

Be as Little Children - Larry Arnburg

Say a few words and bring a message from the Lord. I hope that this is for him because he's the one that's encouraged me all along to put this together. The title of my message is **repent How do we examine ourselves and be prepared** and it's going?

I'm going to give a message that is Doing kind of a follow-up of Steffens message last time we were here that Stefan gave one, on examining herself for the Passover.

So let's turn to a few scriptures in our book, Good Book, and examine what God has to say. I don't have to turn to Mike because I wrote it in my doubt.

That's fine. First one is Proverbs 9-10. Fear the Lord is the beginning of wisdom and the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.

Just very important basics to always hear the fear of the Lord. okay, so what do you know, what does that mean?

Well, it's right there the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom knowledge of the Holy One is understanding So why do we why did I start out with Proverbs?

Because everybody thinks they have wisdom or Getting more daily and when they say think they have it they are sad but not so because one has to never stop having a learning heart so there's always something you can read stuff 20 times and the 21st time click oh I didn't see that before if we read it 20 times,

how could you not see it? But that's the way the Holy Spirit works within us, teaching us to be persistent in what we do. In Hebrews 11, 6, "But without faith it is impossible to please him,

for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is." is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Question here is Well,

I have faith So I must be pleasing God that always true in Luke for 4 and Jesus answered him saying it is written that man shall not live by bread alone by every word of God one side note to all that bread I remember when I was a kid we used to read the labels on on different products and bread.

Western bread used to say, "I think it was 16 essential vitamins and minerals." And all of a sudden, that label disappeared, and you know the reason it disappeared?

Because there wasn't 16 essential vitamins and minerals in it, but the government made them take it off. Wow. Yeah, and went down to like five or six or something like that. And,

but, keep it... mind We're talking Jesus is talking 2,000 years ago The bread back in those days You could live on if that's all you had in your house Why did Jesus feed the the five thousand with bread?

Oh well I think he had a little bit of fish and the seven thousand because bread was so good in those days and so Nutritional that you could actually actually live on it.

That's been proven. That's been proven. That's been proven. Okay, the next one.

Second Timothy 3.16 and 17.

"All Scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in writing,

you carry two because we'd balance you off and We used to come home at lunch hour to do chores.

So children were a value on the farm We did little things minor things, but we did we did something I Can't even remember being in a diaper It was just the way it was I grew up,

you know, and I'm not complaining like it's a hard life or anything I'm not whining crying I'm who I am because of that. I've never been afraid of work, I've never been afraid of anything really,

and it's because of the way I was raised as a child. My grandmother loved me, but I knew what her spatula meant when she was waving it at me. So it was, that's the way it was, okay? And that's the way children were not disrespected. disrespected. They were a part of the family, okay? And that's where I come from. But I'm going to give you some things here then.

I, to me, I know there's probably 10,000 of them, but I'm only going to give you eight. I was going to give you seven, but I had one. Children, they love every, or they, excuse me, they live on every word that the father and mother mother say. Think about that for a minute. Now, you have to add a little tidbit to this.

Forget teenagers, because teenagers don't always abide by that one. But they're still classified as little children. They do not question where their food, clothes, or home comes from. [BLANK_AUDIO] They just accept it. There's food on the table. They, you know They love Unconditionally love unconditionally that is a multiple in itself,

and I could talk an hour on that but nothing They trust that their parents are going to be there when they get up In the morning when they go to bed bed.

It's just a given, right? You put them to bed, it's guessing goodnight, and they know you're going to be there in the morning. In fact, sometimes they get up and get you up. They are thankful when good things happen to them,

and this is one that grandparents will especially attest to. That when you go to your grandchildren's house, and you take a little bit of time to get to the house, and you take a little bit of time to get to the house, and you take a little bit of time to get to the house. or a little toy or a little something,

just to hug, they're thankful for it. When you open the door and they run to you, "Grandpa, grandpa, grandpa !" or "Grandma" first, they just,

it's just part of kids, it's just the way they are. They forgive after being punished, but don't forget why they were punished. right?

I'm going to tell you a quick story. Growing up on a farm, we were always, we were the ones, my brother and I, my brother was three years old to me, we were the ones that filled the woodhouse.

And if you think you handle a lot of wood in your life, come talk to me sometime, because all right, we had a big, we had a woodhouse, wasn't quite as big as this room, but it was. you were a kid it looked like this.

And we only had a wood furnace in the house, no electric heat or anything, so we filled that thing straight full and had pile outside. Anyway, my uncle, who is seven or eight years older than me,

had a little bit of a characterized moth, I'll use those terms, and he came in one day and said, "You little, get that wood in there real quick." Well, it hit me. me just the wrong way that day.

I don't know why. I can't explain it. So, and our host was, there was the porch, the porch, and then the going down cellar. He ran in and he had to go in, you know, in all shape. And right in the middle of those two were glass windows. My dad had just put the storms on. Well,

Mr. Wise guy here, pipped up a rock. rock and Through it at my uncle as he was going and he just it was zoomed by his head I had a pretty good arm and as a kid it zoomed by his head went right through the window And my dear lovable grandmother was at the stove It's zoomed by her head and not the teapot off the top of the sweet an old wood stove.

