



1957 - 2007

Child Evangelism Fellowship of Saskatchewan

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Fix these Words of Mine in Your Hearts and Minds!

Dear Friends,

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The other day I received a letter from a Christian University/Bible College in Canada with some alarming information. It referred to a US Gallup survey of 1002 youths polled which reported that fewer than half knew that Jesus turned the water into wine at the Cana wedding and nearly two-thirds were unable to identify a quote from Jesus' Sermon on the Mount or the relationship of the road to Damascus to the Apostle Paul's conversion. About one person in ten thought Moses was one of Jesus' twelve apostles.

Probably what was more alarming was that the new students that they had enrolled this fall, tended to reflect this decline in Bible knowledge. It went on to say "Although a strong majority of our students come from evangelical Christian homes and attend church, they often have not been exposed to the same degree of Biblical and theological instruction as have previous generations. Students typically lack a solid background in the essentials of the Bible and faith."

In light of this last statement is it any wonder that statistics say that 80 – 90 percent of young people leave the church after high school. As I read this letter I realized again how important it is to teach the children from the Word of God! In Deuteronomy 11:18-20 it says "**Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds; tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Teach them to your children, talking about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.**"

In Deuteronomy 4:9 there is instruction again to "**Only be careful, and watch yourselves closely so that you do not forget the things your eyes have seen or let them slip from your heart as long as you live. Teach them to your children and to their children after them.**"

"**Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds . . . do not let them slip from your heart as long as you live**". This past week we had a discussion about this very thing as a family as we reflected on the importance of memorizing God's Word. In Romans 12:2 it says to "**be transformed by the renewing of your mind.**" Every once in a while in the Bible Quizzing world someone will downplay the impact that the memorizing of God's Word is having on these young people. But if we do not teach God's Word to our children and encourage them to let God's Word transform them by the renewing of their minds, and encourage them to fix God's Word in their hearts and minds **what is in their mind will be in their heart and it won't be God's Word for how can you have in your heart what is not in your mind?**

I often hear Christians say that they no longer need to take their Bibles to church because they do not use them there and if they are not using them there then are they using them at home? What happens when you do not "**Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds; tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Teach them to your children, talking about them when you sit at home and**

when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates”? I believe you raise up a generation that ‘lack a solid background in the essentials of the Bible and faith’. That is why in the 5-Day Clubs and **Club DJ** and **Club DJ CONNEXTION** God’s Word is central and that every time we have an opportunity to teach the children we will teach them about God through His Word and encourage the children to memorize it that it may renew their minds and be fixed in their hearts.

Club DJ continues to do this each week as we teach the children about God. The other day I received an email from one of the churches that said things are going great and that the only concern is that the children are completing all their lessons and would like more! Who said children don’t want to learn about God?

Another church emailed me and thanked us for sending the **Club DJ** Director’s Kit and Bible teaching material and said, “All the material looks so exciting!” They went on to ask for more Club DJ student books as the children have been inviting more friends than they thought.

Another church from a smaller community who has started up **Club DJ** this year said, “There are one or two new children coming each week!”

Club DJ CONNEXTION also continues to grow. I was so encouraged as I talked to one of the fathers who told me he saw his son’s light on in his bedroom and it was almost midnight. When he went to go turn it off he found his son memorizing Galatians for the quiz meet that was coming up that weekend. I do not believe that it will be said of these children and young people attending **Club DJ** and **Club DJ CONNEXTION** that they ‘lack a solid background in the essentials of the Bible and faith’ as they continue to spend time in God’s Word.

I believe we need to be very intentional about what we are teaching our children just as it says in Deuteronomy 11:18-20. We seek to do this every week in **Club DJ** as we believe it is a privilege to have this opportunity to teach these children about God and His Word and we do not want to squander it and end up looking back and wish we had.

In the next couple of weeks we will be preparing to send out Mailbox Club lessons to the children who have been attending **Club DJ** and the 5-Day Clubs this summer. This mailing will go to well over 6,000 homes representing almost 10,000 children. Once again we will be encouraging them to learn about God and His Word as they complete their new lesson. Please pray for the children as they receive these lessons that they would accept Jesus as their Saviour if they haven’t already and continue to renew their minds as they learn more about God and His love for them.

The postage for this mailing will be almost \$3,000.00 but I truly believe as we seek to do what God would have us do, share about the things He is doing, and give Him all the glory that He will provide. I want to thank each one of you for your part in this ministry to children and young people. We value your faithful prayers as we seek to continue to teach the children about God and His Word.

For the sake of the children,



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