

Summer Is Over - School Time Is Here

Well summer for our young people has come to an end and school time has once again rolled around. For some it's no big deal. For some it's a required extreme annoyance. For still others it's absolute drudgery. But nonetheless it is here with all of its rewards and challenges. Some of those challenges are of a spiritual nature. We are living in an ever-changing world that seems to provide more and more challenges to living the Christian life. Therefore there is all the more reason for preparing our children as we send them out on their journeys.

Message for our Children: Always be on guard. Be watchful. I often tell my children to keep their eyes peeled for dangerous situations both of a physical and spiritual nature. The lion is out seeking to destroy our children and we need to make sure they are diligently watching for him (1 Peter 5:8). We need to encourage our children to be bold in Christ and proud to wear his name. Paul wrote to imitate me as I imitate Christ (1 Cor. 11:1). Bad times, bad days will come. Our children need to remember that on their worst day that if God is for them who can be against them Romans 8:31.

Message for the Parents: It is impossible to know everything that takes place in your child's life or to protect them from everything that comes at them. It does no good to send your children to the corn crib when the Indians are coming. Instead arm them. Read scriptures with your children to utilize against the wiles of the devil. Pray with them in the morning before school. Leave encouraging spiritual notes in their lunch box. And constantly remind them to be strong and courageous because the Lord is with them (Joshua 1:9; Deuteronomy 31:6).

Message to the Congregation: It is all of our responsibility to look after one another and set an example in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity (Ephesians 6:4). Let us all help prepare our young people for doing battle with the devil and his minions. Let us help them to set their minds on the things that are above. And let us help them to know that they are not alone in their struggles.