

Gatekeepers

Parents and teachers are the guardians or gatekeepers for our children. We evaluate things that they are exposed to and either deny or allow their participation. We must carefully judge toys for their relationships with worldly thought. We must judge all books and videos according to their **content** and **characters**. **Children know that what we allow is that which we approve of.** When we approve of things that contain the rudiments of the world or the promotion of the traditions of men, we are implying to our children that these are things acceptable for them to incorporate into their lifestyle.

Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ. Colossians 2:18

Why would we choose to set before our children unsaved men, women, or children as examples for their lives as in most of what is found on television? We can recognize good character in the unsaved, and for that we are thankful, but should that justify allowing them to become models to our children. We choose to expose them to good character while at the same time providing for them the rudiments of the world, which, along with "good character," all unsaved men and women will plainly model. The "good" person has nothing to do with God. They live life as they choose and direct their own steps, denying the fact that "the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps." Jeremiah 10:23 **With this type of training, many children learn that the Christian life can be separate from the "real" life.** They learn that good character is all it takes to be successful in life. "Behold, thou hast made my days as an handbreadth; and mine age is as nothing before thee: verily every man at his best state is altogether vanity. Selah" Psalm 39:5

All the classics put forth characters who are likely to do what is right, **but none are even remotely led by the Spirit of God.** Most "good" books that children are allowed to read and most "good" TV programs children are allowed to watch are devoid of adults who are led of the Spirit of God, to do His will. They are actually living contrary to the will of God by choosing their own way in life. It is a lifestyle that is destined for failure. "All the ways of a man are clean in his own eyes; but the LORD weigheth the spirit." Proverbs 16:2 Children upon reaching puberty and the evidence of adulthood, naturally gravitate toward an independent lifestyle.

They are simply following the many examples they have had as well as bending toward that which most pleases the flesh. **At best many Christians live a life choosing that which is right, but it is a foreign idea to be led by the Spirit of God.**

Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is. Ephesians 5:17

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. James 4:7

Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. Proverbs 3:5-6

Many of us, like me, were trained in the rudiments of this world and are used to the old system of doing things but this type of thinking is enmity against God.

The carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God. Romans 8:7-8

Each one of us needs to decide, do we simply believe in God or do we Believe God. God's Word teaches everything we need for life, we need to get rid of our stinking thinking and put on the mind of Christ. We need to demonstrate a clear standard for our children to follow, one that is void of the rudiments of this world and is filled with daily examples of being Spirit led.