

## Train Up A Child

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Train up a child  
in the way he should go,  
and even when he is old  
he will not depart from it.  
- Proverbs 22:6 -

**Train up** – give him the teaching, guidance, correction, and the right way that he needs.

**A child** – a youth whose character can be molded in the right way before age and experience hardens him.

**In the way** – not just any way, but “the” one particular right way laid out for him in God’s word.

**He should go** – the specific and right moral way of living.

**And even when he is old** – the right way of youth is to be carried with him all the way into old age.

**He will not depart from it** – the right way is so deeply engrained in him that he will not leave it.

- Chris Reeves -

## Sentence Sermons

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- Lying covers a multitude of sins, but only temporarily.
- Swallowing your pride will not give you indigestion.
- When you’re through learning, you’re through.
- Marriage would last and be enjoyable if more people who said “I do” - did.
- Be likeminded, compassionate, loving as brethren, tenderhearted, humbleminded.

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Assembly Times  
Sunday: 9:30 am, 10:30 am, 6 pm  
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## THE WARFIELD BULLETIN

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For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.  
- 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 -

# What Comes Before First?

Friend, what comes before putting God and Jesus first in your life? Does your job, your family, your schooling, or your life come first before God and Jesus? Many people want to put their “first” before THE “first”. Jesus spoke of would-be followers who wanted to put a “first” before following him. Take a look at Luke 9:57-62:

“And as they went on the way, a certain man said unto him, I will follow you where ever you go. And Jesus said unto him, The foxes have holes, and the birds of the heaven *have* nests; but the Son of man has not where to lay his head. And he said unto another, Follow me. But he said, Lord, suffer me first to go and bury my father. But he said unto him, Leave the dead to bury their own dead; but go and publish abroad the kingdom of God. And another also said, I will follow you, Lord; but first suffer me to bid farewell to them that are at my house. But Jesus said unto him, No man, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.”

You see in this story that two different people wanted to follow Jesus after they “first” did other things. This is the way it is with many people today. They want to follow Jesus some day after they first take care of other things in their life. Jesus said, “seek first his kingdom and his righteousness” (Matthew 6:33), but people today don’t want to do that. On another occa-

sion, Jesus said that the “great and first commandment” was to love God with all of our heart, soul, and mind (Matthew 22:37-38), but people today don’t want to do that. They want to put their own “first” before Jesus’ “first” and you just can’t do that.

Many people today want to put themselves first instead of denying themselves (Luke 9:23).



Others want to put family (Luke 14:26) and friends (Galatians 1:10) first instead of Jesus. Some want to put their job (Acts 16:16-19;

19:25-27), their worldly possessions (1 Timothy 6:7-10, 16-17), or their pleasure (1 John 2:15-17) first and ahead of Jesus.

How can you tell if a person is truly putting God and Jesus first in their life? Well, one thing you could do is look at their priorities. “Actions speak louder than words,” we say. You could look at their actions and see if God and Jesus are really first place. Sometimes people say they put God and Jesus first, but their actions show otherwise. Jesus is looking for actions, for fruit that would show our priorities of putting him first (Matthew 7:16-23).

Ask yourself these five tough questions to test your priorities (try to answer in an honest and unbiased way):

- 1) What would others say about my priorities (Galatians 2:14)?
- 2) What do I think or talk about regularly, the Lord or self (Proverbs 4:23)?
- 3) How do I spend my “discretionary” time and money, for the Lord or for myself (Colossians 4:5)?
- 4) How long does it take me to make up my mind to follow the Lord (Matthew 4:22)?
- 5) What “gives” when I face a conflict, abandoning the Lord or abandoning myself (Matthew 26:69-75)?

Nothing comes before “first”, right? Maybe it’s time for you to put “first” back into first place. - Chris Reeves