

## **Captivated by Jesus : Brian Andrew**

Deuteronomy 6.5-7

What two things are we to do with God's commands?

What is most important to enable our children to learn about God?  
Church? Family Devotions? ?????? These are good ....but.....

We have to get the Word, God's truth, into our head and heart and inside us and our children. How do we do that?

Have a Word enriched vocabulary. Know the Word and speak it.

When Brian or his brothers complained about each other, their mother told them: "Why complain about the speck in your brother's eye." What is the rest of that quote?

Matthew 7.3.

Do we ever criticise others without looking at ourselves? Sometimes? Never?  
Lots?

Brian emphasized the importance of telling our family history – narrative, story telling grows happy children naturally, says one survey.

Do you think this is useful to do?

The survey continues that such story telling builds emotional health and happiness in children, and helps them find their place in the world. It doesn't matter if what we are telling is the good or not so good parts of our story, What do you think? Is this true?

The Bible tells stories of people's lives, the good and the bad.

Jesus' genealogy/background is given in Matthew. If we look into these people's lives we see that not all of them were squeaky clean.

Look at the genealogy and think of some examples of good or not so good.

So when we tell our story, the way we grew up, include the mistakes

Tell your experiences with God, how you became a Christian, what caused you to make that decision.

Are we captivated by Jesus? Brian says after 42 years, he is.

What do you think being captivated by Jesus means?

It's not just a concept, an idea, but a reality,

The Bible is God's story. The Gospels are Jesus' story. Paul's story is told in Acts and his letters.

Briefly tell these stories in your group.

So tell your story. Before Jesus – encounter with Jesus – life with Jesus

John 20.21-22 is our commission,

The disciples were shattered after Jesus' death, everything they had believed and trusted in and hoped for was gone. Jesus came to bring them peace and to send them with the help of the Holy Spirit to tell the story.

### **The Greatest Story**

A perfect world – when two people were fearless, innocent, in tune with each other and with God

A fatal attraction – when something else is offered. There is a choice which if taken up, and paradise is lost. Death becomes a reality.

A breath-taking gift – When Christ comes to bring life by his own death

A great adventure – living with the help of the Holy Spirit when we accept Jesus' sacrifice of himself for us.

### **A prayer**

Hello God, Thank you for creating me to enjoy your perfect world. I'm sorry I gave in to the fatal attraction of making me the centre of everything.

Thank you Jesus for dying on the cross to cleanse the pollution of my heart.

Please forgive me.

I accept your breath-taking offer to be my Saviour I invite you to take up residence in my heart.

I want to begin the great adventure. Amen