

For Parents With School Children

EACH DAY...

1. Assure your children that you love them.
2. Provide them with opportunities to talk with you about things in general, or about activities in school and in particular about lessons, books, and projects.
3. Take time to read to the younger ones each evening before bedtime. Classics and Bible stories are excellent.
4. Help them to stick to some type of daily schedule or routine for homework, television watching, home responsibilities, dates.
5. Make sure they get plenty of rest each night. At least eight hours are needed for healthy bodies and minds.
6. Be an example of the type of personality you desire for your children.
7. Provide an opportunity for your children to develop a spiritual faith that they can rely on during difficult growing years and to fall back on when mom or dad are no longer available for guidance.

Taken from "3 R's and a Big Hug", by Ronald E. Johnson.



Faithful Sayings Issue 11.6 February 8, 2009

Welcome Visitors

We are so glad that you joined us today.
Please come again.

● Let us know if you have any questions.

ISSUE

11.6

BULLETIN OF
THE OLSEN
PARK CHURCH
OF CHRIST

Faithful Sayings

FEBRUARY 8
2009

Services

Sunday: 9:30 AM
10:20 AM
6:00 PM

Wednesday: 7:00 PM

Elders:

Ken Ford
Charles Kelley
Pat Ledbetter

Deacons:

Dean Bowers
Eddie Cook
Bill Davis
Pat Goguen
Neil Ledbetter
Jeff Nunn
Fred Perez
Rusty Scott

Evangelists:

Kyle Pope
Curtis Carwile

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"Keep your
heart with all
diligence"
Proverbs 4:23

Giving Orders Concerning Your Bones

 by Curtis Carwile

Hebrews 11 is sometimes affectionately called the "Hall of Faith." The Hebrew writer calls upon those great characters of faith to inspire the audience to be more faithful to the Lord God Almighty. These were all characters well-known to any Jew. They were people like Noah, Abraham, and Moses who did great deeds to prove their faith in the Lord. One character that is listed in this group is Joseph. Hebrews 11:22 reads, "By faith Joseph, when he was dying, made mention of the exodus of the sons of Israel, and gave orders concerning his bones."

If we were asked to show how Noah, Abraham, or Moses showed their faith we'd be able to answer, "by the Ark," "by offering Isaac," or "by leading the Exodus." This is all

very easy and anyone who has ever been in a Sunday school class could answer these questions. My question is, why does the only verse in Hebrews 11 about Joseph discuss his bones? That wouldn't be the first thing that would come to my mind to show Joseph's faith. Would it to you?



Olsen Park church of Christ

In Genesis 50:25, Joseph is on his deathbed and as many people do when they are about to pass on to the next life, Joseph tells his family some very important things. In particular, Joseph tells his loved ones, to take his bones with them when they leave Egypt. You see, Joseph knew two things when he gave those orders concerning his bones:

One, this was not his family's land. It's true that Joseph had lived with the Egyptians for many years. He was made second only to the Pharaoh himself. He had a good life and his family was cared for very well. However, Egypt was not HIS land and the Egyptians were not HIS people. Joseph understood that he didn't belong there; that it wasn't HIS home.

Two, God would bring His people back to where they belonged. God told Abraham many years before, **“Know certainly that your descendants will be strangers in a land that is not theirs, and will serve them and they will afflict them four hundred years”** (Genesis 15:13). Joseph remembered the promise given to Abraham and KNEW that God would bring them back to the land promised to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Also, we notice that Joseph doesn't even allow for the idea

that they might not return. Joseph KNEW, without a shadow of a doubt, that his family would go home one day because of the promise given by God to Abraham.

Finally, after 400 years, the bones of Joseph were laid to rest at the foot of a hill in Shechem (Joshua 24:32-33). Joseph had faith that the children of Israel would one day leave the only thing they ever knew and enter into the Promised Land. Joseph knew THAT was where he belonged as well. This is why Joseph said this concerning his bones.

Wouldn't it be wonderful to have the same thing said about you? Wouldn't that be amazing, to be listed among that amazing group of people in Hebrews 11—to be listed among them because of your faith? Imagine if it could read, “By faith Curtis, realized that this land was not his home and gave the order about his bones, that when it was time for God's Children to go to the Promised Land, he would be taken with them and laid to rest in that Land.” Don't you want that said about you?

Well, you CAN have that said about you when you “give orders about your bones.” You can have that said about you by becoming a child of God and by living by the same obedient faith Joseph had all throughout his life. Then, you too can have that said about YOU and you can be listed among those great servants of God in His Book of Life, finding rest in the Promised Land of Heaven.

