

Scott's Thoughts by Scott Deneen, Pastor to Youth and Families

"You're in charge!" I was twenty-three years old when my father said these words to me. He was getting into his car to drive home after a long day's work. I was just getting to work for the night shift. My dad was placing me - his twenty-three year old son - in charge of our small mining facility. I was terrified! Who was I to handle this kind of responsibility? What authority could I possibly have over men who had worked for our company longer than I'd been alive? How was I going to handle this? Would I yell at the men to get them to do what I wanted? What if they rebelled against me?

What I found out was that my authority came from my father. Because he put me in my position as Night Shift Plant Manager, our workers obeyed me. They may have questioned my position, they may have pushed the boundaries, but in the end, they submitted out of respect for my father. Later, after weeks of hard work and a winsome attitude, the men came to respect me, too.

As parents, God has called us to a wonderful position - that of parenthood. He has blessed us with lovely children and given us responsibility for their nurture. We have the responsibility to act on behalf of God. Our children may question our authority, they may push the boundaries, but in the end, God calls them to loving submission **OUT OF RESPECT FOR GOD.**



Upcoming Youth Events

- Every Wednesday — Youth Group meets in gym at 6:30 pm
- 3/31/06—4/2/06 High School Retreat to Doe River Gorge (ropes course, games, mountains)
- 4/7/06—4/9/06 Middle School Retreat to Doe River Gorge (ropes course, games, mountains)

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Because our children belong to God, we are not allowed to shape our children according to our desires but are to shape them according to what pleases God. This is a freeing concept for parents, because when we discipline, correct, or teach, we are not acting out of our own will but are acting out of God's will. He wants us to train our children. He wants us to influence them on His behalf. He wants us to guide and direct their steps and lead them on the straight and narrow. He wants us to bless them by bringing them to Jesus.

And we do NOT need our children's permission to do this! God has given us the right and responsibility to train them and their endorsement is unnecessary. We, however, must be willing to take up this responsibility. Just as I went into our plant that day, worked hard, did my best, and received mockery for it. So we as parents may receive the same from our children for our efforts, but God is well-pleased when we obey Him in this area. As we are faithful to Him, so He will bless our efforts - just like He blessed my hard work for my father! Later (and sometimes it's much later), our children will appreciate our Godward obedience, because they, too, are walking in His ways and are enjoying fellowship with the good and wise God.

God Bless You All,

Pastor Scott

You're in Charge Tips:

1. See parenting as a calling from God
2. Understand that God is the authority figure in the home and you are following His directives
3. Be humble (we're all still learning how to parent)
4. Leave anger out of the discipline process
5. Express love in abundant supply

Ice Cream Social Loads of Fun

This past weekend coaches, players and teams spent time *off* the court enjoying fellowship, games and ice cream (all toppings included!).

The cold weather outside didn't stop us from laughing and enjoying each other's company.



difficult task! She got 30!

How many clothes pins can you attach to your shirt.. While others around you are chanting "come on #7"? It's a

Time is a precious commodity these days. It's typical to feel rushed and pressured, yet we are blessed when we take the time to listen and care for (i.e. love) others.



Your Volleyball Committee is anxious to serve! Thanks for letting us love you and your family!

God created us in His image and wants us to enjoy our time together. He encourages us to "love one another" (1 John). We're able to do this when we take the time to fellowship with one another, building relationships and trust.

[God's Love and Ours]
Dear Friends,
Let us love
one another,
for love comes
from God...
1 John 4:7

Financial Freedom

Journey to Financial Freedom- the latest live seminar from Crown Financial Ministries combines biblical principles of money management with practical applications.

First Presbyterian is hosting this seminar on

March 25th

8:30am—4:30pm

The registration fee is \$20 and covers materials, continental breakfast, snacks and lunch. You can register online at www.crown.org.



JOURNEY to FINANCIAL FREEDOM

Among topics discussed are:

- Fundamental, Biblical principles of managing resources, saving, debt and setting priorities.
- Societal pressures that result in decisions which prevent you from experiencing God's best for your life.

- God's nature and how He uses money in your life to lead you to financial freedom.
- Practical steps to establish a plan to properly manage resources.
- Practical steps to avoid or eliminate debt.
- A scripturally balanced approach to giving in all areas of your life.

For additional information, contact us at 704.263.4275

Understanding SOAR – a look at a ministry goal

Help our players grow as individuals and develop healthy self-concepts

We want your children to love themselves in a healthy way, acknowledging that they are created in the likeness of God. In today's world, we're often guilty of finding our significance in the opinion of others instead of resting in the fact that we are children of God and that He delights in us. During devotions, we talk about what it means to be God's son or daughter and the beauty of His grace. It is our prayer that as your child

comes to understand the depth of His love, he/she will feel more confident in his/her value and worth.

We're on the web!
www.fpcstanley.org

Call us at 704.263.4275



Presenting Everyone Complete in Christ

Morning Service

- 8:30 Worship Service
- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 Worship Service

Evening Service

- 6:30 Worship Service