

Family Heritage Developer

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"God forbid that I should forsake the inheritance of my fathers" -- 1 Kings 21:3

February 20, 2014

Rejection, Our Part in The Cross

By Gary L. Cox

The pain of rejection is experienced in direct proportion to the degree that acceptance in this life is desired from this world's platforms of approval. One either seeks the time honored standards and objectives of this world's approval or he seeks approval from the longer range standards and objectives of eternity.

While heavenly approval has been set deeply in our hearts by God — though we cannot fathom it. (Eccl. 3) -- heavenly approval is won, nevertheless, by enormous battles of faith (Heb.11). We are seeking either an heavenly or an earthly city.

Herein lies the painful battle over rejection. If one rejects the world's measure of acceptance and approval, he must be prepared to be fiercely rejected and condemned

by the world. Pain is found in that rejection and condemnation. For this reason, pain manipulates and motivates the temporal mind to conform to this world in order to stop the pain of rejection by the world. But man cannot serve two masters; he will love the one and despise the other (Matt. 6). You can conform to the world's standards in order to save your life; or by faith, you can endure the cross, looking beyond the pain to the joy of the promise before you -- salvation yourself and others. The true believer surrenders this life in a sacrificial offering while despising the shame imposed by a rejecting world (Heb. 12).

So practically speaking, pain from rejection is found directly in proportion to the world's rejection of your choices. Man's feelings are

tethered to rejection and condemnation. Jesus was himself despised and rejected of men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief (Isa. 53). So be prepared, if you reject the world's temporal-based valuation of your worth, you will suffer the pain of it rejecting you. But remember, pain is inversely diminished by the proportion of clarity and certainty of the hope and joy set before the eyes of your faith. When you rejoice in hope and are patient in tribulation, hope will make you "not ashamed because the love of God is shed abroad in your heart by the Holy Spirit" (Rom. 5). This joy allows you to endure AND despise the shame of rejection. By this joy, you are no longer in bondage to fear of death (Heb. 2), but rather are released unto a filling of love and

confidence that the world cannot comprehend (Phil. 3).

A word about joy and salvation. Simply put, pain is the alarm that cries out for deliverance and rescue from temporal death. Joy is found in the good news of salvation that there is deliverance from death that lasts for eternity and cannot be taken from you. The question for you is which death are you afraid of? Jesus said not to fear one who can kill the body, but to fear Him who can cast you into hell after the physical death of the body -- this is the second death. Saving this life has joy. But it is short-lived because it is eventually destroyed by death. But the deliverance by Jesus Christ from eternal death completely frees you from the bondage of the fear of death. That is overcoming joy!

There is a process, however, in getting there. Initially, the world offers its deliverance first. The world rejoices in the face of those who have the sorrow of the cross. Jesus said, "be not afraid, for your sorrow shall be turned to joy, and your joy no man can take away" (John 16). Furthermore, the joy

of the cross offers hope beyond you. It envisions others in the rescue. These are the children of the desolate, those to whom your cross has wonderfully extended salvation (Isa. 42). So the cross calls the believer to be a mimic of God as a dearly beloved child (redeemed one) and to walk in love as Christ who offered himself as a sacrifice that was a sweet savor to God. And to the one who dies to this life, joy is increased by the lives of those whom God saves as fruit of the sacrificed life. And, there is no greater joy than to see one's "children" walking in the truth!

What was Joseph's mitigating joy for his years of slavery and imprisonment in Egypt? Was it not that suffering rejection by his brothers was used by God for good?

The "good" that Joseph saw was the saving of much people -- especially the very lives of his own brothers who hated and rejected him! No lingering bitterness here! The salvation of Joseph's brothers soothed his pain caused by their rejection and replaced that pain with joy found in their salvation. (Now remember that Joseph's inheritance was doubled just like Job's after

his suffering! God hates robbery for a burnt offering. He will never take the least sacrifice from anyone without repaying it double.)

Heb. 12:3

Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the Joy set before him endured the cross despising the shame.

Psalm 73:21-28

Thus my heart was grieved, and I was pricked in my reins. So foolish [was] I, and ignorant: I was [as] a beast before thee. Nevertheless I [am] continually with thee: thou hast holden [me] by my right hand. Thou shalt guide me with thy counsel, and afterward receive me [to] glory.

Whom have I in heaven [but thee]? and [there is] none upon earth [that] I desire beside thee. My flesh and my heart faileth: [but] God [is] the strength of my heart, and my portion for ever. For, lo, they that are far from thee shall perish: thou hast destroyed all them that go a whoring from thee. But [it is] good for me to draw near to God: I have put my trust in the Lord GOD, that I may declare all thy works.

