

Risen With Christ
Resurrection Kids
Col 3.18-21; cf. vs 20-21

[A few weeks ago we began looking into the Resurrection Family as we connected what Paul wrote in Colossians 3.1 to our text. Paul wrote,]

*[Colossians 3:1 **If ye then be risen with Christ**, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.]*

[If you are a born again Christian and your home is filled with born again Christians then you ought to have a home filled with the resurrection life found in our Lord Jesus Christ. We can all have resurrection homes and families right here, right now. Now, next in our text is a verse directed toward children, hence we will focus today upon what it takes to be a Resurrection Kid.]

A Resurrection Child is,

A. A Child That Regards God (vs 20; Col 2.8) [- *Children, obey your parents in all things: **for this is well pleasing unto the Lord.*** – I believe that it is in the heart of children to know and please God. There is nothing that builds confidence within ones heart and mind as much as knowing that one is truly pleasing God. The problem is that as we grow and mature in life, our world, our friends, the culture around us begin to challenge whether or not we are really pleasing God.]

[The skeptics enter into our lives and challenge our understanding of God with their philosophies or their ideas about God, religion, and spiritual matters. These skeptics will often cause us to doubt what we believed so simply when we were younger. The Bible warns Christians,]

[Colossians 2:8 Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.]

[Children and Christians must be careful about those things that would influence them to doubt God and His Word. Children, you need to know that the Bible is the Word of God. The Word of God never changes, is completely trustworthy, and is worth following and obeying. The children's song states it correctly when it sings,]

[Trust and obey for there no other way to be happy in Jesus,]

[But to trust and obey.]

[Children you will find nothing by confusion, frustration, and desperation when you fail to be Resurrection Children. But walk with the Lord Jesus Christ, guided by the never failing

Word of God, and you will know a peace that passes understanding, and the eternal joy and contentment of God.]

[So, just what ought to mark a child of the Resurrection?]

Resurrection Children will have,

1. Ears that Hear (Prov 3.1-2; Eph 6.1-3; 5.15-16)

*[Proverbs 3:1 My son, **forget not my law;** but let thine heart keep my commandments:]*

[**Listen** - Before you can remember the law or the counsel of your parents, you must hear their counsel. Children you must Listen, “then Forget not my law.”]

*[Ephes. 6:1-3 Children, **obey** [listen and hear] your parents in the Lord: for this is right. ²**Honour** thy father and mother; (which is the first commandment with promise;) ³That it may be well with thee, **and thou mayest live long on the earth.**]*

[**Honour** - timao (gk) - to affix value, honor, revere.]

[**How long should a child honor their parents?** For the whole of their long lives.]

[**Learn** - let thine heart keep my commandments.]

[**Live** – Children, your life, your success in life, your happiness in life, is wrapped up in your willingness to listen to your parents. The Bible says,]

[Proverbs 3:2 For length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee.]

[There will come a day, children, when someone in this world is going to ask you to believe them more than your parents. Don't you do it? There is only one person you can believe more than your parents and that is God Himself. Christians must always believe God first and then their parents. No one cares for you more than your Heavenly Father and your parents. A wise child will value the lessons that their parents teach them.]

[**A Resurrection Child will Hear and Learn from his parents.**]

2. Hearts that are Honest (Prov 3.3-4; Col 4.6)

[Proverbs 3:3-4 Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart: ⁴So shalt thou find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and man.]

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[A child of the resurrection will cleave to mercy and truth. This means that a Child of God ought to always be kind and compassionate. But not so loving that the truth no longer matters. There are many in our world that believe that if you love someone you should never hurt their feelings, even if it means lying to them.]

[Instead, we ought to value and elevate the truth and be merciful and compassionate in the way we present the truth. True love is undeniably bound to the truth. You are never showing someone true love if you have to lie to them. God calls us to,]

[Colossians 4:6 Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man.]

[Consider again,]

[Proverbs 3:4 So shalt thou find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and man.]

[People will respect a person who is faithfully truthful and merciful at the same time. Don't ever be harsh when sharing the truth. Your reputation is found in your honesty and compassion.]

[Resurrection Kids have Honest Hearts!]

3. Faith that Honors (Prov 3.5-6; Jer 17.9; Isa 30.20-21)

[Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. ⁶In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.]

[Know your Limitations - Your heart will draw you away from God if you let it. Why? Because of the natural tendency of our heart and will. The Bible says,]

[Jeremiah 17:9 The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?]

[Our hearts are naturally sinful, naturally wicked; but the redeemed heart ought to be different. A Child of God ought to have a transformed heart that fully trusts God and God's people.]

