

Schedule of Meeting Times:

WKAC 1080 AM Sunday 7:30 AM
Speaker, Robert Emerson
 Study Sunday **Postponed**
 Worship Sunday Morn 11:00 AM
 Worship Sunday Eve 5:00 PM
Singing every 2nd Sunday evening
 Study Wednesday 7:00 PM

"...if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come." —2 Corinthians 5:17



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**Servants during June:**

Songleader: Stanley (7), Larry (14), David (21), Peter (28)

Reading: Robert

Announcements: Larry

Table: David, Peter, Marty, Stanley

Wednesday Lesson: Kris (3), Larry (10), Stanley (17), Kris (24)

Lawn Mowing (week starting):

Robert (7), Larry (14), Kris (21), Marty (28)

Singing: Perhaps the 28th?

Area Meetings: We will update as we find out more information...

Hays Mill church of Christ

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Elkmont, AL 35620

The Bible . Examiner

"Examine everything carefully..." —1 Thessalonians 5:21 NASB

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Father or Grandfather?

By Aubrey Belue

There is a kind of unspoken "rule" more or less bought into by most people nowadays... That is, that parents have the responsibility of training children, being stern and firm where needed, and called on to administer discipline and punishment. But, when you "get" to be grandparents (one of the "perks" of growing older), then you can "turn to mush", and pamper your grandchildren to your hearts' content. Not everyone does it—I could only wish mine had thought that was a "rule". With my parents I had two stern (but loving and "mostly" fair) disciplinarians; my grandparents made four more. Dad or Granddad, I did wrong, I was punished for my troubles, to such a similar degree that I steered clear of them both without partiality. If I spent the day on Granddad's farm, the only difference from being at home in that regard was that most of the time my Granddad didn't know I was around, so I could "get by" with more. No matter which one caught me, it pretty much


ended the same way, and it would take a day or two for the cells in my body to settle back to normal.

Today, I am more than ever convinced that their strictness, even from my grandparents, was because they cared more about how I turned out than about having a good relationship with me. Just an observation: today, many parents act like they are grandparents, and—grandparents?—forget about it! (And our communities are paying for it in a fundamentally diminished respect for authority—even among "good" people).

I keep getting the impression that, spiritually, a lot of us apparently think of God as a "grandfather", rather than a "father". To start with, just look at the shift today in the attitude toward total submission to God's authority, and the current willingness to do and tolerate things that He has not authorized. "Fathers" would not tolerate such laxness; maybe "grandfathers" would.

Look at the way they imagine God reacts to sins committed, in their view, He is an “understanding” God, sensitive to our weaknesses, and ready to provide a way “back” that is easy and painless. He wants us to be able to sleep at night, so assures us that being ignorant or weak doesn’t jeopardize our relationship with Him. He trades in “obedience” for “good intentions.” He doesn’t want mean old “traditionalists” being so uptight about exact obedience—it will cause His children to feel bad, doubt their salvation, and might even provoke them to turn away in bitterness (don’t you deal with my boy, I will). My dad AND my Granddad were in a conspiracy that, whenever I acted up, they thought their job was to make me QUIT it—not to soothe me by making it a minor point, and resign themselves to hoping I would come around. They saw it as their mission in life to “persuade” me to come around (if you know what I mean) and sooner

rather than later. My dad in particular, had the insight to realize that “small” infractions often led to major misconduct, and he saw to it that I became uncomfortable at the base level. My antics (which I saw as pretty harmless, just playing around) were serious business to them, and “attitude adjustments” caught up with me fairly often. What consolation I got was AFTER the misconduct had been dealt with! In the words of Paul: “for the present, grievous... AFTERWARDS it reveals the PEACEABLE fruit of righteousness,” Heb 12:11.


With some, many things need NOT be treated seriously (just a few “core” major offenses), and our disposition should tend toward sympathy and support rather than admonishment and reproof concerning the bulk of things the Bible identifies as “sin”. It is at least worth thinking about—does God treat us like a “Father”, or a “Grandfather,” (Clue—Heb 12:3-11)? 

Children are taught that “going to church” is a drudge. No wonder they want to get away from it.

When children are in the assembly, often they are allowed to play with all sorts of toys and games. This causes them to think that the assembly is some place to play games; and then when they are older and too big to play games, they are bored with what is going on. Many children are not taught to sing. They are allowed to play when worship to God in song is being rendered. If they are not taught to sing as tiny tots, then as they grow older they will not sing. Parents, do you teach your children the words to songs at home so they will know them and be able to join in the singing? It is a sad sight to see teenagers just sitting and looking around instead of singing. No wonder they have no interest. They are not taught reverence during prayer. They keep on playing instead of being taught to always bow their heads in reverence. If you took your child to the funeral of a loved one, would you give him games to play? Would you allow him to “do his own thing” or would you

teach him reverence and respect for the dead? No, our worship is not a funeral, but it is holy and children need to be taught that it is.

They must be taught to study the Word. Are you studying the class lessons with your children every day? Are you teaching them to enjoy that part of the day and really look forward to it? If this is the environment of a child, you will seldom see him wander away from the Lord. Those who are taught to study the Bible are the ones who listen to sermons and lessons. They are the ones who will understand much more of the lessons that are being presented. (And, by the way, what happened to the teenagers all sitting at the front? What an inspiration that is to the whole congregation!) These are the ones who grow up to love the Lord and stay with Him.

Friend, what are you teaching your children? To love God and His worship, His word, and His people? What you teach your child, who is a tiny tot now, will determine where he will be when he is old. Seems like Solomon said something like that somewhere. 

Teach Your Child to Love Worship

By Forrest D. Moyer

A very serious problem exists among religious families: sometimes their children who have been brought up “in the church” are anxious to “get out of the house” so they won’t “have to go to church” anymore. This is a perplexing problem fraught with serious consequences. Why does a child want to “get away from” the church? What kind of children from what kind of families does so? I don’t

know all the answers to questions like this, but let me suggest a few thoughts.

I believe that one real source of this attitude is that children are not taught to love the worship of the Lord. From the time they are infants the parents are yelling at them on Sundays to “hurry up and get up ‘cause we have to go to church” with the emphasis on “have.” Nothing is said about the joy of worship. Nothing is said about the wonderful privilege that is ours.

Remember in Prayer

Pray for our sister, **Bernice Osburn**, who suffered a mini-stroke Wednesday (6/3) and is in Madison hospital; she is weak, and having balance as well as possible speech issues. Unfortunately, due to Covid-19, she cannot have visitors other than her daughter, **Beverly Toney**. Current plans are for her to transfer to

rehab Monday.

Robert began preaching again on the radio this morning! Please pray that his efforts will be effective...

Also, continue to pray for **Lois Adams, Madelene Britnell, Carolyn Dennis, Tim** and **Dot Hice**, and **Polly McNatt...** 