

From Where I Sit . . .

Vacation Days Bring Vacation Bible School!!

Some of my happiest childhood memories are of attending Vacation Bible School. I'm not sure I can even remember the first one I went to, but I distinctly remember that by 4th Grade I was a regular attendee. Dad preached in Resaca, Georgia and took all our family plus those who would go with us to Dalton for VBS. Elbert Henry was the preacher there at that time and now lives in the Huntsville area. He came through and visited us at Broad Street a few weeks ago and it was a sweet reunion.

The next distinct memory of VBS was up in Battle Creek, Michigan while in the 5th - 6th Grade, and then in Albany, Georgia the summer before the 7th Grade. Well you get the idea. VBS stands out in my mind both with the year and the place. What I won't bore you with are the exciting details I can remember of each one of the VBS's. I can, however, remember even today, some of the lessons we were taught back then. I first became interested in Paul's missionary journeys through VBS one summer when I was just 11 years old.

No, this article is not about me. It's about the benefit of enrolling children in Vacation Bible School. Students will learn lessons there which will follow them for a lifetime. There are at least three streams of attitudes about having VBS this day and time. One says that we are just much too busy and should lighten the schedule by leaving them off. The other says that we must have one because we always have and we don't want to be accused of being the generation that "dropped the ball." The third is a new breed of VBS planners who truly believe these are life formative experiences and that we ought to go to great extents in our efforts to create learning situations for our children. Thanks be to God there is a renewed energy and zeal that I'm witnessing in churches from Mobile, Alabama to Franklin, Tennessee, and parts unknown to me, to provide the most memorable of experiences for the children.

I'm so happy to find that spirit prevailing at Broad Street. I don't know when I've seen so much energy by so many people, carefully organized, and sharing a common love for the boys and girls. Parents, YOU ARE IN FOR A TREAT AS YOU BRING YOUR BOYS AND GIRLS TO OUR VBS!! The theme is entitled, "ARE WE THERE YET?" And takes our students on a journey from "grumble" to "humble." Lessons from the Israelites will give our teachers ample opportunity to demonstrate how to turn life's difficult moments into a realization of the way God blesses us. Our students will learn many Bible verses, and many Bible precepts that should affect how they view the hard times as well as the good times in their lives.

Please support our Vacation Bible School this next week from 9 A.M. until Noon, and come to the special Friday night program from 6:30 P.M. til 7:15 with an ice cream supper to follow. I'll be seeing you down front each morning!!

..... Terry Broome