

DON'T TEACH YOUR CHILDREN TO SAY "Please" and "Thank You"



So many parents, for so long, have taught their children to say "please" and "thank you" just to be courteous, polite, socially accepted and/or admired which is nice but superficial. To say thank you and please as an attitude of the heart, first the heart must be right. If children are appreciative they will express it through words and actions, i.e. –smiles, hugs, their words, and the way they treat/respond to others. It is imperative that we help them understand that they need to be appreciative and that "please" and "thank you" are an expression of what is in their heart. To say those words may make one politically correct but, as indicated, it becomes a superficial expression when they are saying them just because they are instructed to.

Once when I was swinging a young girl of about five or six years old, after a little while of swinging she kindly asked me to not push her anymore and to stop the swing so she could get down. I did not stop and respond immediately as I was in the process of helping another child which prevented me from helping her as requested. Before I could get back to her and stop the swing her attitude changed from kind to authoritative demanding to be stopped and ending her comments with, "I said 'please'". Her tone of voice indicated that because she had said please she should receive immediate attention regardless of the circumstances and that as long as she said "please" that she could rule her own little world.

All of us need to be thankful for what God has given us and let that attitude be expressed by our words and actions daily; not only because it is the right thing to do, but also because this attitude is contagious. In addition to being contagious it is also habit forming and heart conditioning, especially in children.

Attitude and integrity are the primary characteristics needed to be taught to young children but along with these a child needs to be taught to have their priorities in order. To be mindful of others, their property, etc. is a parallelism to establishing a good attitude. The golden rule comes to mind here; not only to treat others as one wishes to be treated, but that others have the same rights as you and respecting a person, whether it is a child or an adult, includes respecting their needs, wishes, ideas, principles, beliefs, etc.

Teach them to be thankful, to be humble, obedient, servant minded, considerate, thoughtful of others, sharing, and respectful (especially of elders and authority).

So don't teach children to say "Thank You" and "Please" teach them to be thankful, have a good heart and to express that attitude by their words and actions.

~ Jim Windham

Welcome to Westwood Hills Church of God



**.....blessed are they that hear the word
of God, and keep it.**

(Luke 11:28)

Welcome Home to Westwood Hills!

Today is **March 29, 2009.**

We are located at:

1520 NW 34th Street Gainesville, Fl. 32605

Office: (352) 378-5190 Fax: (352) 371-6782

Or visit us on the Web at: www.westwoodhillsministries.org

Prayer Requests and Praise Testimonies may be sent by phone, in person,

Or e-mailed to: prayerrequests@westwoodhillsministries.org

Pastor's Blog Page: <http://ebobkuschel.wordpress.com>

Please Keep In Prayer:

Sandy Kuschel

Gloria Broglia

Olive Garden

Ann Clay

Waymon Miller

Howard Brower

Noah David Mintz

Happy Birthday

Gillian Sleeman 3/29

Rhonda Whitton 4/1

Billy Norton 4/3

Janay Whitton 4/3

Steve Adams 4/6

Church "Matters"

Our church will sponsor an Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 11th at 10:00 am. The Easter Bunny will be here for a photo shoot and free photos of the event will be available to all who participate. Lots of candy, and hotdogs will be the order of the day. **WANT TO HELP?** You can help by donating plastic eggs and candy to fill the eggs. Bring your donations to the church as soon as possible.

NOTICE

There will be a Church Meeting immediately following the worship celebration next Sunday morning, April 5th!

The purpose of the meeting is for the church body to determine whether or not to establish a Church and Pastor's Council.

*"The Joy of the Lord
is your strength."*

You are invited to Stephanie Rivera's
Baby Shower

Saturday, April 18, 2009

at 3:00 pm in the Church Sanctuary.
Stephanie is registered at Toys-R-Us.

It's a Boy!

Last Sunday's Giving

Missions Williams	10.00
Children's Ministry	13.00
Debt Reduction	30.00
Youth Ranch	10.00
Youth Ministries	22.00
Missions Fund	27.00
Music Department	15.00
General Fund	326.74
Tithes	2700.00
Total.....	3153.74

*16 families brought their tithes to
Westwood Hills last week.*