Well the damage wasn't done but well the window was broke obviously the only words that I heard wait till your father comes home well I did and supper and everything and then all of a sudden hell broke loose as they say I got a licking like no other lick I the only one ever had in my life the only one I needed to have and the worst part about it wasn't the fact that my rear -end was sore We had a veranda on the house and after supper everybody went out and sat on the veranda and we just chit -chat. Well, scrote and sat with all your relatives that were there,

your grandmother, your grandfather, your dad, your brother, your sister, and a couple of aunts, and ball your head off. And you learn a lesson. And I learned one that day.

And to this day I have never... never, I can remember, picked up a rock and threw it at anybody. But, no animosity at all towards my dad.

You know why? Because I deserved what I got. Well, maybe not the last one, but most of them I did. But, that's the way children were. That's the way children are.

You can punish them and the next day they wake up and they just love you today. to death all over again. They don't say, "You beat me yesterday!" None of that. That's the way children are. There's a odds exception,

but most of them that way. And they love to be told that you are loved. I never heard that when I was growing up.

Never never heard. I can't remember. I'm sure one of my aunts said something. to me, but never heard that as a parent, as a son of a parent growing up. And when I got married and started having children,

I made a commitment to myself and my wife, sorry, that I would never ever stop saying that to my kids,

and I would say it to them consistently every day of my life. My kids are 51 and 49. now and when I hug my son he whispers in my ear I love you my daughter does the same thing she even texts me I love you and that I'll tell you something now I know how Jesus feels when he tells his children telling them that he loves him because that is the root of it and that's what we have to understand about children and

children are like sponges They don't forget nothing They hear everything and they don't forget nothing ever have a conversation With a friend comes over with their kids and their the kids are playing in the off to the side And you're having a conversation

with your your friends relatives In the next morning What did I do say mean when she said this?

Now, how did you hear that? Well, I heard I was playing but I heard and You know any 15 other questions come out of that. So That's what children are like.

Okay. Now keep in mind Jesus is talking to children the rest of this So let's look at what Jesus talked about little children while reading these verses verses,

"Keep in mind the eight characteristics that I just told you, and I give you these around. Trust that they are told.

Love for their parents, and trust in their providers." I'm going to go to Proverbs 1. Proverbs 1 .33.

Let's see. I will read it from the book itself. I can find it. Proverbs is my favorite book. You know what? It teaches so much about life.

So much. I've read it. I've read it. I've read it. Proverbs 33. "But who's so hearken unto me shall dwell safely and be quiet from fear of evil?" That's Proverbs 1 .33.

In Proverbs 3 .5, if I go too fast and you write these down, let me know, "Trust in the Lord with all my heart and lean not upon thy own understanding Now you gotta remember I'm talking about children to adults okay in Proverbs 4 1 to 4 It says here you children instructions of a father and attend to no understanding.

For I give you good doctrine, forsake ye not my law. For I was my father's son, tender and only beloved in the sight of my mother.

He taught me also, and said unto me, Let thy heart retain my word, keep my commandments and rule. and also in that you can also read down that under my title it says give understanding and I'm not going to read that all down to 37 because it's too long and I'm kind of pressured for time but it has shows in their wisdom for sake it says give wisdom first and then this is for sake and it's and then the other wisdom Exalted her hear all my son Put the path of the just is As a shining light and There's also much in that verse Continues the instructions from God Now let's turn now.

Let's turn to Matthew 8 18, Matthew 18, 1 to 7. I'll get it right here.

"At the same time came the disciples unto Jesus saying, 'Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?' And Jesus called a little child unto him and sat him in the midst of them.

And said, "Verily I say unto you, except ye be converted and become as little children, you shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven." Wow.

Okay? And that is really the crux of this whole sermon. And that is that you have to take that quite seriously.

In fact, I had it underlined in my Bible before I even started this. "So whosoever therefore shall humble himself as a little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

And whoso shall receive one such little child in my name, receive with me. But whoso shall offend one of these little ones which believe in me.

It were better for him that a mill stone be hauled." about his neck and he would toss in a depth of the sea man those are words that we should really really really remember because a lot is said there and I'm gonna turn over to Matthew 19 13 the 15 then

they're brought unto him little children But he should put his hands upon him and pray and his disciples rebuked him Now think of that last part rebuke him and go back to that what it was said in 18 Scary, it's scary But Jesus said suffer little children and forbid them not to come unto me for such is the kingdom of heaven." Turn over to 21,

15, and 16. 15 says, "And when the chief priests and scribes saw the wonderful things that he did, and the children crying in the temple, saying, 'Hosanna to the son of David,' they were sordid." displeased." Keep that in mind about these guys of what was said in 18.

