

# Who Has the Hearts of Your Children?

## Introduction

1. Tragedy in the church!
2. How can this be prevented? If you're going to prevent this or recover your child's heart, you'll need to learn to the point of application certain dynamics.

Learn the dynamics of the heart.

1. What is your understanding of the relationship between the heart and the will?

Error:

Truth:

2. There are some key Scriptures that give insight into how the heart works.
  - Insight no. 1: All the issues of life flow out of the condition of the heart. Prov. 4:23
  - Insight no. 2: Whatever one treasures, the heart will be focused there. Matt. 6:21
  - Insight no. 3: God has made the heart to hope and be full. Prov. 13:12

Who has your child's heart? The one who offers the greatest hope.

Whoever offers them hope of fullness.

Learn the dynamics of hope. Col. 1:3-6

1. Insight #1 regarding the dynamics of hope. It gives birth to faith and love and joy (vs. 11, "joyously giving thanks to the father...).
2. Insight #2 regarding the dynamics of hope. Promises are the basis of hope.
3. Let me illustrate these dynamics with some Scriptures about hope. 1 Pet. 1:3-5; Rom. 8:24-25; Eph. 4:4; Col. 1:21-23; Eph. 1:18; Eph. 2:12; 1Tim. 4:10.
4. Examples of application.

Learn the importance of sealing your children

1. If we need sealing as sons of God, then our sons need sealing as our sons.  
Eph. 1:13-14

2. What do I mean by sealing your children?
  - A. To seal your child is to establish his/her identity as your child.
  
  - B. You seal your child by:
  
  - C. Sealing your child... Illustration with the bottle cap.

3. Why is this important?

Show your children the hope of the gospel and the hope of following God's ways and that's what it means to be YOUR CHILD. Col. 1:26-27 ; Col. 2:2-3; Heb. 10:23; 1 John 3:2-3; 1 Cor. 15:51-57; John 6:37-40; John 6:47, 51

In some way, constantly expose the hopelessness and emptiness of the world. Col. 2:8

Remember:

- A. The heart is made to hope.
- B. Always give the hope for why you are doing things.
- C. When faith, love, or joy are lacking, apply hope.

Here's Your Hope!

When you give your child the PROMISES of God's ways  
You give them HOPE for the future  
This hope SEALS them and FILLS them  
Giving them FAITH that PROTECTS them