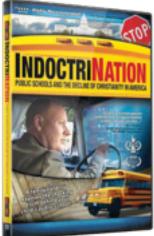
Train Up A Child

Blog Transcript for Monday, July 20, 2015 | No. 29



We just finished watching the documentary at Calvary called *IndoctriNation*. It's about how our schools have been taken over by secular humanists and it lays out the history of how this took place while the church and its teaching have been slowly but surely silenced in our public schools.

Some parts, although true, were very disturbing. Even though we want to think better of people and don't want to fall into some kind of conspiracy theory, the fact remains, if we present Jesus in our schools as the Bible commands, we will be asked to leave. There is simply a blanket gag order on expressing Christianity at school.

I know there are many good Christian teachers and administrators doing their best to be a light in a dark place, but most say they try to live an example, rather than

preach the Word to the kids. Most people know Susan and I homeschooled our two boys up through the 8th grade then put them in Christian School. Even then, college had a great impact on their worldview, as it does with a great number of young Christians. Rather than developing a love for the church, they harbor more of a cynicism towards the world and the compromise of the church.

I'm pretty sure where I stand on the topic, but I'm having a hard time knowing what to teach to my church. I have been involved in many forms of education. I have been a school counselor and substitute teacher. Even now our church is looking for ways to penetrate the school which sits just across the street from us. Yet, I wonder if we are not barking up the wrong tree. In the video they interviewed a man whose son was killed in the Columbine shooting. With all the blame that could be cast in that incident, he said the responsibility for his son's life rested with him. He was the one who was appointed by God to care for his son's life.

It seems the government allows us to care for their bodies, but has taken their souls from us. Not to educate, but to indoctrinate in the ways of the world. In our efforts to insure our children have a proper education, we may be opening the door for their departure from the church and the Lord. If nothing else, we are still creating great conflict within them as they hear one thing in church and the complete opposite in class. We have to answer the question: Do we have to choose between educating their minds or saving their souls?

I'm sure we will look at this critical issue again. I believe boldness comes from being totally convinced of what you are saying (Romans 4:21). I'm not fully persuaded that it's time for Christians to pull their children out of public school, but we do need to take a close look at what they are being taught. It might stun us to know how far the public school has departed from biblical standards and embraced secular humanism.

I do pray that each Christian who is deciding how to educate their children will think long and hard about the options available today to them. Living the Christian life is not easy in today's society, but its benefits far outweigh the alternative of losing our children to the ways of the world.

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