

A Lesson in Responsibility

by Timothy Barton, Jr., FPC Intern

I heard a story recently about two young boys who grew up together in the inner-city of Houston. These boys loved sports and they played them any chance they were able. They were always on the same team together and they supported the others' successes.

Each boy worked extremely hard at sports, specifically at the sport of football. By their senior year, the boys were each top college prospects and being considered for college scholarships at notable schools. However, it came to the attention of the football coaches, that one of the boys had not kept his grades at the level required to maintain his eligibility to play football thus he would have to sit out the season.

He had spent his junior year of high-school chasing fame and the pleasures that came with being a football star at their well-known school. His pursuit and goal had been fame rather than playing football, and he lost focus on his responsibility. This was devastating to the young man because all he had ever wanted to do was to play football. Unfortunately, he was unable to do so because he failed to take care of his responsibility given him to keep up his grades.

The other young man had taken his responsibility seriously and sought to keep his grades where they needed to be because he wanted to play football. This was the pursuit he was after, and he was determined to do what was necessary to reach that goal.

Immediately after this, the two boys grew apart. However, as the story goes, they eventually met back up 7 years down the road after the first young man's college football days were over. He was surprised to see his old friend in the grocery store of a suburb of Houston one Saturday afternoon. His friend was holding a toddler, and began to talk about how his lesson in responsibility and proper pursuits back in high school had led him to take responsibility for his actions; as a result, he now had a wonderful wife and little girl.

Parents, teaching kids to pursue good goals and to be responsible for their actions is something that we should all be doing for them at an early age. This lesson for our children will give them a foundation to earn the respect of other people and help to keep them from pursuing those things which we would consider unwise. The best place to find these good things to pursue is found in the Bible which tells us in 1 Timothy 6 that we are to flee bad things and instead pursue the good things that come from God. Wouldn't it be wonderful for our society if everyone taught their children these principles?

Upcoming Youth Events

- **Youth Group**
Sundays 6:00—7:30pm
Middle & High School
- **Imagebearers**
Sundays 6:00—7:30pm
1st—5th grade
- **Operation Christmas Child** November 22nd
- **Live Christmas Scenes**
December 21st & 22nd

Photos by James Guffey



Asking the Right Questions

Generation to Generation, A Focus on the Family Publication; June 2006; Tyndale House

Asking the Right Questions

How can you help your child get rid of emotional burdens? It doesn't take a degree in psychology. You can start by learning to ask 3 key questions:

1. **What's wrong?** This is the intellectual question. After asking it, simply sit back and listen.
2. **How do you feel?** This is the emotional question. If your child says, "I feel sad," follow up by asking what the sadness is like. Resist the urge to jump in with a solution.
3. **What are you doing?** This is the behavioral question. If your child doesn't know how to answer it, say something like, "You told me X is wrong; what are you doing about that?" If your child isn't ready to talk, trying to force a discussion will be futile. Postpone the discussion, perhaps asking, "When would be a better time during the next couple of days to talk about this?" When the hour comes, you may need to go through the three questions several times. Chances are that the layers of sadness and despair around the core problem will slowly be removed as you listen patiently.



Basketball News

Bobcats Clinic/Game

The Bobcats Clinic has been cancelled because unfortunately we didn't meet the requirement of selling 300 tickets. Next year, though, we're planning to offer this opportunity again.

League Day

Sunday, Nov. 12th.

Plan to attend either our 8:30am or 11:00am worship service with your team. Players should wear their jerseys!

Finale

Saturday, Dec. 2nd

Mark your calendar!
Exact time TBD.



Why a Youth Sports Ministry?

What a privilege it is for us serving God through this ministry! He gave some folks the vision for starting the program in 1991 and has blessed us with nice facilities. We currently offer 4 youth sports:

- Volleyball (ages 10—HS)
- Soccer (ages 4.5—11)
- Baseball (ages 6—15)
- Basketball (ages 6—15)

Volunteers make this ministry possible. Coaches, referees and scorekeepers (some of which are you... Thanks!) give freely of their time and talent. It is our hope to share the love of Christ with both players and parents.

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.

Help Your Child Tips for Parents

Exercise

Like adults, children should be physically active most, if not all, days of the week. Experts suggest at least 60 minutes of moderate physical activity daily for most children. Activities such as walking fast, bicycling, jumping rope, dancing fast, and playing basketball are all good ways for your child to be active.

As children spend more time watching TV and playing computer and video games, they spend less time being active. Parents play a big role in helping kids get up and get moving.

How can I help my child be more active?

- Be a role model for your children. If they see you being physically active and having fun, they are more likely to be active and stay active throughout their lives.
- Involve the whole family in activities like hiking, biking, dancing, basketball, or skating.
- Focus on fun. You can do a lot of walking during trips to the zoo, park, or miniature-golf course.
- Include children in household activities like dog-walking, car-washing, or lawn-mowing.
- Limit your children's TV and computer time. Offer them active options, like joining a local recreation center or after-school program, or taking lessons in a sport they enjoy.
- Encourage your child to be physically active every day.

Source: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, National Institutes of Health, NIH Publication No. 04-4955, March 2004.



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

Call us at 704.263.4275

Visit us online at

www.fpcstanley.org

Team Rosters
Game Schedule
Parent's Corner