

MARKS OF SPIRITUAL BABYHOOD

I COR 3:1

A BABY IS A DELIGHTFUL THING. BUT A BABY 30 YEARS OLD IS A TRAGEDY. A LADY CAME THROUGH A PARK PUSHING A BUGGY IN WHICH THERE WAS THE FIGURE OF A 4-5 YEAR OLD CHILD. AS I GLANCED TO SEE THE CHILD AS IT PASSED I WAS HORRIFIED TO SEE THAT IT HAD THE FACE OF AN OLD WOMAN. AN ACQUAINTANCE WHO KNEW THE LADY SAID "THE PERSON IN THE BUGGY IS 25 YEARS OLD." THE CHILD HAD GROWN OLD BUT HAD NEVER GROWN UP.

(read)

PAUL SAID I COR 3:1 ^ "BABES". I DETECT HOLY SCORN IN PAUL'S VOICE, NOT A FATHER TRYING TO COERCE HIS CHILD INTO DRINKING HIS MILK. "EAT THOSE POTATOS, SON, THAT WILL PUT MEAT ON YOUR BONES." NO, NOT PAUL. HE SAY MORE LIKE "HEY BABY, YOU SHOULD BE A MAN. DO YOU NOT REALIZE YOUR 30 YEARS OLD?" WE NOT IN I PT 2:2 "AS NEWBORN BABES..."

A BABY IS A BEAUTIFUL GIFT OF GOD AND CHARMING IN THEIR PLACE. YESTERDAY AT THE ENTRY WAY OF BRADLEY MEM HOS

JUST INSIDE ENTRY IS NURSERY. GUESS WHAT WE LOOKED FOR THROUGH THAT GLASS?

NEWBORN BABES. CUTE LITTLE BALD HEADED RASCALS 90% TIME.

WHAT IF THROUGH THAT GLASS WE SAW FIGURES SMALL BUT FACE OF ADULT?

BABES IN CHRIST WHICH SHOULD BE ADULTS ARE A TRAGEDY AND GREATLY DISPLEASING TO THE LORD. HIS CUTE AS BABIES ARE THERE IS NOTHING ATTRACTIVE ABOUT A SPIRITUAL BABY. THEY ARE ALTOGETHER DISPLEASING.

HOW CAN YOU TELL A BABY BELIEVER? WHAT ARE THE MARKS?

A BABY -

1) ALWAYS WANTS ITS OWN WAY

DAD "DANCE IN THEIR TUB"

BUCK "DANCE IN THEIR LITTLE 1/2 BUSHEL BASKET"

ANDREW "I'M NOT THIRSTY ABOUT"

SIT OVER HERE. NO OVER THERE.

COME THIS WAY. NO GO THAT WAY.

STAY OUT OF THE WATER

CHURCH - JUST FINE AS LONG AS IT'S THEIR WAY. SING WHEN THEY WANT TO SING and PREACH WHEN THEY WANT YOU TO PREACH.

HEY, IF SOMETHING IS DECIDED THAT NOT FOR THEY WILL LET YOU KNOW IT. THEY WANT SUPPORT IT.

BUT IF THEY THOUGHT OF IT, YOU'D BETTER JUST HEAD OVER HILLS TO BACK IT.

EXAMPLE: OLD MAN TEAR OUT WALL

2) DOESN'T KNOW WHAT IT CAN/CAN'T DO

NOT AWARE OF CAPABILITIES OR INADEQUACIES.

ANDREW BEG TO GO ON ROOF.

WHY DO KIDS ALWAYS WANT TO DO THINGS THEY CAN'T DO?

COULD STRAIGHTEN ROOM, BUT NO ~~THINK~~ WANT TO OPERATE VACUUM.

CHURCH - PERHAPS THEY COULD TEACH BUT NO THEY WANT TO PREACH.

PERHAPS THEY COULD CLEAN THE BUILDING BUT NO THEY WANT TO TEACH.

PERHAPS THEY COULD MOW THE ^{CHURCH} LAWN BUT THEY WANT TO DO GREATER.

PERHAPS THEY COULD BE BUS MINISTER BUT

MOST IMPORTANT, CAN'T SENSE DANGER? GET BOWLED OVER.

3) IS TAKEN UP WITH PERSONALITIES

NEVER UNDERSTOOD SOME KIDS COME TO YOU - SOME RUN FROM YOU.

SOME GO TO MEN, SOME TO WOMEN.

KIDS ALMOST ALL KIDS LIKE KIDS.
SOME GO TO SANTA - SOME SCREAM.
THEY ARE SWEEP UP BY PERSONALITIES.

CHURCH - Someone comes ALONG BELIEVES A LITTLE DIFFERENT OR ACTS A LITTLE DIFFERENT, THEY ARE SWEEP AWAY BY IT. THEY GO BESERK. THEY ON PHONE TO ANOTHER PAPER. IT CONFUSES THEIR WORSHIP, TAKES MIND OFF GOD.

PAPERS FOLLOWED Jim Jones INTO JUNGLE AND DRUNK POISON. YOU MAY TO.

4) PLAYS WHILE BIG THINGS ARE HAPPENING MEANTIME IMPORTANT TIME. WHY URGE TO GO OUT AND PLAY COME OVER KIDS AT MEANTIME? WE PLAY AS KIDS AROUND CHURCH AND AT TIMES HAVE TO BE THREATENED TO COME IT.

CHURCH - CHURCH GROW, SOULS SAVED AND THEY ARE PLAYING. FOLK IN ALTAR BEING SAVED AND THEY BALANCING CHECK BOOK OR DOOKING THROUGH HYMNAL.

5) ^{MRS} NO PROPER SENSE OF VALUES

WHAT MATTERS?

DONT KNOW GOLD FROM SILVER,

DONT KNOW WHAT IS IMPORTANT?

UNIMPORTANT.

DONT KNOW WHETHER 1ST IS LAST OR LAST

IS 1ST

CHURCH - I AM AMAZED AT HOW

PRIORITIES CAN BE MIXED UP

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4) EARLY DISTRACTED

DROP SOMETHING.

ONE CRY - ALL CRY.

CHURCH - GET BORED WITH CHURCH

ASSIGNMENTS. WHY? GET

DISTRACTED.