# They Want Our Kids

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"He alone, who owns the youth, gains the future!" (Adolf Hitler)

Deuteronomy 11 perfectly portrays the importance of teaching children the Lord's commands, as well as testifying to kids of how we've seen him working and providing (see especially vv. 18, 19). We're to "train a child in the way he should go" (Proverbs 22:6).

### What's Happening? (And why are we just now noticing?)

- "Values clarification"—One speaker in a special program wanted to free students from "obsolete" family values: "Totally ignore your parents. Listen to them but forget them." (before 1992; Kjos p 29; also p 53)
- Jr/sr hi students were to fantasize a birth control device "they would enjoy using." (before 1988; Kjos p 54)
- "Zen Buddhism should be taught in every 5th grade class in America." –M. Scott Peck (1992; Yungen's *Time* p 10)
- A 5th grade teacher put 239 reading books in the room. 2 were Christian. Someone complained; those 2 were removed. Books about myths and other religions were OK. (1989; Kjos p 23)
- Students were to practice writing suicide notes. (1988; Kjos p 86)
- Candlelit room, almost séance-like. Teacher guides students to imagine that they "experience death ... rise ... [and are] content." (1988)
- A specific card game was being used to teach math. One card was titled "soul exchange." At recess, kids were trying to summon the forces/spirits on the cards. (Kjos p 169, 170)
- Kids take surveys that parents can't see beforehand. Instead, parents are told, "There will be questions *like* these." (Note: You can refuse such surveys.)
- Jack Canfield (*Chicken Soup for the Soul*) helped teachers disguise Eastern practices, instructing them not to say "centering" and "meditation" but just say "quiet time" or "relaxation." (1981; Yungen's *Many* p 67)
- One educator said schools can offer spiritual help toward "transcendence" via "meditation," but advised caution because "mantras actually work, releasing energies that children literally are not equipped to handle." (2000; Yungen's *Time* p 70; And what teacher understands Eastern/occult practice enough to know where the line is?!)
- One dad looked in a book his daughter was assigned at school. He said, "If I discussed these pages with an underage girl, I'd be in prison!" He refused the assignment.
- There are simulation games/exercises in which kids decide who should live or die in drastic situations. (Is this really just about discussing ethics/decision-making, or a veiled attempt to label what categories of people are most valuable/most dispensable?)
- The Sexuality Information and Education Council of the United States (SIECUS) "advances sex education as a vehicle for social change." They provide sex ed guidelines for K–12. (Who sets those standards, and how do they compare with the Lord's?)
- "[Yoga] has been used in public schools for 50 years or more"—says Religion News Service (2021). (Yoga is of Hindu origin. What Christian practice is allowed in schools?)
- Years ago an attendee of our workshop reported that her kindergartner had participated in something called Brain Gym. And after a couple of days, the child came home saying, "Mommy, a voice in my head told me to hate God."
- Directors of Diversity/Equity/Inclusion have been placed in schools. Students are quizzed in order to elicit signs of racial prejudice, confessions of privilege, beliefs about sexuality, etc. (Prejudice-related info has stirred up bad feelings among kids when there were no problems before. Investigate how non-white parents have objected to this sort of thing.)

• Increasing pushes for sex ed (not to mention hormone treatment and surgery!), even in kindergarten classes. One report said, "Among the standards for grades K–2 [is] defining gender expression." (Who "defines" what sort of "expression" best reflects "gender"? Can't help wondering, for example, whether jumping on the sofa labels one as male and trying on mommy's shoes means female. And what about the 5-year-old who insists he's a giraffe?)

Yes, it's bad. But remember, this is nothing new. Appalling evil goes clear back to the book of Genesis. The Lord is still in control. We believers have *him*. And there are millions of us—we are not alone.

