



# Being Wise in an Ever-Foolish Culture



We all want to protect our kids...from childproof locks to organic food to bicycle helmets to purity guidelines. Where do we start? Sometimes it is easy to look at our culture and forget that God is still in control—He is not changed by culture or its craziness. Many times throughout the Bible the culture was not godly and God's people were forced to live out their faith in spite of many obstacles.

It is easy to feel we are simply reacting to so many bad things in our culture. As Christians we are called to be PRO-ACTIVE. Culture doesn't dictate what we believe or how we live our lives. God has called us to actively influence our culture. God works in our lives and uses us to influence people to know and understand His way.

**How can we be wise in this culture?** Here are a few things to remember:

**People in our culture are not the enemy.** Satan is the enemy and he is blinding the eyes of people so they don't see the glorious gospel of Christ. Caleb Kaltenschach, raised by two lesbians, was told by his mother that Christians hate gays. He was surprised when a Christian invited him to a Bible study at his high school. That is where he accepted Christ as his Savior. We must be salt and light in this world; we must be engaging others with the truth in a loving way.

**We must diligently pursue truth and love first (Deuteronomy 6:5-6).** We can never pass on what we don't possess. We must be actively filling our minds with God's truth, the Bible—read it, listen to podcasts, write Bible verses on cards and leave them throughout your house.

**Fill your kids' minds with truth.** Deuteronomy 6:7-9 mentions four teaching moments—at home, on the road, going to bed, and getting up. Seize those teachable moments. For example, at the dinner table, find a devotional book to read at breakfast, work on memorizing a Bible verse at lunch, or talk about your day at dinner. Get wisdom from the Bible (Proverbs is a great book: 31 chapters, one a day). Read them stories to build their character. Use stories to build truth into their minds. Share a simple object lesson: put a ping-pong ball in a pitcher of water and ask them to get it out without touching it or the pitcher. (You do it by filling the pitcher with water.) We need to fill our kids' minds with good things to wash out all the garbage. We are



purified by the Word He has spoken to us, so fill up your kids' minds with good things to wash out all the garbage.

**Set boundaries.** This looks different for each family. We must not judge one another for the choices, but we must decide what is best for *our* family according to the principles of God's Word. What are your boundaries for technology, for extracurricular activities, etc.? Like guardrails on a road, boundaries can help keep us safe.

**Associate with people who believe like you do.** Be faithful to church (one of best ways to find good friends for yourself and your kids). Love your spouse. Have fun! Build good memories. But most importantly, pray—for yourself and for your kids (James 1:5).

