



Family Circus Children's Ministry Update - Volume 340 No.49 December 6, 2008
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“What Kids Take to Church”

Hello, friends.

Here's a short quiz: What do kids take to church?

- A. Glue –
- B. Ice picks –
- C. Butcher knives –
- D. All of the above.

Unfortunately 'D'--“All of the above”--is the correct answer.



'A' is the adhesive glue that kills their hunger. It's cheaper than food, and lasts longer. A five peso bottle of Rugby (glue), will last for a couple weeks in killing the hunger where 5 pesos or 10 cents will only buy enough food to last for a short period of time and then the hunger returns.

The Family Circus bakery/cafeteria is nearly operational. This will help us address the needs of the hungry, malnourished children. We still lack some essential items, a transformer, electrical wiring, water tanks, and gas hookups. (**Please** pray with us.)

'B' & 'C' are for self protection and for settling gang-related fights. During a service a few days ago, we removed a big butcher knife from a teenager. The week before, another young person had a long ice pick (12"+) confiscated.

We know that is not normal in most church services, yet if we want to minister to children living in poverty, we must be prepared for the dangers included. It's similar to going through the airport check in services. A small percentage of travelers intend to hurt people, yet to provide security there must be searches. We haven't yet purchased a metal security wand, but we are looking for one. Our first line of defense is prayer, and we ask you to **please** join us in this battle.

We have advance information that a gang is coming to services this week with various weapons. This weekend's target is another gang that also attends our services. The informant explained to us that we are not the target, just the other gang of kids.

We've had a strong police presence for the past two weeks, and it looks like they may become a permanent part of our church services. Lives are being changed.



How would you feel if a nine year old threatened to kill you and your husband or wife? *Maybe you have had that happen to you.* That's what happened to us last week. Warfare? Yes! **Thanks** for praying.

As you may know, every week, in addition to the two services in the Circus tent, we also hold services under a covered basketball court next to the ocean.

About 650 – 750 kids and family members attend. A couple weeks ago, for seven nights our friends held evangelistic rallies on that basketball court. Upon arriving the second night, they were told that someone was stabbed to death, and the blood was not yet dry.

Further investigation revealed that two brothers had a fight. The younger was washing dishes and the older swatted him in the head, angering the younger, who grabbed an ice pick and stabbed the older (ages 10 – 14). The older brother then retaliated by stabbing his younger brother with a knife. The younger was taken to the hospital, but the older died on the spot. The older brother attended the service the night before and had signed a Salvation Commitment Card!

* Causing you to think is part of my motivation for writing. I'm not trying to give a pat answer which can often be incorrect. These kids have grown up with violence. It takes time to change one's habits.



When the God gives us forgiveness it is instantaneous. It's more than adequate for the past and it's power covers us in the future. Even as the thief on the cross experienced. It is

strong enough to get us to the right destination... The only thing I know capable of separating us from God's love is if we walk out of His hand.

Did that happen when the two brothers fought? I have a hunch the angry, dying, hurting boy was not willfully rejecting Christ. Instead, I think a life time of reacting to the moment was controlling him...

I'm not God but I am thankful the evening before He did make the important step in the right direction, "Asking Jesus forgiveness for his sins, and to come live inside his heart." Asking forgiveness opens the door to allow Jesus to enter and gives us a future. When we accept Christ we become as it were a baby in Him. In the same way that babies must learn to walk, so does a new believer. It's my understanding that our heavenly Father loves His little babies very much...

God, in the same way as an earthly father, does not abandon his love and void His forgiveness for his child if he makes a mistake. Many examples of this are recorded in Scripture including Gods friend, King David who had many dark deeds in his life.

We've a multitude of troubled children who need to be introduced to their heavenly Father so that they might have an opportunity to grow in Him... Our preference is to see them walk tall for the Lord, but when the house is burning down getting them to safety is a critical concern.

We teach the kids as if their lives depend on it... It does.

For the King and His kids!
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Web Site: We have several new posts at our site, with pictures for our email updates. Check them out on-line when you have time www.familycircuscm.org

Let us know what you think. Thanks!!

Please Note:

Enjoy a visit to our new web site -
www.familycircuscm.org.

If you would like to share this information with friends, please forward this message or encourage them to email us at FAMILYCIRCUS@AGMD.ORG to join the list. We enjoy hearing from all our friends.

Click on the following link if you can help us financially in ministering to the King's Kids:

<http://www.familycircuscm.org/html/donations.html>