## What to Do? (With the Lord's help, it's never too late.)

- **Read Berit Kjos's** <u>book</u> *How to Protect Your Child from the New Age and Spiritual Deception* (first published 1990, revised 2013). This book is shocking proof that many of our concerns have already been in schools for decades. Most chapters have some helpful what-to-dos.
- **Do something useful.** We expect kids at school to be *educated* (reading, writing, math ...)—not *indoctrinated*, especially in subjects that are matters of opinion and/or are the responsibility of parents. Don't just wring your hands or vent angrily online. Get mad at the *real* enemy and use that energy to do something practical!
- **Become better informed.** Read these posts on LynnLusbyPratt.com (LLP):
  - "<u>Out of My Mindfulness</u>." 3-parter about mindfulness meditation being pushed in schools.
  - "<u>Chosen...? or Targeted?</u>" and "<u>What Kind of Schooling at School?</u>" These 2 posts are about school-related programs (and see reader comments to these and the above).
  - "<u>A Mod Might Be Odd</u>." Be more alert about video games.
- Scrutinize your kids' lesson plans and connect with teachers. Fall 2021. A mom of 1 high schooler, 1 jr higher, and 1 elementary kid said: "Anything with suspicious words, I usually look into even more than the normal 'check out class syllabus.' I look at class book lists and even read books before kids are required to have them for class. We talk to our kids about verbal content in their classes. They know if there is ANYTHING inappropriate (uncomfortable) assigned or being talked about—whether of a religious/spiritual nature, political nature, racial nature, scientific nature, and especially a physical/sexual nature—they already have our permission to immediately leave the room, even if there may be consequences from the teacher/school. We've told the kids that after that situation, it becomes OUR responsibility to step in and fight the school/district/teacher on the matter. We talk about putting on their armor of God to wear every day at school 'cause schools are changing, and they have to be aware and cautious just like we, as the parents, have to be aware, cautious, and alert. All to say, I keep an eye on all their classrooms, and I message teachers about my general questions and concerns."
- **Call out red flags.** One grandma instructed her granddaughter: "If a teacher EVER tells you 'Don't tell your parents \_\_\_\_\_,' that's the VERY thing you must tell them."
- Create a home atmosphere where kids feel free to confide in you. They'll be hesitant if you've shown that you typically go ballistic or start punishing.
- Get involved with PTO/PTA and/or the school board. In 2021, an Ohio mayor threatened his school board over "porn" homework assignments. (Here's the NBC News <u>article</u>.) Attend PTO/PTA meetings. Get on the school board. Write to the board of education, city council members, congressmen. When writing to any officials, send to multiple individuals at the same time and note in the letter the names of all who received. Since you're bothering, make a big splash!
- Check definitions. If something is being pushed, are you sure you know what the promoters really mean? (ex: *equality, diversity, tolerance, relaxation exercise* ...) See these LLP posts: "<u>Equality—Say What?</u>" and "<u>The Real Thing vs. All Messed Up</u>."

- **Don't participate.** Here's how one middle schooler refused to participate in a school exercise: "<u>Middle</u> <u>School Meditation</u>" (LLP).
- **Trace the "family tree."** For special programs that have interesting or benign names, look up the sponsoring organizations (ex: Metagifted Education Resource Organization [Kjos p 14] or Discernment Research Group [p 75]). Find out who's at the top of the sponsoring hierarchy—and what their agenda is. Look into World Core Curriculum/Robert Muller. (Kjos p 95)
- Check the children's programming at your church. Sadly, some Eastern religion and occult practice has seeped into kids Sunday school curriculum and church programs (ex: standing in a circle to get prayer answered, doodling randomly and asking God to tell you what it means, visualization [no, not normal imagining], walking a labyrinth [there's also a book that shows public schoolteachers how to build and use labyrinths at school]). Also see "Kiddie False Prophets" (LLP). Remember, the apostles warned us that "doctrines of demons," false teaching that's "destructive," would "secretly" be introduced into the church (1 Timothy 4:1; 2 Peter 2:1).

### **Remember the Main Thing**

- Make sure your *own* Christian foundation is strong! How else can we adults keep the kids strong in the Lord? These 2 LLP posts prove that young people leaving the church have wobbly perceptions of Christianity, the Bible, world religions: "Bring Back the Young People" and "Stop the Bleeding!"
- Talk with your kids about the armor of God. Emphasize Ephesians 6:10-18 for them today! Here's one vivid illustration your family can discuss together: "<u>A Child Armed for Battle</u>" (LLP). And young people can see the armor of God in action, as it were, in the youth fiction series Elijah Creek & The Armor of God. This well-crafted and suspenseful adventure follows 5 teens on a life-changing quest: <u>www.lenawood.com</u>.
- Imitate Jeremiah, per what God told the young man in Jeremiah 1:17:
  - **Suit up** (today that would involve the armor of God; Ephesians 6:10-18)
  - Stand up
  - Speak up
  - **Stay up** (not faltering in the face of intimidation and your own fear)
- **Prayer:** "Lord Almighty, thank you for your truth, your power, and your love for us! We stand with you—and against the forces of darkness that infiltrate schools, media, entertainment, and even our churches. We don't want (and we know *you* don't want) any child to be drawn into evil. Help us to arm ourselves with truth. Strengthen us to represent you well, with kindness and with the boldness shown by Joshua, Josiah, Nehemiah, Daniel, and modern-day heroes. We will rely on your power and then, having 'done everything, [we can] stand' (Ephesians 6:13). Please watch over and protect our children to stay on your path. In Jesus' name, amen."

Be informed and stay on alert. Lean on the Lord. And raise a righteous ruckus!

#### **Sources Referenced**

- How to Protect Your Child from the New Age and Spiritual Deception by Berit Kjos
- *A Time of Departing* by Ray Yungen
- For Many Shall Come in My Name by Ray Yungen

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