[Children, be careful to not lean on your own ideas and understanding, but seek after and trust the Lord first. When you seek the Lord first then your Heavenly Father will give you the direction you need.]

[Whom will you allow to direct your path; your friends, your teachers, or God?]

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["Resurrection kids have a faith that Honors God."]

- B. A Child With Resolved Parents (vs 21)** [- *Fathers, provoke not your children to anger, lest they be discouraged.* – In order for resurrection children to be the God honoring children that our Heavenly Father wants them to be then they need Resurrection Parents. A home with Resurrection a Father, Resurrection Mother, and Resurrection Children ought to be a happy and glorious home.]

[**Now, there are some Resurrection Children who do not have resurrection homes.** Their homes are not resurrection homes because dad, mom, or siblings are not resurrection people. While it is best if all in the home are the born again Children of God, every resurrection child needs to know that they need to be a resurrection child no matter what. Why? Because this is God's way and command for all of His children.]

[Dad and mom you can do much to help your Children be the Resurrection children they need to be by being the godly parents they need you to be. Be a parent that is resolved to be a resurrection parent nurturing a resurrection home. Parents there are three things that your child needs from you in your home.]

Your Child Needs,

- 1. Clear Counsel (Prov 1.8-9)** [with clear constraints and direction.]

[**Proverbs 1:8-9** My son, hear the **instruction of thy father**, and forsake not the **law of thy mother**:⁹ For they shall be an ornament of grace unto thy head, and chains about thy neck.]

[A child needs to be taught right and wrong and the older they get the more they will need to know why things that are right are right and why things that are wrong are wrong. When children are young a parent might be able to say, "because I said so." But as they get older they need to know why things are right or wrong.]

[**Family God and I Time** - Parents a great way to help your children know right and wrong is to have a Family God and I time, perhaps right after supper. Make it regular, if possible daily, and make it meaningful. Keep it short, and keep it based on the Word of God.]

[In our world a child will need instructions about using technology, email, facebook, cell phones, friendships, and a host of other things that will try to influence their life.]

[**Parents, a failure to teach your children right from wrong and to give them clear constraints will provoke your child to anger and discourage them.**]

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[**Why?** Because the world will be telling them all kinds of things, alluring them in. They need clear counsel from their parents. They need to hear your counsel warning them away from this worlds hazards. A daily, regular, committed God and I Time that is meaningful will help your child to be the Resurrection Child he or she longs to be.

2. **Clear Communication (Prov 1.8)**

[*Proverbs 1:8 My son, hear the instruction of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother:*]

[Parents, your children need for you to talk with them. They may, at times need for you to tell them things, but they really need for you to communicate with them. They need for you to listen to them and talk with them. Communication is two way, it is full duplex, it is speaking and listening. Many parents talk at their children but do not talk with their children.]

[**The Family Meal** – I have always said that the dinner table is the most important table for a family. A Resurrection home ought to have a daily dinner table that everyone is expected to attend, for it is at this table that much will be discussed and communicated. Too many families have become too busy to spend undisturbed time talking with each other. This time is far too precious for your family and your marriage to allow it to be interrupted by television, athletics, or anything else. Make this time a priority.]

[**Family Commotions** – I heard about this on a sermon I was listening to the other day. I don't recall the preachers name, but while I was listening to him I thought to myself, "Yes, I wish I had heard about this years ago." Follow up your Family God and I time with Family Commotions. Family Commotions are a time when everyone talks about something from their day, and everyone is expected to share something. Some might think this has the feeling of a family gossip time. Just talk about everything.]

[What a family commotion time will do is it will open up discussions about all kinds of things and these will present natural teachable moments. It will also help parents to guide their children in learning to talk about all kinds of things and all kinds of people in appropriate ways. I like the idea of a Family Commotion time.]

3. **Clear Commitment (Eph 6.4)**

[*Ephesians 6:4 And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.*]

[Without any doubt raising a resurrection child takes a clear commitment. Parents this means time, and a lot of it. But not just time being the family driver. Parents you need to

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1. **Clear Counsel**

spend time teaching, nurturing, and guiding your children. Also you need to spend time enjoying life with your children. And most important of all spend time worshipping with your children.]

C. A Child Of The Resurrection (John 3.3,7) [– A resurrection child must be a child of the New Birth. Jesus said,]

[John 3:3 Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.]

[John 3:7 Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.]

[One cannot be Risen With Christ (Col 3.1) unless they are risen with Christ. Hence, one must receive the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior in order to enjoy the Resurrection life.]

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CrossRoads Baptist Church, May 23, 2010

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