

Body Building - Part Seven
“Caught Doing the Father’s Business” – Dealing with Desire
Pastor Dale Campfield - June 19th, 2011

FATHER’S DAY

Intro:

Matt 28:19 “Go and make disciples of all nations...”

ECC Process of Discipleship: Making an IMPACT...To Love...To Grow...To Serve

We have 3 priorities – To love...which is expressed in our Sunday morning celebration and connection groups. To grow...which is expressed in our Path to Discipleship. To serve...which is expressed in our daily lives in the places we live, work and play; as well as through the local church. The vision of E.C.C. is to gather together weekly for corporate worship, loving God and each other; then to come together in small Connection Groups for discipleship and fellowship, and are regularly involved in reaching out to others with the love, acceptance, and forgiveness of Jesus Christ through community outreach. To Love...To Grow...To Serve!

Premise of Series: To Build up the Body of Christ in Order to Make a Kingdom IMPACT.

Theme Verses: Eph. 4:11-16

Key verse 12

"Prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up."

Question: Why is this important?

Answer: Because the return of Christ is coming soon, and we, as the body of Christ, must do everything we can to make as great of an IMPACT for the Kingdom of God in the hearts of the people in the path of our life that we can. (Show our path to Discipleship here)

Series Overview: Here is what we will be dealing with during this series...

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| Part 1 – “Caught by God”... | ...Dealing with Intimacy |
| Part 2 – “Caught Red Handed”... | ...Dealing with Sin |
| Part 3 – “Caught Empty Handed”... | ...Dealing with Obedience |
| Part 4 – “Caught Giving Honor”... | ...Dealing with Honor |
| Part 5 – “Caught Loose Lipped”... | ...Dealing with Strife |
| Part 6 – “Caught Breaking Covenant” | ...Dealing with Trust |
| Part 7 – “Caught Doing The Father’s Business” | ...Dealing with Desire |
| Part 8 – “Caught Silent Lipped”... | ...Dealing with Worship |

Let’s continue.....

Part 7 – “Caught Doing The Father’s Business”... ...Dealing with Desire

What is the desire level that you have to do the Business of the Father? How would you rate yourself on a scale of 1 to 10? Does the business of the world outweigh the business of the Father? It's Father's Day – how are you doing in being about your Heavenly Father's Business?

Illus: On the farm, Campfield and sons.

We, the boys were going to take over our Father's Business. But, the Lord called each of us a different direction. That was tough on my dad – but it was in the natural. However, the same principles apply – the Father – God, desires that you to take over His business! We must be about our Father's business in order to maintain True Obedience within our lives – on a daily basis! We cannot be about the business of the world – but of God.

8 Facts Within Luke 2:40-52 (Being about the Father's Business)

TEXT: Luke 2:40-3:1

40 And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was upon him.

Luke is the sole source of information about Jesus' childhood.

Luke is the sole source of information about Jesus' childhood. All sorts of fanciful legends about our Lord's youth were written and published in the apocryphal Gospels, but none of them appear in the Scriptures.

It is remarkable that this is all that is recorded of the infancy of Jesus; and this, with the short account that follows of his going to Jerusalem, is all that we know of him for thirty years of his life.

Fact #1: Jesus was 12 years old when this story took place.

He did not enter, indeed, upon his public work for eighteen years after this; yet still the work of God was "his" work, and always, even in childhood, it was proper for him to be engaged in the great business for which he came down from heaven. It doesn't matter your age – young or old – you must be about His Business.

41 Every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the Feast of the Passover.
42 When he was twelve years old, they went up to the Feast, according to the custom.

Fact #2: This was a 70 mile journey.

It's often times a long journey ahead of us in order to be about our Father's business.

[To Jerusalem] Where the feasts of the Jews were all held. This was a journey from Nazareth of about 70 miles. Probably this was the very age at which the male children were obliged to appear before the Lord at the three public festivals-the feast of unleavened bread, of weeks, and of tabernacles. According to the Jewish canons, it was the age at which they were obliged to begin to learn a trade.

- 43 After the Feast was over, while his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it.
- 44 Thinking he was in their company, they traveled on for a day. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends.

Jesus' natural parents assumed their son was with them.

Don't ever assume dad and mom, make sure you know!
Others also will just assume that you're about the business of the world – don't be!

Fact #3: Jesus' natural parents had no clue where their son was.

There will be those in your family that will have no clue as to what your really doing as your about your Father's business. They'll not always understand. They'll not always agree. You'll be labeled. Some will think your into a cult or something...

[Supposing him to have been in the company] Some have supposed that the men and women marched in separate companies on these occasions, which is very likely; and that sometimes the children kept company with the men, sometimes with the women. This might have led to what otherwise seems to have been inexcusable carelessness in Joseph and Mary. Joseph, not seeing Jesus in the men's company, might suppose he was with his mother in the women's company; and Mary, not seeing him with her, might imagine he was with Joseph.

Men, women, and children, in large companies, may be seen travelling together, with their bedding, etc., on their heads. They cook and prepare their victuals in some shady place near a town, where they can purchase the necessaries they want, and, after remaining two or three days at the festival, return in companies as they went.

- 45 When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him.

Jesus' natural parents would not give up.

- 46 After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions.
- 47 Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers.

Fact #4: Jesus was found in the "court" of the temple. (Caught being about His Father's Business)

He was about His Father's Business! He was caught being about His Business! [In the temple] In the "court" of the temple, for Jesus, not being a Levitical priest, could not enter into the temple itself. He knew His place. He knew His limitations at that time and was respectful of them.

- 48 When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you."

Fact #5: Jesus' parents were astonished, amazed and upset.

Your family will become astonished someday also.

Jesus' natural father said nothing.

He knew he had only the name of a father, and therefore said nothing.

Jesus' parents were upset. There will be those that will get upset with you.

His mother told him how ill they took it: "Son, why hast thou thus dealt with us? Why didst thou put us into such a fright?" They were ready to say, as Jacob of Joseph, "A wild beast has devoured him; or, He is fallen into the hands of some more cruel enemy, who has at length found out that he was the young child whose life Herod had sought some years ago." A thousand imaginations, we may suppose, they had concerning him, each more frightful than another.

- 49 "Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be (about my Father's business) in my Father's house?"

Fact #6: These are THE FIRST RECORDED WORDS OF CHRIST

That's how important this statement is. Luke could have recorded a lot of things about what Jesus said, but this is the first Red Letter writing in the scripture! Jesus had an explanation. Do you have one? You must have an explanation. What do you tell people?

- 50 But they did not understand what he was saying to them.
51 Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to **them** (was subject to them). But his mother treasured all these things in her heart.

Fact #7: Jesus' independence was not rebellion.

He returned to Nazareth and remained with the family until the beginning of his public ministry.

- 52 And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.

Fact #8: Jesus grew in wisdom and stature and found favor with God and men.

You will grow in wisdom and stature as you are about your Father's business. **Jesus had favor with God and men.** As you walk in obedience, about your Father's business, you too will find favor with God and men.

Conclusion:

Question:

Are you about your Father's business or your own business?

What is your level of desire to be about your Father's Business!

And as you do.... You wait, you watch, you'll see!