



The Church Makeover - Part 2
By Rev. Rose-Marie Litwin
September 25, 2011
Psalm 78

As a church we must empower families to continuously talk about God.

*3 what we have heard and known,
what our fathers have told us.
4 We will not hide them from their children;
we will tell the next generation
the praiseworthy deeds of the LORD,
his power, and the wonders he has done.*

Psalm 78:3-4

John Piper said:

“If there is one memory that our children should have of our families and of our church it is this; they should remember God. God was first. God was central. There was a passion for the supremacy of God in all things” (www.desiringGod.org [accessed November 2007]).

When we talk about God with our children, we must talk about both what we’ve heard and what we’ve known. In church we are really good at talking with our kids about what we’ve heard, what we’ve been told or what we’ve read about in the Bible. The experiences of other people such as Jonah’s experience with the whale, Moses’s experience with the 10 Plagues, Noah’s experience of building the ark, and the flood, the disciples’ experiences of watching Jesus walk on water, healing the blind and lame, calming the storm, feeding the 5,000 and raising Lazarus from the dead.

But what our kids need and long for is to hear OUR Testimonies, and OUR Experiences and OUR Personal encounters with the living God. “Hey Johnny, you know what God did in Daddy’s life today at work?”

“Hey Susie remember how you and Gramma have been praying for your friend to get better?” “Hey Sammy have I ever told you the story of when your Daddy gave his life to Jesus?”



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“Hey Susie remember how you and Gramma have been praying for your friend to get better?” “Hey Sammy have I ever told you the story of when your Daddy gave his life to Jesus?”

A spiritual legacy begins with our kids knowing and understanding that they belong to a church, to a family, where people always have and still do experience the “praiseworthy deeds of the LORD, his power, and the wonders he has done” (v. 4).

Here at Banwell Community Church we are empowering parents to talk with their kids about God in a number of ways. Such as our Sunday morning **Breakfast Club** at 9:30am for kids in JK through grade 5 and their parents. This is an intentional opportunity for kids and parents to engage in “Faith Talk” in a non-threatening and guided environment, while, at the same time families get to enjoy breakfast with one another, play games, sing songs and learn from theme based dramas and video segments.

But we don’t stop empowering parents there! In Children’s Church our kids dig deeper into biblical truths, and are then provided with “Take It Home” Homework to be completed with their parents. This isn’t meant to be “Just one more thing on kids’ and parents’ *to do lists*”, but rather an opportunity, an excuse as it were to spend a couple moments talking about God as a family.

Thirdly, we’re also providing Take-It-Home Events, where kids and adults can come together to enjoy a fun activity and at the same time take home a spiritual truth that will guild them along their spiritual Journey. The first one of these events will be a **Pizza & Movie Night on Friday, October 20th at 6 PM**. As a wrap-up to our Current “Pandamania” theme, we will be watching and learning from the **Kung Fu Panda!**

Please let us know If you’re interested in bringing your kids, grandkids or just a kid who’s spiritual life you have chosen to speak into, by sign-up on the CG&N bulletin board in the lobby or call the office at 519-734-2654, by Monday, October 16th.

If we want our children to have a faith that influences the way they live their lives, then, in our homes, we need to be modeling faith through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

Excerpts taken from Mark Holmen and David Tiexeira “Take it Home; Inspiration and Events to Help Parents Spiritually Transform their children” Gospel Light, 2008, pg. 244-246

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