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“The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. ”

~ Matthew 7:25

One of the biggest myths that is circulating through our society today is this: “Good parenting leads to happy kids, and having happy kids is the goal for today’s parents.” This could not be further from the truth for Christian parenting. The truth is: “Good Christian parenting leads to holy kids, and having holy kids should be the goal for today’s Christian parents.”

In our secular world, happiness depends on “happenings” or circumstances. When things go well you are happy, but when circumstances don’t go well you are unhappy. Your mood and life go whichever way the wind blows, and before you know it you have inadvertently built your life on shifting sands. The Bible tells us that “it rains on the just and the unjust” ~ Matthew 5:45. This means that good and bad things happen in life regardless of who we are. We cannot put our trust in happenings and circumstances, but only on our Rock, Jesus Christ ~ who does not change with the seasons or with our circumstances.

Parents must make many hard decisions, and often different decisions than their children would make if given the chance. Children take the short view, but parents must take the long view. The decisions that parents are charged to make include where you live, where you go to church, how you spend your money and where your children attend school. However, a new phenomenon in recent years is the marketing of school choice to children. Many parents have abdicated this most important decision to their children because they want their children to be “happy.” But children make choices based on friends, sports...even lunchroom menus. Christian parents should be making decisions based on what will help their children become more holy: those factors that will develop their characters, their spirits and help them reach their full potential in Christ. A Christian parent’s goal must not be what makes their children happy, but what will make them holy and what will strengthen their foundation which is built on the Rock. The Lord has charged you with the training up of your children. Please make the hard choices, and don’t give your responsibility away to your children.

Education is a slow and thorough process. It takes years and years to shape a life. Christian schooling is no different, only its trajectory reaches to eternity. Thank you for taking an eternal perspective, making hard choices and patiently investing in the next generation with a focus on holiness.

Christian parenting