

## DAYCARE CHRISTIANS 819

TEXT: **1 Corinthians 3:1-3** And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual *people* but as to carnal, as to babes in Christ. I fed you with milk and not with solid food; for until now you were not able *to receive it*, and even now you are still not able; for you are still carnal. For where *there are* envy, strife, and divisions among you, are you not carnal and behaving like *mere* men?

AIM: The aim of this lesson will be to identify some of the traits/mannerisms of Daycare Christians.

### INTRODUCTION:

1. Like it or not many children are in daycare! The little neighbor girls told me they didn't want to go to daycare anymore because all you do is learn how to be a baby! They were ready for kindergarten!

2. Spiritually speaking, when one obeys Gospel they're babes/new creatures in Christ (2 Cor. 5:17 Therefore, if anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.) They're in the spiritual Daycare; however, as time passes they should begin wanting to learn more than daycare can teach them.

3. Sadly, some never want out of daycare, spiritually! They remain babes/infants in Christ.

a. Don't misunderstand- I know we're to become like children (Mat. 18:1ff), but only in the sense that we be humble, innocent, forgiving, & loving. (Sermon next week)

b. To become as little children does not mean we cease to grow & mature spiritually

**1 Peter 2:2** as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby,

**2 Peter 3:18** but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him *be* the glory both now and forever. Amen.

c. Paul had something to say to Corinthian church relative to Daycare Christianity (cf. 1 Cor. 3:1-3).

4. Let's identify some of the negative mannerisms of Daycare Christians, & then see what God's Word says about it.

### I. DAYCARE CHRISTIANS ARE THOSE WHOSE DIETS CONSIST OF MILK AND NO MEAT.

A. Physically speaking, a babies diet consists of milk. But as they grow, solid food needed.

B. Spiritually, the diet of a babe in Christ begins w/milk (ABC's-fundamentals of faith); however, over time, they should begin adding meat to their diets!

C. Daycare Christians are those who never progress past the milk- they're never able to digest solid food

1. **1 Corinthians 3:2** I fed you with milk and not with solid food; for until now you were not able *to receive it*, and even now you are still not able;

2. **Hebrews 5:11-14** of whom we have much to say, and hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing. For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need *someone* to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God; and you have come to need milk and not solid food. For everyone who partakes *only* of milk *is* unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, *that is*, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

3. **Ephesians 4:10-16** He who descended is also the One who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.) And He Himself gave some *to be* apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head--Christ-- from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.

## II. DAYCARE CHRISTIANS ARE IN NEED OF CONSTANT CARE.

A. Babies require constant attention. They're unable to do certain things for themselves (burping, changing diapers, etc.).

B. When a person 1st obeys Gospel, they're in need of further instruction (**Matthew 28:20** teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, *even* to the end of the age." Amen.); however, there comes a point when they themselves must teach & serve

1. **2 Timothy 2:2** And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.

2. **Philippians 2:3-4** *Let nothing be done* through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.

C. Daycare Christians are those who're ever seeking to be served **Matthew 20:6** And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing idle, and said to them, 'Why have you been standing here idle all day?'

D. They want others to do everything for them. They don't have servants mentality.

### III. DAYCARE CHRISTIANS POUT WHEN THINGS DON'T GO THEIR WAY.

A. Ever see a young child pout/throw a temper tantrum when they don't get their way?

B. Many adult Christians do likewise when things don't go just the way they want them to

1. Israel **Numbers 14:3** Why has the Lord brought us to this land to fall by the sword, that our wives and children should become victims? Would it not be better for us to return to Egypt?"

2. Elijah **1 Kings 19:9** And there he went into a cave, and spent the night in that place; and behold, the word of the Lord *came* to him, and He said to him, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

3. Jonah **Jonah 4:5** So Jonah went out of the city and sat on the east side of the city. There he made himself a shelter and sat under it in the shade, till he might see what would become of the city.

4. Martha **Luke 10:40** But Martha was distracted with much serving, and she approached Him and said, "Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Therefore tell her to help me."

