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Oct. 22, 2020

RLA NEWS AND NOTES

"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

Joshua 1:9

Fearless Parenting

By Kathi Lipp of Proverbs 31 Ministries on May 16, 2018

<https://www.proverbs31.org/read/devotions/full-post/2018/05/16/fearless-parenting>

"For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline." 2 Timothy 1:7 (NLT)

While raising my kids in the late '90s, the overwhelming theme I heard from other parents, church members and Christian books was consistent: Protect your children at all costs. As Christian parents, we were told to *not* let our kids:

- consume any media (unless it was the *Adventures in Odyssey* radio program)
- listen to secular music (and even some Christian rock was considered too edgy)
- play with kids who weren't from Christian families (unless they were specifically doing so to eventually invite them to church. Yes, these kinds of playdates were a thing.)

Fear is a very powerful force. It can make us fear our kids will make the wrong choices. It can make us fear a lack of control. It can make us fear being viewed as bad parents. I've also seen how fear can absolutely be the most destructive tool in our parenting bag. Instead of fear, God longs for us to see His power and love and grow in self-discipline. As 2 Timothy 1:7 reassures us, *"For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline."* So how do we moms transition from parenting out of fear to fearless parenting? I've got a few ideas.

1. **Talk about the steadfastness of God.** God has given us a spirit of power and we are powerful because we are His. Make sure your kids know the power they possess because of Who lives in them.
2. **Teach your kids how to love others well.** You are their first example and their first teacher of loving well. Loving when circumstances are tough and when your kids are difficult are both great examples. Then, teaching your kids to love people even when they are unlovable is one of the best skills they can possess.
3. **Transition from the role of protector.** It's easy to want to stay in the role of our kids' protector longer than we should. And with all that goes on in the world, who can blame a mom for wanting to keep her family safe?

As an adult, my friend Kimberly endured the unimaginable — being taken at gunpoint while walking to her car after work. Fortunately, after hours of terror and devastation, Kim survived that kidnapping and has gone on to share her story of hope. But of course, no trauma is wrapped up in a tidy little package. Not only did those events affect Kim, but they also affected her whole family, including her mom, Ann.

For years, Ann felt overwhelming guilt for not being able to keep Kim from such a horrific situation. But after years of praying and processing, Ann came to understand that her role was not to protect her daughter. Kim says, "My mom came to this place of peace after my kidnapping. Even though I was a 28-year-old woman, she somehow thought she should have been able to protect me from that event. She realized her job had been to prepare me to handle all the things life would throw at us kids — not protect us from anything ever happening."

As our kids grow, our job is to fearlessly transition our parenting from *protecting* to *preparing* our kids and trusting them to God. And He's given us the ability to do that because of His power in each of us.

Heavenly Father, my prayer is that I parent out of the love You have poured out for me and my child. I pray that I never parent out of fear, but out of the unending love and grace You've shown me. Let my child see glimpses of You through my love for them. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Fall Fest Help Needed

We are going to have a multi-station Fall Fest on October 30th for the kids & could use some help!

1. We would like a few families to decorate tables (8ft) and hand out store-packaged goodies to the kids. Our hope is to have the treats outside, weather permitting, or in the hallway but there will not be power available.
2. We will need a few volunteers to help the kids move between stations and some crafts.

If you are interested, please contact the office. Set-up will begin about 1:30 and we should be done with clean up by dismissal. We ask that all volunteers have a completed background check for this year. **Note:** this is a Fall Festival for all ages, not a Halloween event, so please keep your decorations witch, demon, and scary free!

Dress Code Reminder

Leggings cannot be worn as pants, even on gym or no uniform days. Under skirts or shorts is fine.

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Staying Home for Illness

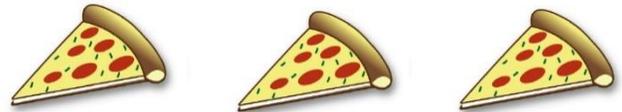
We appreciate that many of you seem to be erring on the side of caution when our kids are ill and keeping them (and sometimes siblings) home. With the prep-work required to shift to a digital format (especially in the younger grades), our teachers may not be able to post everything in Google Classroom. If your child 3rd-8th grade student is feeling well enough to do some work, some of their assignments will be posted online, often after the class period. Everything else will be available when they return to school. We will work with your child for extended deadlines to get caught up with the work they missed. If your child will be out more than 3 days, let your teacher or the office know and we will work with your family to make more comprehensive arrangements based on your situation.

Skillet Fundraiser

We are selling tickets for a Broasted Chicken Dinner for Four from the Skillet. For \$25, each ticket includes 8 pieces of broasted chicken, 1 pint of mashed potatoes, ½ pint of chicken gravy, 1 pint Kluski noodles, 1 pint seasoned green beans, 4 yeast rolls with honey butter, & an 8” pan of double chocolate brownies. The tickets don’t expire until April 30th, 2021 so save it for a tough week or give it as a gift. These tickets make great stocking stuffers!

Pizza Pizza Pizza!

St. Paul, South Bend is hosting a fundraiser with the Roundbelly’s on Saturday, November 7th with a portion of the funds to be donated to RLA. The “pizza bus” will parked at St. Paul from 11am-3pm with their full menu of \$12 pizzas. See attachment for your delicious options.



Yard Signs for Sale

If you or someone you know would like a double-sided RLA yard sign, they can be purchased in the office for \$12. If you let Miss Lisa know, she can bring it out to your car if you don’t want to come into the building.

Safety First, Phone Calls Later

The use of cell phones are not permitted in a school zone (like our parking lot). If you need to take or make a phone call, pull into a designated parking space before doing so. Keep our kids safe by keeping your attention on cars, car doors, and pedestrians. Many of our kiddos are short enough to be hard to see.

Morning Carline

Please help us keep the carline moving smooth & expediently. If you need to get out of your car to assist your child in any way, pull past the crosswalk so the drop off line can continue to flow.