

# Three Parenting Mistakes That Cause Children to Leave Torah

# #3 Legalism

- Who thinks legalism is good?
- Who thinks legalism is bad?
- Who thinks it depends?
- Who doesn't know?

# Legalism

- Definition:
  - English: Strong adherence to the letter of a law, creed, tradition, or instruction absent of faith or relationship.
  - I.e. does and don't regardless of circumstances or other people
  - "Rules without relationship leads to rebellion." - The Art of Parenting by Dennis & Barbara Rainey

# Legalism

- How do you decipher if you are building an environment of legalism or relationship?
  - What is your why?
  - What is your focus?

# Legalism – What is your why?

- Example: spending money on the Sabbath
  - Is it a commandment?
  - What is your why?
    - Positive/ negative reinforcement
    - Conviction
  - What's the difference?
    - Commandments come from what is written
    - Convictions from from what is interpreted and applied.
  - Why is it so important?
    - Youth question everything to establish their why

# #2 Bitterness

- Definition:
  - marar (מרר), mean to 'trickle'. Pictographically it means 'head of head waters' or 'source of head waters'.
  - English: To be angry, hurt, or resentful because of one's bad experience or sense of unjust treatment.
- Causes:
  - Perceived loss of something
  - Impatience
  - Discomfort
  - Stagnant waters

# Popular HRM Doctrines

- Doctrines:
  - The Church teaches another Jesus
  - The name Jesus means 'Hail Zeus'
  - Christians don't love Jesus because ...
  - Christians don't obey the Torah
  - Worshiping on Sunday is sun worship
  - Jesus is not God
  - Christmas as Easter and pagan holidays
  - ...

# Bitterness

- What do these doctrines have in common?
  - Doctrines of bitterness
  - Friendly fire
  - Lies we've inherited



# Bitterness

- How does this affect our children?
  - Teaches them the posture of division over reconciliation when are are offended
  - Teaches them to argue instead of finding common ground
  - Poisons their soul so they become bitter
- Or
  - Compels them to walk away from the HRM and everything to do with it

# #1 Salvation

- What is Yahshua's greatest commandment?
  - Mark 16:15-20
  - Matt 28:16-20
  - Luke 24: 46-51
  - Acts 1:6-9

# Salvation

- What did Peter preach in Acts 2?
  - Life, death, and resurrection of Yahshua
- What was the result?
  - Acts 2:37-39
- What is the Gospel?
  - John 3:16-17
- How are you saved from your sins?
  - Rom 10:9-10

# Conclusion

Children walk away from Torah, or worse Yahshua because of:

3. **Legalism:** We focus on dos and don't instead of relationship with Yahshua and each other.

2. **Bitterness:** We expose our children to doctrines born out of bitterness whose sole purpose is to divide the body of Messiah.

1. **Salvation:** Our children have never been born again into the family of God and have no genuine relationship with Yahshua.

# Application

What we can we do about it:

1. Teach your children the Gospel of Yahshua above all else and lead them in a relationship with Yahshua through prayer and by your example.
2. Don't expose your children to false doctrines that divide the Body of Messiah. Teach them and live Yahshua's commandment, "Love one another as I have loved you." Sunday Christians are not our enemy.
3. If Yahshua, the Gospel, and the New Testament are not your focus when you observe Sabbath, celebrate the Feasts, and obey the Torah, then change the way you do them so that He is, and His Gospel is preached through them.

# Action Step

Your number one concern is that your son or daughter came to know Yahshua as their personal Lord and Savior.

- Sometime during Sukkoth, take personal time with each child that can talk and ask them, "How did you come to know Yahshua as your personal Lord and Savior?" Test their understanding and share the Gospel with them. Again, and again, and again, . . .

- Email: [joshua@littletzar.com](mailto:joshua@littletzar.com)
- Phone: (316) 669-5674
- Passover Haggadah: <https://a.co/d/cA11dsR>
- Yom T'ruah Haggadah: <https://a.co/d/h2FZzBY>