1. When something is not budgeted, many will pout by holding back contribution.

2. When one's ideas aren't considered or used, they pout by failing to get involved.

3. When a fellow Christian is asked to do something they're not asked to do, they pout by refusing to do anything.

C. Phi. 2:14: Do all things without complaining (grumbling) & disputing (questioning).

### IV. DAYCARE CHRISTIANS LIKE TO TATTLE-TALE.

A. Children love to tattle-tale. When they have an issue w/ a peer, they like to run & tell others about it instead of trying to work it out between them.

B. For many, this childish act remains w/them throughout life. There are many Christians, who, instead of working their differences out w/one their @ odds with (Mat. 18:15 **Matthew 18:15** "Moreover if your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he hears you, you have gained your brother.), run & tell everyone else about it.

1. **Psalms 15:1-3** A Psalm of David. Lord, who may abide in Your tabernacle? Who may dwell in Your holy hill? He who walks uprightly, And works righteousness, And speaks the truth in his heart; He *who* does not backbite with his tongue, Nor does evil to his neighbor, Nor does he take up a reproach against his friend;

2. **Proverbs 6:12-19** A worthless person, a wicked man, Walks with a perverse mouth; He winks with his eyes, He shuffles his feet, He points with his fingers; Perversity *is* in his heart, He devises evil continually, He sows discord. Therefore his calamity shall come suddenly; Suddenly he shall be broken without remedy. These six *things* the Lord hates, Yes, seven *are* an abomination to Him: A proud look, A lying tongue, Hands that shed innocent blood, A heart that devises wicked plans, Feet that are swift in running to evil, A false witness *who* speaks lies, And one who sows discord among brethren.

3. 2 Cor. 12:20. For I fear lest, when I come, I shall not find you such as I wish, and that I shall be found by you such as you do not wish; lest there be contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, backbitings, whisperings, conceits, tumults;

4. Certain excitement and fun in gossiping- Prov. 18:8 "**The words of a talebearer are like tasty trifles and they go down into the inmost body.**"

#### V. DAYCARE CHRISTIANS WON'T LET GO OF OLD SINFUL HABITS.

A. Toddlers often have difficulty letting go of security blankets & pacifiers.

B. Same can be said of some w/in church who have difficulties letting go of some of their former sinful habits/practices

1. Acts 8:14ff- Simon the sorcerer

2. Peter **Galatians 2:14** But when I saw that they were not straightforward about the truth of the gospel, I said to Peter before *them* all, "If you, being a Jew, live in the manner of Gentiles and not as the Jews, why do you compel Gentiles to live as Jews?"

C. It's imperative that God's people, as they grow spiritually, rid themselves of all sinful habits & be filled w/the Spirit

1. **Ephesians 5:18** And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit,

2. **James 1:21** Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

#### VI. DAYCARE CHRISTIANS ARE ALWAYS GETTING INTO THINGS THEY SHOULDN'T.

A. Almost every child, as they begin to crawl & then walk, get into things they shouldn't. That's why we child-proof our homes, making it a safer environment for them.

B. Unfortunately, many Christians never stop getting into things they shouldn't. They're constantly getting into things they have no business getting into **1 Peter 4:15** But let none of you suffer as a murderer, a thief, an evildoer, or as a busybody in other people's matters.

C. **2 Thessalonians 3:11-15** For we hear that there are some who walk among you in a disorderly manner, not working at all, but are busybodies. Now those who are such we command and exhort through our Lord Jesus Christ that they work in quietness and eat their own bread. But *as for* you, brethren, do not grow weary *in* doing good. And if anyone does not obey our word in this epistle, note that person and do not keep company with him, that he may be ashamed. Yet do not count *him* as an enemy, but admonish *him* as a brother.

D. **1 Timothy 5:13** And besides they learn *to be* idle, wandering about from house to house, and not only idle but also gossips and busybodies, saying things which they ought not.

#### CONCLUSION:

1. Babies are cute & cuddly. But adults who act like babies are ugly & appalling!
2. It's imperative that we dispose of any & all negative childish mannerisms ( **1 Corinthians 13:11** When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child; but when I became a man, I put away childish things.)

Florence 8/1/2010

From a sermon, "Play Pen Christians" - by Terry R. Townsend