

KINDERZONE

Greetings, AC3 Family!

Let us tell you the amazing story of the very first Sunday school.

As we contemplate the words of God, we are reminded of the great task set before us to train our children for His glory. Deut. 6:6-12 commands us to teach our children when we walk, sit, eat, lie down, etc. It is a direct command from God for parents to take the responsibility of teaching our children spiritual concepts at home. So then, if God commands us to teach our children at home, why do they attend Sunday school? Since the late 1700's there has been a shift in our society to place the learning of spirituality from the home to the church. The industrial revolution was the main factor in the change. Before then, women tended to their children and their homes, and men, usually farmers or skilled craftsmen, worked at or near the home. In the evenings, families would sit and read the bible before bed. Communicating Biblical principles and instruction in right living were of the utmost importance in the minds of parents at that time.

With the invention of the steam engine, textile mills, and other technology, families were forced to move to the city, most living in the slums. Disease, poor air quality, and lack of fresh water were very common.

Women and children were forced to work to help support their families, often working 12-hour days with little rest or food. Many of these children did not attend school, and Christianity was becoming the religion of fools, while science and technology was fast becoming the modern god. At this time, a man named Robert Raikes, of Gloucester, sensed this societal crisis and knew something had to be done. Sunday school was the means by which he could bring change, hope and education to the young. These schools were designed to teach core subjects such as math, spelling, and reading. At the same time, teachers were able to impart spiritual concepts to a people who had lost sight of that which they once strived for. Today we are not nearly as destitute. We have Bibles, bookstores, churches, and Sunday schools to help us teach our children spiritual concepts at home.

Fain and I are thankful that we do not live in a time of dis-illusionment. Our children, as well as yours, can have a great education, and we have a great deal of help to share our faith at home. We pray as mothers and fathers we will take the torch of faith and run the race that God has set before us unto the coming of the Christ.

Blessings in faith.

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A Special Note From Your Child

Don't forget!! Bibles are an important part of our new class. No, we can't read, but we do need to learn where all the stories come from, so we look them up. It helps us to know that God lov's us too. Please help me to remember to bring my bible.

Here are some ways for me to remember:

1. Put it in the car or by the door the night before
2. Have a special bag for my bible
3. Write it in your forehead (ha ha ha) Deut. 6:8-9
4. Be habitual

