

Virtuous Teens in A Vulture Culture

Hebrews 11:23-24

Introduction:

Four Observations in Ministry:

1. Real communication is at an all time low even when methods of communication are at an all time high.
2. If the church ministry doesn't have something for me or my interest, I don't want to come. (This is true of youth ministry as well.)
3. Families are spending more time working and less time together. (There are numerous reasons for this - Debt, Sports, Friends)
4. Most Families do not connect with one another on a spiritual level.

Main Goal: We want parents, students and our church to work together to secure their faith, grow deeper, graduate strong and both serve the Lord the rest of their lives.

That question isn't as simple as it sounds. Let's take a look at what the Word of God says, please turn to Hebrews 11:23-28 our text this morning.

1. Moses' Parents made tough decisions based on faith.

Hebrews 11:23 "By faith Moses' parents hid him for three months after he was born."

Problem: Parents just aren't making decisions anymore for their student.

2. Moses' Parents feared God more than anything else

Hebrews 11:23 "they saw he was no ordinary child, and they were not afraid of the King's edict."

Why do we fear _____ more than God?

Problem: Parents fear the backlash of everything else but their lack of parenting.

3. Moses wasn't after the pleasures of this world.

Hebrews 11:24 "By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter."

Problem: Teens are not refusing the lures of culture.

We long to see a culture of teens who reject:

- Being non-committal – we long for students committed wholeheartedly to Christ
- Selfishness Attitude – we long for students committed to others more than just themselves.
- Spiritual apathy – we long for students to initiate spiritual depth
- Moral Ambiguity – we long for students who care what they see, hear and touch.
- Know it all Attitude – we long for the student who says, teach me something from the Word of God, wanting to grow

4. Moses made right choices.

Hebrews 11:25 "He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a short time. (His choice also included) He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward."

Problem: Most students are making the wrong decisions!

Three observations from how Moses made decisions:

- A. He wanted to do what is right.
- B. He believed that what Christ had to offer really was of greater value than anything else.
- C. He Made decisions based on the future, not just the present.

5. Moses lived by faith.

Hebrews 11:27 "By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the king's answer; he persevered because he saw him who is invisible. By faith he kept the Passover and the sprinkling of blood, so that the destroyer of the firstborn would not touch the firstborn of Israel."

Problem: Most students are afraid to take "faith risks" with their life.

Application:

- Which point do you need to work on?
- Which point do you need to talk about as a family?
- What way do you want to help out?
- Will you pray this week for our students?