

March 1, 2020

CONFUSED 5 : DO KIDS MATTER?

[Kids forum with pastor]

1. Who are the most important people in your lives?

[Natural Child Project says the answer is "Parents are most important people in their lives"]

2. What would you like most of all while being with your family?

OnePoll survey (Aug 2019):

- *90% of American Kids (6-17) – identify their families as "close"*
 - *Of that group – 56% say "very close"*
- *73% want more time to bond with their families, more so than with their friends.*

3. Are there any rules kids would like to have?

"Why are there so many rules?"

Teachers say that kids want rules.

Article on CBN says kids feel lost, unloved, disjointed and unimportant without structure and guidance.

Let's look at a few rules that are pretty important to our life from birth to death.

What about the rule of happiness?

Loving life and living the dream - true happiness, just what God intended all along.

Because we live in a different world than what God wanted for us, we reach for “things” that will never satisfy.

THIS IS GOD’S WORLD – HE WANTS REAL LIVING!

John 10:10

“The thief’s purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My purpose is to give them a rich and satisfying life.”

With happiness there is the security of just chilling without any worries.

Philippians 4:6,7

“Don’t fret or worry. Instead of worrying, pray. Let [CONCERNS] and [GOOD THINGS IN YOUR LIFE] shape you worries into prayers, letting God know your concerns. Before you know it, a sense of [God’s COMPLETE WORK IN YOUR LIFE], everything coming together for good, will come and settle you down. It’s wonderful what happens when Christ displaces worry at the center of your life.”

What about the rule of being successful?

Proverbs 16:3

“Commit your actions to the Lord, and your plans will succeed.”

Proverbs 15:22

“Plans go wrong for lack of advice; many advisers bring success.”

GET A LIFE-LINE - ADVISE

GO AFTER GOD’S APPROVAL

Proverbs 10:22

“God’s blessing makes life rich; nothing we do can improve on God.”

Jeremiah 29:11

“For I know the plans I have for you,’ says the Lord. ‘They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope. In those days when you pray, I will listen. If you look for me wholeheartedly, you will find me.’”

What about the rule of protection?

Proverbs 19:23

“[RESPECT] of the Lord leads to life, bringing security and protections from harm.”

Proverbs 18:30

“God’s way is perfect. All the Lord’s promises prove true. He is a shield for all who look to him for protection.”

Psalms 91:1,2 msg

“You can go to God Most High to hide. You can go to God All-Powerful for protection. I say to the Lord, ‘You are my place of safety, my fortress. My God, I trust... you.’”

What about the rule of living forever?

Who doesn’t want to live without the thought of death?

We are driven too have good, nice things around us – but THEY won’t last forever either

ProverbsPsalms 49:9

“Your will never have enough to buy the right to live forever and keep your body out of the grave.”

1 John 2:17

“The world is passing away, and all the things that people want in the world are passing away. But whoever does what God wants will live forever.”

John 3:16

“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.”

Notes:

OnePoll survey on what kids want

<https://www.goodnewsnetwork.org/73-of-kids-want-to-spend-more-time-with-their-parents-and-here-are-20-things-they-want-to-do/>

The Natural Child Project:

https://www.naturalchild.org/articles/guest/carolyn_simmons.html

The Parent Cue:

<https://theparentcue.org/what-your-kids-want-most-from-you/>

Setting Limits for Your Child

<https://health.usnews.com/wellness/for-parents/articles/2017-06-26/the-importance-of-setting-limits-for-your-child>