And 16 says, "And said unto him, 'Here is thou what they say.'" He's talking about the little children, not the priests. And Jesus said unto them,

"Ye have-- oh, ye, have you never read? And said unto them, "Ye have-- oh, ye, have-- oh, ye, have-- oh, ye, have-- oh, ye, have-- oh, ye, have-- oh, ye, have-- oh, ye, have-- oh, ye, have-- oh, ye, have-- oh, ye, have-- oh, ye, have-- oh, ye, have-- oh, ye, have-- oh, ye, have-- oh, ye, have-- oh, ye, have-- oh, ye, have-- oh, ye, have-- out of the multibabes and sucklings, thou hast perfected praise?" So here we have all this high priest, all the teachers,

all the ones that are supposed to be leading the people, and he says, "Sucklings, thou have perfected praise." Doesn't say much for the adults,

does it? Doesn't say much for them. Okay, let's skip over now to Mark 9, 33,

33, 37. "And it came to pass that they departed from him, Peter said unto Jesus, 'Master, Master.'" is it good for us to hear and let us make three tap on the echoes?" They're talking about,

what do you call that, when Moses and Elijah showed up. And for one of these, and one for Moses,

and one for Elijah, knowing what he said, while thus he spoke there came a cloud and overshadowed them and they feared as they entered into the cloud and there came a voice out of the cloud saying,

"This is my beloved son." - What is scripture, sorry? - Yeah, I don't know. - Luke 9 .32. - Oh, you said Mark.

- What did I say? - You said Mark. - Oh, I'm sorry, I'm sorry. - It's Luke what? - Luke 9 .32, 37. - 37? - Sorry, yeah. my apologies I got a couple down around here okay we all sat okay then we're gonna leave off here and then came a voice out of the cloud saying this is my beloved son hear him and when the voice was passed Jesus was found alone and they kept it close and told no man in those days any of these things which he had seen but this this doesn't seem to make sense in what I'm saying but Jesus recognized or the Heavenly Father recognized Jesus as a little son child this might be love son okay so that's the depth of understanding of children and and being a son in Luke Luke 18:15 and they brought unto him also an impetus that he would touch them but they when his disciples saw it they rebuked him But Jesus called unto them and said unto him, "Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of God." This is just reinforcing what I've said.

"Verily I say unto you, whoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child shall, and no wise, enter into the kingdom." So,

this attitude of little children to come unto me, and forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of God as a little child, shall, and no wise, enter into the kingdom of God as a little child. having an attitude of little children is extremely important. And we, even in Luke 635,

I'm going to go back one because that one is a quote, Luke 635. It says here, "But beloved, be loved, but love your enemies and do good, and lend hoping for nothing again, and your reward shall be great, and ye shall be the children of the most high,

for he is kind unto unthankful and for the evil." So you're going to be classified as little... children. You want to be,

you want to have the attitude of little children in that understanding. And that's the whole, I'm going to turn it back to you. So there's all kinds of verses.

Now I'm going to give you these verses. You can write them down and check them out. In John 21, Jesus referred to as disciples as little children. In John 12,

35 38 again be children of light In Ephesians 6 1 to 4 Don't let me go too fast It has your obey honor and provoke not little children In collage in 3 20 again it Reclassifies provoke not little children and I asked the question question Can you be provoked?

and first Peter or I'll go to Hebrews here Hebrews 12 5 to 6 When thou aren't rebuked of him? Does that hurt your feelings?

when you get rebuked In Proverbs 3 5 trust in the Lord with all thy heart and lean not on your own understandings we read that one day and first Peter 5 13 to 14 nevertheless we according to his promises and second Peter again 2 9 this is what the father thinks of his little children.

You've got to read that verse. In 2 Peter 1 -17, this is my beloved son in whom I am pleased.

In John 1 -2 -1, it says, "My little children, these things I write sin not." That's what it says.

So as we grow in grace and knowledge, or understanding, let us not, not, not, not, not, think too highly of ourselves. but think of ourselves as little children,

as sponges, as trusting. You know, when I say these things, it's all about what comes from God right here in this Bible.

But think of ourselves as servants and as little children. wanting to learn more.

And when Jesus was talking about little children, He really wasn't talking about children.

He was talking about us as adults. adults, using little children as an example that we should be like those little children, with all those things that I've highlighted, and if you have little children, and I think most of these here are connected to little children, as our children grow up,

I've always said this and I'll repeat it as long as I live. live that I Had a business ran a business when my kids were small Didn't start that way but developed into that and the one thing that I did when no matter how busy my business was No matter and I

worked full-time besides I Spent time with my children when they were small and I've said this and I'll say it a million times.

I Had more fun fun with my kids when they were zero to eight than you can shake a stick at. Because I used to come home from after work and days work knowing I've got another eight hours through the business to look after and still late wrestle with my kids on the floor and spend time with them and love them to no end.

And I say, "Say it." love has come back to me million times over and it's come back even more now that I'm a Christian and I know my father loves me so take these words that I've given as trying to change your outlook in your heart if you haven't already done that.

I know we have grandparents here. And it is an imparence. And it is most rewarding to have that love of children.

To have that love of children from children to you. Because you can't measure it. You just can't measure it. and so thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak and I'll see you again