



Fence Post of Faith—Aug. 2017

I have to share something from this last weekend while attending the Fort Bloomfield Family Rodeo, but I have to back up to just after Easter of 2016. We were at Rock ‘N Roll Ranch Deep River Iowa, Family rodeo. I was talking to Lisa Kosman-Reese about a cowboy church service and I was swinging her oldest daughter on a gate and she stopped, looked at me very serious and said; “Did you know Jesus died? But then on the 3rd day he arose!”

That still give me goosebumps thinking that came from a child which has lead me to write this. As moms and dads, we often focus on what we should be teaching our children. We want to show them how to act as Christians, but sometimes we may overlook the valuable lessons we can learn from them about being Christ-like.

Then this last weekend at the Ft. Bloomfield Family Rodeo, a young roper probably no more than 12 runs up to the crow’s nest to give the opening prayer. I cannot help but be touched by the innocence of a child’s prayers. If you listen to a child pray aloud, you will hear their conviction; they pray for what is on their hearts in that moment and they only care about the audience that matters, God. Often, I hear my children pray for the simplest of things. I cannot help but believe that this is how God wants us to communicate with Him. Just us and our thoughts, desires, and worries.

Then at our Cowboy Church on Sunday at 7:45 Sharpe, I asked for 6 volunteer's for something I was doing in my sermon. Immediately 6 young men hop up to help me. Kids have the astounding ability to live in the moment. How often do you think about a mistake you may have made yesterday or what you are doing next week? Children live for the moment that they are faced with at any given time. They also do not condemn there past actions as often as we adults do. For example, when forgiven, they accept it and move on.

Kids are not likely to pick apart their peers. They do not determine friendships the same way we do. As adults, we are more likely to judge and then befriend later. Children are more likely to befriend and often not judge. They just want someone to play with; trivial opinions do not matter.

A child will take your hand and let you lead them. They trust in your ability to keep them safe. This is the same trust we should have in our Father God. If we put our trust in God leading us rather than trying to go our own way, we wouldn't face as many hardships as we do.

Children still notice the "wows" in life that we sometimes miss. It is not hard to impress a child, but an adult can walk right past something beautiful and not even give it a second thought. Life's distractions prevent us from being aware of some of the simple gifts in our lives. A beautiful sunset is often overshadowed by our worries and concerns.

God commands us to liken our hearts to those of small children.

So next time you are watching your child in action, allow yourself to learn from them. Matthew 21:16 "Do you hear what these children are saying?" they asked him. "Yes," replied Jesus, "have you never read, "'From the lips of children and infants you, Lord, have called forth your praise'?"

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