

THE BELLEVILLE MESSENGER

June 16

2024

Why Aren't More Young People Serving The Lord?

Have you noticed that there seems to be less and less young people today who are faithfully serving the Lord? You see, sadly there does seem to be more and more young people today who are choosing not to faithfully serve the Lord.

So, in hopes of reversing this terrible trend, let's consider a few possible reasons for why this might be.

A Lack of Proper Teaching.

One of the reasons for why some young people are not faithfully serving the Lord today is due to a lack of proper teaching. You see, parents, we need to be busy teaching our children the importance of loving and obeying God, and we need to be diligent in reminding them to remember their Creator in the days of their youth (Ecclesiastes 12:1), being ever mindful of these inspired words of wisdom, *"Train up a child in the way he should go, And when he is old he will not depart from it"* (Proverbs 22:6). Therefore, parents, let's do our very best to make sure that our children are being properly taught to love, to obey, and to serve the Lord (Deuteronomy 6:5-7; Ephesians 6:4). For, by doing so, we will better equip our young people to faithfully serve the Lord.

Hypocritical Parents.

Another possible reason for why some young people are not faithfully serving the Lord is due to having parent's who are playing the hypocrite (Ref. Matthew 23:28). You see, we may be able to fool some people, but we are not going to fool our children. For, our children see, and know, weather or not we are the same person throughout the week that we profess to be on Sunday. However, when children see the difference between practice and profession, they can soon begin to lose respect for their parent's, and for the religion which they profess, which causes some to go astray. Parents, don't play the hypocrite (Ref. Galatians 2:11-13), but rather sincerely love the Lord our God with thy all each and every day (Mark 12:30), let your children, along with other young people, see Christ living in you (Ref. Galatians 2:20), and be a positive influence to our young people to faithfully serve the Lord (Ref. Matthew 5:13-16).

Too Many Worldly Companions.

Sadly, it seems like too many of our young people today are choosing to spend more time with worldly companions, rather than with fellow peers who love the Lord. You see, I believe there are less young people choosing to faithfully serve the Lord today simply because many of them have become deceived by running with the wrong crowd. Therefore, we all need to be continually reminding our young people of these words of Paul, *"Do not be deceived: Evil company corrupts good habits"* (1 Corinthians 15:33). How true, right? So, let's be diligent in informing our young people to avoid the path of the wicked (Proverbs 4:14-15) and let's share these words of wisdom from Proverbs 12:26 with them, *"The righteous should choose his friends carefully, For the way of the wicked leads them astray."* Once more, *"evil company corrupts good habits"*, but on the flip side of that coin *"good company corrects bad habits."* Remember that, and let's encourage our young people to spend quality time with those who are faithfully serving the Lord.

Too Much Exposure To Evil Influences.

Have you ever considered that there might be less young people serving the Lord today due to an over exposure of evil influences? You see, we live in a time where multiple television sets are in the home, along with multiple computers, and almost everyone in the family has a smart phone. Now, I'm not saying that it is wrong to have a television set, a computer, or a smart phone, but what I am saying is that these devices can be very instrumental in exploiting our young people to evil and immoral behavior, and we therefore, need to beware of this fact, and carefully monitor what our young people are being exposed to from these devices. Therefore, let's all pay attention to what our children are being exposed to, and let's constantly instruct them not to become conformed to the world (Romans 12:2), and to abhor what is evil and to cling to what is good (Romans 12:9). For by doing this, we will be able to more effectively help our young people faithfully serve the Lord.

They Count The Cost of Discipleship As Being Too High.

One more reason for why I suggest that there is probably less and less young people serving the Lord today is because many of them consider the cost of discipleship as being too high (Ref. Luke 9:23-26, 14:26-33). However, we all need to understand that our soul is our most valuable possession, and that there is nothing, and I repeat, nothing worth losing our soul for (Matthew 16:26). Knowing that, let's be constantly reminding our young people of both the goodness and severity of God (Romans 11:22), of the reality of both heaven and hell (Ref. Matthew 25:31-46; Mark 9:42-48; Philippians 3:17-21; 1 Peter 1:3-9), and of the fact that only those who do the will of our Father in heaven will someday inherit a home in heaven (Matthew 7:21-23). Again, there is a cost to discipleship, and we need to encourage our young to count the cost of discipleship, to faithfully serve the Lord, and we need to remind them to of the fact that "heaven is a prepared place, for a prepared people" (Ref. Matthew 25:34-40).

Once again, there seems to be less and less young people today who are choosing to faithfully serve the Lord. However, if we would consider, and take heed to the things mentioned above, we can become better equipped to encourage and help more of our young people faithfully serve the Lord.

✍ Brad Phillips

God's Plan of Salvation

Hear the word of God. (Romans 10:17)

Believe in Jesus Christ. (John 8:24)

Repent of your sins. (Acts 17:30)

Confess Jesus Christ. (Romans 10:9-10)

Be baptized for the remission of sins. (Acts 2:38)

Remain faithful unto death. (Revelation 2:10)

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek" (Romans 1:16).

Belleville church of Christ

5635 S County Rd 200E - Belleville, IN - (317) 539-5258

www.bellevillechurch.net

Schedule of Services

| | |
|------------------------------|------------|
| Sunday Bible Study | 9:30 a.m. |
| Sunday Morning Worship | 10:30 a.m. |
| Sunday Evening Worship | 4:00 p.m. |
| Wednesday Bible Study | 7:00 p.m. |

Evangelist

Brad Phillips (765) 720-2816