

Praying for Our Priority Mission Field

Tony Campolo was baptized at the age of nine with two other boys his age. That particular Philadelphia congregation was in decline and ended up disbanding not too long after these three boys became members. Years later, Campolo decided to look up the old church records for the year he was baptized. The report of that year was quite interesting to read some forty years later. The minutes noted, "It has not been a good year for the church. We have lost 278 members. Three joined and they were only children."

Ironically, those three boys have had a tremendous impact for the kingdom of God. Campolo has touched countless lives through his books, preaching, and lectures at the school where he teaches, Eastern College. Dick White became a missionary, and Bert Newman ended up teaching theology at a seminary in Africa.

Most of the time, God is doing far more in our churches than we realize. We may never know, this side of death, what God is doing in our church. But rest assured, God is growing His kingdom. Any one of our children or teens can grow up to be a key instrument in the hands of God to bring people to salvation. This is why it is so important that we be praying for them.

Pray for our children and teens by name.

Pray for their salvation, that God will convict them of sin.

Pray that we might see our opportunities to show them the compassion, kindness, and mercy of God.

Pray for them to grow in "the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ (2 Peter 3:18)."

Pray that Jesus, through the Holy Spirit, will be real to them, (Ephesians 3:17).

Pray that their love for others "may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight" (Philippians 1:9).

Pray that they will not see worship just as something formal that happens on Sunday.

Pray that they will learn how to spontaneously worship God whenever they stop to consider their blessings.

Pray that our culture that pushes sex, materialism, and personal rights, will not mold them into its value system (Colossians 2:8).

Pray that they will learn these things from the example of our lives. They need to see these things becoming real and powerful and a way of life for us. Then our children can see them as TRUTHS, not just lessons from the Bible.

- pastor Robin