



**Sermon Discussion Notes  
2010 - Part 3**

**Opening Thought**

"Did you know that over two million children are leaving the church each year when they reach adulthood? Independent research groups indicate that seventy-five to ninety percent of our young people walk away from church upon graduating from high school. Every minute we lose four youth, every hour we lose over two-hundred, every day we lose over five-thousand, and every year we lose over two-million. Our children are walking out the doors of the church never to return. Think about the enormity of losing two million children to the world every year. Something is definitely wrong." Alan Melton founder of Disciple Like Jesus Ministry

**Discussion Questions**

1. There is definitely spiritual warfare toward children in scripture. Please discuss the following scriptures regarding Satan's design to destroy the faith of children.

**Exodus 1:22**

22 Then Pharaoh gave this order to all his people: "Every boy that is born you must throw into the Nile, but let every girl live." NIV

**Exodus 10:8-11**

8 Then Moses and Aaron were brought back to Pharaoh. "Go, worship the LORD your God," he said. "But just who will be going?" 9 Moses answered, "We will go with our young and old, with our sons and daughters, and with our flocks and herds, because we are to celebrate a festival to the LORD." 10 Pharaoh said, "The LORD be with you — if I let you go, along with your women and children! Clearly you are bent on evil. 11 No! Have only the men go; and worship the LORD, since that's what you have been asking for." Then Moses and Aaron were driven out of Pharaoh's presence. NIV

See also **Matthew 2:16**

2. According to this verse in the gospel of Matthew what importance does Jesus place on children in his ministry? What does it convey regarding the value we should place on children in the ministry of Bay Shore Community Church?

3. Ministry to children and youth in a church is most effective when it is combined with the passion and faith of Christian parents. Read this verse.

**Deuteronomy 6:4-7**

4 Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. 5 Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. 6 These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. 7 Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. NIV

4. What is the potential impact that volunteers can have on children and youth in the church?
5. When it comes to the quality of ministry to children what are we competing with in the world? Why should we make a maximum effort to make sure that children have a great experience while they are at church?
6. Discuss these values and goals for ministry to children at BSCC.
  - Creativity
  - Energy and excitement
  - Sound truth from scripture
7. What can we do to make sure the kids that grow up at Bay Shore have a life-long love for church?

**Concluding Thought**

In the Old Testament there was young boy that grew up to become a great prophet in the nation of Israel. When he was a young boy the Lord spoke to Samuel in the house of the Lord. May the Lord speak loudly and clearly to our children in 2010.

**1 Samuel 3:4-10**

4 Then the LORD called Samuel. Samuel answered, "Here I am." 5 And he ran to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me." But Eli said, "I did not call; go back and lie down." So he went and lay down. 6 Again the LORD called, "Samuel!" And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me." "My son," Eli said, "I did not call; go back and lie down." 7 Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD: The word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. 8 The LORD called Samuel a third time, and Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me." Then Eli realized that the LORD was calling the boy. 9 So Eli told Samuel, "Go and lie down, and if he calls you, say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place. 10 The LORD came and stood there, calling as at the other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" Then Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening." NIV