

An Unusual Act in the Maternity Ward

2 Timothy 3:14-4:4

“And that from a child thou [Timothy] hast known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus” (2 Tim. 3:15). The word “child” [*brephos*] can refer to a very young child, even one who is a baby (Luke 1:41; 2:12,16; 1 Pet. 2:2). From his earliest childhood Timothy learned the Holy Scriptures from his God-fearing grandmother and mother (2 Tim. 1:5). How important to teach children from their earliest days!

One father did something very unusual the day his baby was born. He did not say a word to his newborn child, but waited until the baby was cleaned up and resting comfortably in his mother’s arms. The father then began to share Scripture with his newborn son. He started at Romans 3:23, and went to many other verses, carefully explaining God’s wonderful plan of salvation. Of course, the baby did not understand a word he was saying, and the father knew this. It was symbolic.

The father wanted the Gospel to be the very first words that his child ever heard from his mouth. He wanted his first words to his baby son to be an explanation of the cross of Calvary and what a sinner needs to do to be saved. In essence he was saying, “God, you have given me a son and I want to make sure that as this boy grows up I will help him to know the Holy Scriptures which are able to make him wise unto salvation. I want to bring him up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, and I’m going to start on day one, even though I know he’s too little to understand. But if nothing else, this symbolic act will remind me of my responsibilities as a father to present the Gospel to my child.”

~George Zeller: www.middletonbiblechurch.org



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