

interpretations of individuals. All opinions seem as worthy as each other. Whatever happened to 'Study to show yourself approved unto God, a workman that needs *not to be ashamed, RIGHTLY dividing the word of truth*', (2Tim.2:15)?

Integration systems abound. The world's beat is mixed with Christian lyrics and called 'Christian rock'. Biblical counselling is mixed with psychology - a pseudo scientific system invented by God haters and once considered diametrically opposed to the Bible. Yet it is now integrated as 'Christian psychology'. Subtly, psychological sanctification is taking the place of Biblical sanctification, as Christians turn more and more to humanistic systems of wisdom which God actually calls 'foolishness!' (1Cor.3:19)

Hence, sin is no longer the Hell deserving evil within man, but rather a disease, a bad habit or an addiction that we probably got from someone else in our past who mistreated us. Worldly experts tell us that our problem is 'low self esteem'. This is despite the fact that societies are becoming increasingly selfish and we are loving ourselves to death. If there is such wisdom in these systems, then why is it that of all professions, psychiatrists have the highest rate of suicide in western countries?

Pragmatism has replaced what was the knowledge of good and evil. If a method appears to 'work' then it must be of God. We relieve people today of their sin problem by giving them self-satisfying, felt needs-orientated and ear-tickling lies, instead of pure milk and meat from God's word! And it is also now unloving to practise Church discipline no matter how much the elders desire to see the offending person restored to Biblical behaviour.

At the root of all these errors is this: we have lost a high view of the power of the Word of God as being all sufficient to produce change in peoples hearts. Studies in the US show that 90% of pastors have not read the Bible completely through; only 18% of born again Christians read the Bible every day; and 23% never read the Bible at all. How is the Holy Spirit supposed to change us if the 'meat' to make us grow is not being assimilated?

Why does the church pander to the gods of this age? Is it not because it lacks confidence in the Word of God as all sufficient? But God still says the Bible is the standard for change; the Holy Spirit is the power for that change.

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Central Mountains Baptist Church

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Information for Visitors.

* We're glad you're here. Sit back, relax, and enjoy the service. You're very welcome to join us for a cuppa after church.

* a Kid's Church and creche is normally provided, during the sermon for the **toddler to primary age bracket**. Please ask for details.

Standards

The speed with which ideals, values and moral standards are changing is breathtaking. Things that were once evil are now acceptable. Not more than a few decades ago homosexuality was a 'perversion', yet within a single decade counsellors in the US were told it was now an 'alternate lifestyle'.

The impact of postmodern thinking is that there are now no absolutes. This has changed the way the modern church views the Word of God.



Today we judge the Scriptures instead of the Scriptures judging us, (Heb.4:12). This is typified by the 'Jesus Seminars' held in the USA which have 'scholars' judging what are inspired words from God and what are not!

Subjectivism replaces objectivism. It is a crime to be dogmatic today! Many churches today purposely have little or no statement of faith so that one cannot ascertain where they stand on various doctrines. Church leaders say 'we don't want to teach you theology'. But if they do not teach the knowledge of God ('theology') then how do we know they are teaching the real Jesus? Similarly, many group Bible studies are now centred around the



Our Home

Witnessing at Home

There are four principles for witnessing in the home to understand:
1. The biblical _____ chain, Deuteronomy 6:4-7

(1 Peter 3:1) "Wives, likewise, be submissive to your own husbands, that even if some do not obey the word, they, without a word, may be won by the conduct of their wives,"

(Ephesians 5:22) "Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord."

(Ephesians 6:1-4) "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. {2} "Honor your father and mother," which is the first commandment with promise: {3} "that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth." {4} And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord."



2. The context for the _____, Deuteronomy 6:4-7



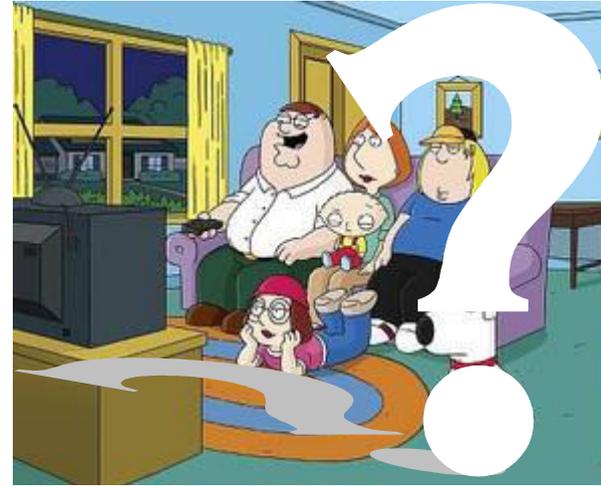
What are the key factors in leading your children to Christ? The context for the gospel should be:

◆ Have family

_____,
Deuteronomy 6:4-7



◆ You've got to be _____, Deuteronomy 6:4-7



◆ Live _____, Deuteronomy 6:4-5

◆ _____ for the kids,

(1 Timothy 2:1) "Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men,"

(1 Timothy 2:3-4) "For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, {4} who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth."

(John 17:14-16) "'I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. {15} "I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one. {16} "They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world."