Becky's Tips

Believe

Decorator posters continue to point us to "Believe." But when asked, "What are we to believe?," the answers vary and can be confusing.

For us who know truth the "believe" must be grounded in 1 John 4: "Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God." 1John 4:1-3A

Continue to show how the world opposes Christianity, often by trying to make Christians confused.

Championship

Christian parents are wise to be alert to the invasion of the world's values into education. The government's educational system has become so much an accepted part of our culture that even the wisest parents struggle to maintain a Championship philosophy.

In my study of Covenant by Kay Arthur, I was greatly encouraged and empowered by the chapter on "I Have Something Worth Dying For." In this chapter she explained how at c 300 AD Constantine

became Roman ruler, freeing Christians from previous persecution. Always in history I thought of this as a grand and marvelous move and indeed it was. But she shares that Christianity became mainstream. Christianity moved from poverty to plenty. Buildings became abundant and worship became centralized. And the church lost its impact, because the church's passion shifted from pursuing spiritual power to wielding worldly power.

It has been many years since 300AD. During that time we have watched the church thrive in its acceptance by the world (with pockets of persecution.) So, how does this information affect my teaching?

1. It encourages me to search the WORD. Before making curriculum or other family decisions I have surrendered to the promise that I can have the mind of Christ.
2. It shows me the need to continuously evaluate my schedule. Maybe I'm doing this activity or this teaching because all other highly gifted people are. As I become aware of that, I repent and obey.
3. It stirs me to ascertain whether my methods include showing God

as the only Creator, only Sustainer, only Revealer, only Redeemer through every subject that I teach. The fact that it feels unfamiliar to do it will not deter me. The fact that no one else is considering such a method important will not deter me.

4. It will motivate me to pray for my own lethargy and to encourage others toward truth.

Training

In Voscamp's, 1000 Gifts she encourages us to give thanks and to see grace in even life's most difficult circumstances. In chapter seven she applies this thanksgiving to a buttered toast incident at one of their breakfasts. It reminded me of a Championship technique in child training.

Instead of anger, tears, yelling or any natural response to your older, angry, disobedient child consider:

1. watching her and waiting
2. hugging
3. saying that you suffer with him
4. agree that doing the right thing is hard
5. praying

Then when the fires have cooled but not much time has passed ask:

"Tell me about your being upset. I'm trying to understand what's hurting you."

From there no matter the response follow with hugs, "We'll keep trying." "I want the best for you." "We can do this because we belong to Christ."

Spelling

Some of you have shared with me that your spelling is still a weak subject. If this is your situation consider:

1. Going back to a phonics review spelling program as, Victory Drill Book.
2. Being consistent. Plan your day, your schedule where spelling can happen even when it seemed impossible. I will gladly help you with methods for your busy situation.
3. Recognizing that no program will work without regular practice and continuous review.
4. Googling the Dolch sight word list to

memorize after mastering some phonics spelling.

5. For younger children separate your phonics reading from your phonics spelling so as not to hold back reading.

Love,

Becky

WCFS CAREER & TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM

Construction Project

Work has begun on the Cascade House. There are many projects to do and what an opportunity to learn construction skills. Work under WCFS Staff to learn multiple construction skills as well as project management and running your own business. We have been given the opportunity by an investor to allow our students to work on a complete home improvement project right here in Cascade, MD. We are looking for a few motivated students from mid-February through the summer, and more for weekly/daily construction projects. A regular email will keep you updated on the project and the

upcoming tasks to be done.

Projects to include:

- Floor Structure Repair
- Subflooring
- Finish Flooring
- Framing Repair
- Kitchen Cabinet Install
- Plumbing Repair & Fixture Install
- Electrical & Lighting
- Insulation
- Wall Repair
- Drywall Install & Finish
- Trim Install & Repair
- Caulking & Painting
- Siding Repair & Shutters Install
- Re-Roofing

Legislative Assistant

Needed ASAP – Session is underway! This position will assist in reviewing Maryland

Family and Educational Law. Open to motivated high school age students with a desire to learn more about Maryland Law and the Legislative Process. Students will work from home and the WCFS office and attend Legislative sessions.

Audio & Video Production Assistant

You will learn how to professionally produce and edit audio and video messages, conference sessions, and academic clinics. What a great way to learn this field and help us get some much needed projects completed.

Call or email me at admin@wcfs.edu for more information. What a great way to gain practical experience as well as earn high school credit.