



Thoughts from the New Guy

Hey there, Choir! A few weeks ago, I made a quip to David about how it would be cool to do an article for the monthly newsletter. At the time, I thought nothing of it and didn't really expect him to go for it. Lo and behold, here I am on my Thanksgiving vacation, trying to come up with a few seemingly intelligent things to say to all of you and hopefully enrich your day.

As I said, I'm on break at the moment, so I'm at home with my mother and three younger siblings. Yesterday, Sunday, was my first Sunday where I had no responsibilities that required me to be at the Church at 8:25 A.M., so I did what any 20-something college kid would do; I slept. I slept until 10:30, well after FBC Lindale's first service and only 30 minutes before the second. It was great to get to sleep in, but what I realized when I awoke was how little my family goes and worships together. I read a great article later that day that really touches on WHY we should worship with our families and I want to share a few of those reasons with you and urge you, not just as a choir member but as a born again believer to worship with your family.

The first reason we should worship with our families is really quite simple. The act of worship glorifies and honors the Lord. When corporate worship extends past the congregation into the home, it's something beautiful, and something that I want to incorporate one day in my own home as a father.

The second reason I want to discuss is that family worship encourages Christian character at home. Take a look at the family as discussed by Paul in Ephesians 5 and 6 and also in Colossians 3. Paul talks to each member of the household, explaining and teaching how we as Christians should compose ourselves at home. Far too often we allow ourselves to act the least Christ-like behind the doors of our own home. Christian character should expand to every aspect of our lives, not just when we leave the front step for work. Satan is just as much, if not more so, at work in the home, trying to dissolve the relationships we have with those we are closest to. Casualness and familiarity create a ready playing field for sin.

Finally, worshiping as a family helps to create a generational testimony. I can speak to this from personal experience. On my father's side of the family, my grandparents often load their car up on Sunday morning with several grandchildren and great grandchildren. As the Henderson clan, we take up about 2 full pews at FBC Bogata when the attending group includes me, my dad, my younger brother and sister, my aunt and uncle, my cousins and their kids. On Thursday, I expect there will be no less than 20 people at my grandmother's house for Thanksgiving dinner, ranging in age from little Maddox (the first great-great-grandchild), 1 to my Papa Roy who's 84. This is the example of generational worship that I believe we should all strive for.

Choir, it's been a wonderful experience so far working with David and all of you. I've learned more in the past 3 months working here at FBC than I have in the past 3 years sitting in a class room. I pray for you all every day, and I ask that you continue to lift me up in your prayers, especially as I go through final research papers and exams in the next couple of weeks.

Blessings,

Christopher Henderson