



Pastor's Perspective – A FIRM Foundation

By Dr. Ron D. Lindholm, Senior Pastor

I am often encouraged by the stories that accompany the devotional Bible reading in Our Daily Bread. The story that David Branon wrote to accompany the reading on September 26 is a case in point. It not only underscores the importance of teaching children the right things early on in life, but also gives a simple principle with roots that run deep in God's Word for teaching them biblical truths as well. I've included David's story below that especially you who are parents and grandparents might be apprised of the principle and thus encouraged to put it to work. When I first read the story, I thought, almost immediately, of those who might say or have said, "I don't know how or where to begin in teaching my children the Bible that they might come to know and love the Lord as I do." Well, thanks to David Branon and the folks at Our Daily Bread, here's solid biblical counsel:

Before she was 2 years old, my granddaughter Katie did something that would make any grandpa proud: She began to recognize cars by make and year. This all started when she and her daddy began spending time together playing with his old collection of toy cars. Daddy would say, "Katie, get the 1957 Chevy," and she would pick it out of the hundreds of tiny cars. And once, while he was reading a Curious George book to her, she climbed down from his lap and ran to get a miniature Rolls Royce—an exact replica of the car pictured in the book.

If a 2-year-old child can make such connections, doesn't that show the importance of teaching children the right things early on? We can do this by using what I call the FIRM principle: Familiarity, Interest, Recognition, and Modeling. This follows Moses' pattern in Deuteronomy 6 of taking every opportunity to teach biblical truths so that children become familiar with them and make them a part of their lives. Using their interests as teaching opportunities, we repeat Bible stories so they become recognizable, while modeling a godly life before them.

Let's give the children in our lives a FIRM foundation by teaching them about God's love, Christ's salvation, and the importance of godly living.

**These words which I command you...you shall teach them diligently to your children.
Deuteronomy 6:6-7 (NKJV)**

Thank you, David for sharing this story. I'm praying that as parents and grandparents at Fellowship we'll put the FIRM principle to work and have the joy of seeing the fruit of succeeding godly generations.

Brazilian Dinner to Offer Wonderful Food and Fellowship

"Qual é o prato do dia?" That might be the question to ask on Saturday, Oct. 8, at 6 PM. That is the time Fellowship Baptist Church will be hosting their Brazilian Dinner, an evening of international tasting fun, with Nathan and Dawn Patefield and their family preparing and offering food from the land they serve as missionaries.

While Brazilians typically eat rice and beans at least once a day, and sometimes more, those coming to the dinner at FBC will be eating that and other delicious dishes to help us understand more about the place the Patefields love and serve. The Patefields explain that the majority of people in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil eat black beans. Those in Sao Paulo eat mostly brown beans. And the Indians along the Amazon—who eat fish three times a day typically—eat hardly any rice or beans at all. The menu on Oct. 8 will also include Rocambole de carne, a dish that is similar to a meatloaf that is stuffed and rolled. This main dish is a

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Sunday dinner fare, rather than an everyday item, and the Sobremesa-Mousse de limão ou maracujá is a very special dessert.

The entire menu will be Arroz, Feijão, Farofa, Salsa, Rocambole de Carne and Sobremesa-Mousse de limão ou maracujá. For those not fluent in Portuguese that translates into English as rice, beans, Manioc bread crumbs, fresh salsa, Brazilian-style meatloaf, and lime or passion fruit mousse. In Brazil, the main food preparers are the mothers, and if the mother works a child or sometimes a maid will fix dinner. However, in Brazil, the men do most of the grocery shopping. At this dinner, the Patefields will be the ones preparing the food.

The Patefields suggested that those who would like could feel free to dress in national costume for the dinner as nationals do for the World Cup matches. The picture of the Patefield children gives you an idea of how that might work. Church members are also encouraged to invite guests to the dinner. There is a

sign-up sheet at the church to give the Patefields an estimate of how many people to prepare for.

Nathan and Dawn Patefield serve in the Bento Ribeiro neighborhood of Rio de Janeiro in Brazil. They serve with Baptist Mid-Missions and are in the United States on furlough. They, along with their children Lydia, Nathan, Patricia and Joanna, participated in our missions conference last month and will be traveling west later this month to reconnect with other supporting churches. They plan to return to this area for a longer stay from April to September of 2012.

Don't miss out on this opportunity to meet, one more time, with the Patefield family and to fellowship with the rest of the body in the church. It will be an evening to remember...in both tastes and encouragement. Who knows? You may discover some amazing things: like how many pounds of bananas Brazilians eat in a year or what the national soft drink is of that amazing country. Of the night you might well say, "Foi um prazer te conhecer."

October is Pastor Appreciation Month
October is a time set aside for honoring those who shepherd God's flock (1 Peter 5:2),
keeping watch over you as men who must give an account (Hebrews 13:17).
Take time to show our pastors and their families they are appreciated and loved!

Money Matters

Over all the month of September was a good month of giving at Fellowship. Our Missions Conference Offering of \$4,384.43 was one of our highest ever, and allowed us to give a very generous love gift to each of the missionary families. The Weekly General Fund giving for September was improved over the months of July and August, but still fell short of our weekly budgeted need by \$75 per week. As the Lord provides, we need to work hard to close this gap in the final quarter of 2011.

September Giving Per Week (General Fund)	\$5,216
Weekly Need	\$5,291
Year-to-Date General Fund Giving	\$191,374
Year-to-Date General Fund Need	\$206,344
Year-to-Date "Together We Build Offering"	\$6,778

October 2011 Bible Memory Challenge

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.
Ephesians 6:10-11

Fellowship-in-Homes:

A Great Investment in Yourself and Others

Enjoying fellowship with your church family outside of Sunday morning is the purpose of Fellowship-in-Homes, which will take place Friday evening or Saturday afternoon, October 28-29. Your participation encourages others, and you will be encouraged as well by your fellow believers. Invite friends and neighbors to join in as well. Fellowship-in-Homes is a great investment in yourself and others.

Sign up in the church foyer.



Calendar

Oct. 8	Brazilian Dinner (6:00 PM)
Oct. 11	Nursing Home Ministry (2:00 PM)
Oct. 22	Men's Breakfast (8:00 AM)
Oct. 26	Quarterly Business Meeting (7:30 PM)
Oct. 28/29	Fellowship-in-Homes

Fellowship Baptist Church

5936 Rolling Road
Springfield, VA 22152