" to keep young people from following their lives in spite of their great popularity. Youth, especially adolescents, are looking to build their own identity. They see people who look successful in the media and emulate their character. Children should look to their parents for identity. Consider what Solomon said to his son: "My son, hear the instruction of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother: for they shall be an ornament of grace unto thy head, and chains about thy neck" (Prov. 1:8-9). Again, "My son, give me thine heart, and let thine eyes observe my ways" (Prov. 23:26). If parents abandon, abuse, or neglect their responsibility to lead, their children will look elsewhere.

**Reproof.** Another critical aspect of parenting is guidance and correction. Rearing an immature human being from birth to adulthood is a great challenge to all parents. Solomon said of this immature state, "Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him" (Prov. 22:15; cf. 25:15). One must not take this verse by itself to be God's total instruction for correction. Words are needed with correction. If a child does not understand why he/she received punishment for a certain act, then a perverted understanding will come of discipline. Scripture also teaches that words without penalties are incomplete guidance. "Withhold not correction from the child: for if thou beatest him with the rod, he shall not die. Thou shalt beat him with the rod, and shalt deliver his soul from hell" (Prov. 23:13-14). Solomon is not saying a child should be abused or physically injured; the word "beat" could be translated "clap" or "to strike lightly." Again, "Chasten thy son while there is hope, and let not thy soul spare for his crying" (Prov. 19:18). All children need to know that freedom to choose either right or wrong does not free one from the consequences of doing wrong. The loving discipline of godly parents is far better than the cruel treatment of the far country.

**Refuge.** Another critical aspect of parenting is providing a safe and secure place called home. A home is not just a place where one is fed, clothed, and sheltered. Physical necessities are only a small part of the needs of children. There is the emotional, mental, and especially spiritual development that is needed by children in those critical "growing up" years. The dwelling place of the family should be a place where peace is found. It is

## FOREST HILL IS PLEASED TO SUPPORT *SEARCH* TV PROGRAM

### SEARCH TV Influences Some Baptist Churches

Sometime back a Baptist preacher called me from California to tell me that they had appointed elders in their congregation that day and that we would be hearing of that frequently. He said it is due to our teaching and influence in the *SEARCH* programs. He had just returned from the Baptist Convention where he said it was discussed in a positive and encouraging manner. More recently one of the large Baptist churches in the Oklahoma City area has done so. I have also been told that some Baptist church is now baptizing "for the remission of sins." In the last six weeks or so, we have had several telephone calls from members of both Baptist and Methodist churches that they are moving back to a cappella music. One lady said their new minister of music wanted to go to congregational a cappella music altogether, but was meeting some opposition, so he was moving slowly, having one hymn in every service a cappella. Another said something of the same nature but that they were now having one service a month a cappella. It is interesting that while some of our own people and congregations are beginning the use of mechanical music in worship, others hearing Bible teaching on the subject – and more than that – seeing and hearing it are turning to vocal congregational music. Please pray for us that we can continue to have a Biblical influence on American religion to turn it to God. Brother, we have the message. We just need to get out to where people can hear it and see it demonstrated. People are hearing our messages where we are being broadcast like in your area.

We are told by those who study such things that when we are on the air on one channel, and another preacher (of any kind or denomination) is on another channel opposite us, we ALWAYS have a greater share of the audience than he has – and very often we will have twice as many as he has. We have two plaques hanging in our reception area from the NIELSEN MEDIA RESEARCH people who verify that. We just need to be stronger.

### A Personal Note From Mack Lyon

My mother was Southern Baptist. My father was Methodist. I was introduced to New Testament Christianity and accepted it at an early age. In prayer, two years later I made a commitment to Christ to preach His gospel by use of the media (print and radio; TV came later). I preached my first sermon in 1939 and preached in small rural churches until I finished high school plus two years. It was during this period that my father required of me to recant my commitment to New Testament Christianity or find another place to live. It was hard to leave home under such circumstances because my mother was my greatest source of encouragement.

It was not until 1943 that I learned about the Stone-Campbell movement. I have great respect and admiration for the ideals and the distinguished achievements of those courageous and determined people. However, my conversion and my commitment were not to that movement, but to Christ and His church as it is revealed in the New Testament. Here I stand today.

Let us who choose to stand with the Lord and His church pray for and pursue a better spirit of unity and cooperation among ourselves. And let brotherly love abound (Heb. 13:1). Slothfulness and jealousies join to create an atmosphere in which advocates of division succeed.

This is no time to even consider "cutting back" on preaching sound doctrine. We need to double or triple or even quadruple such programs as *SEARCH* that carry the message of New Testament Christianity to families who no longer receive it in their church assemblies. The church of Christ will survive. It is bigger than any man. Oh, I pray you will help us more than double the outreach of *SEARCH* in 2004. Let us hear from you?

Sincerely,  
Mack Lyon

**Watch *SEARCH* each Lord's Day  
WHBQ Channel 13  
7:30 a.m.**

natural for adolescents to spend more and more time away from their parents to develop relationships with others outside their own immediate family. However, some children leave because they do not consider their homes as great a refuge as they do the places where their peers reside. The turmoil lived out in so many families makes the home more a place of war than of peace. Solomon wrote, "Better is a dinner of herbs where love is, than a stalled ox and hatred therewith" (Prov. 15:17). Home is a place where children should want to live, not just have to live.

(from **House to House/Heart to Heart**)

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### No Time to Play

My precious boy with the golden hair  
Came up one day beside my chair  
And fell upon his bended knee  
And said, "Oh, Mommy, please play with me!"  
I said, "Not now, go on and play;  
I've got so much to do today."  
He smiled through tears in eyes so blue  
When I said, "We'll play when I get through."  
But the chores lasted all through the day  
And I never did find time to play.  
When supper was over and dishes done,  
I was much too tired for my little son.  
I tucked him in and kissed his cheek  
And watched my angel fall asleep.  
As I tossed and turned upon my bed,  
Those words kept ringing in my head,  
"Not now, son, go on and play,  
I've got so much to do today."  
I fell asleep and in a minute's span,  
My little boy is a full-grown man.  
No toys are there to clutter the floor;  
No dirty fingerprints on the door;  
No snacks to fix; no tears to dry;  
The rooms just echo my lonely sigh.  
And now I've got the time to play;  
But my precious boy is gone away.  
I awoke myself with a pitiful scream  
And realized it was just a dream  
For across the room in his little bed,  
Lay my curly-haired boy, the sleepy-head.  
My work will wait 'till another day  
For now I must find some time to play.

Dianna Neal.

PERIODICAL  
POSTAGE  
PAID  
MEMPHIS, TN

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