

# Kevin's Komments – Parent Newsletter 10/7/2013

## Upcoming Schedule:

10/9 – Discipleship night

10/16 – Service night

10/23 – DWU youth night featuring the Skit Guys

10/30 – Fun night

11/3 – Community Dodgeball

\* You can see our full schedule up to Christmas on the church web site:

<http://www.firstreformed.com/youth/index.htm>

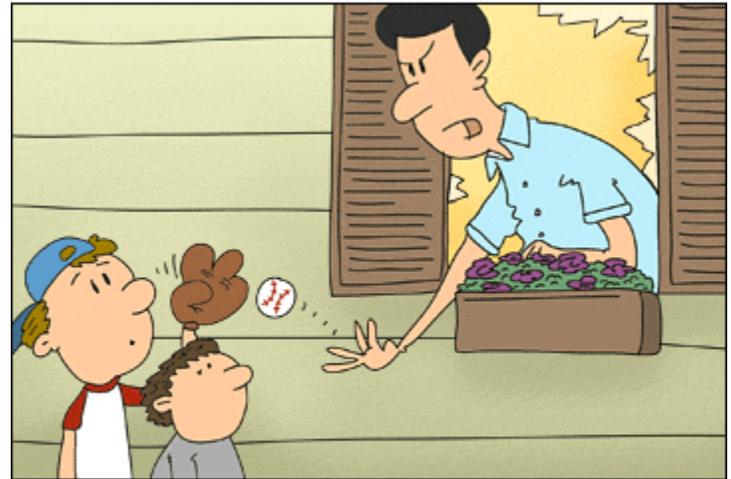
You can get a feel for what the Skit Guys are like at their web site: <http://skitguys.com/>

## For Parents Only...

Over the next few newsletters I plan to share some excerpts from a book called “For Parents Only” by Shaunti Feldhahn and Lisa Rice.

“One recent fall weekend, I (Shaunti) went tent camping with my family and some good friends. With four couples and eight children under the age of seven, there were lots of laughter, not much sleep, and plenty of great memories. One memory in particular will be burned into my brain for the rest of my life. After joining some other campers – a youth group – on a hayride, we all piled out of the hay wagon and began strolling back toward the camping area. One of the youth group parents smiled at our small children. ‘Oh, enjoy this time, while they look like this,’ she said. Then she turned around and gestured at the group of tall, lanky teenagers now walking far ahead of us on the rolling country road. ‘Because in the blink of an eye, they’re going to look like that.’ As if on cue, our little ones began to break free from our hands and skip ahead, first walking, then running down the hill. The rays of setting sun seemed to capture a portrait of the small admirers racing toward the supercool teenagers... racing toward growing up. I couldn’t stop the tears from leaping to my eyes.

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(See Matthew 18:21-35)

10-12-2012

THIS IS THE SEVENTIETH TIMES SEVENTH  
TIME I'VE FORGIVEN YOUR BASEBALL THROUGH  
MY WINDOW ... THIS IS THE LAST TIME!

As any parent can attest, there's a lot we don't 'get' about our kids, a lot that leaves us feeling baffled. Why does a little girl who wants to be your best friend one minute become painfully embarrassed by your existence the next? What causes a normally good-natured teenager to yell something hot headed and even cruel, then run to his room and slam the door? What provokes a firmly grounded, responsible youth to start questioning everything your family believes in? Most important, what do we do about it?

In the chapters ahead we're not going to focus as much on these confusing – even infuriating – outward behaviors and attitudes as we are on the inner feelings, needs, and temptations that often lead to those behaviors. And as we do, we'll get a much clearer sense of what our kids need from us. As parents, we are often so busy putting out fires that it's hard to be settled and confident in guiding children along the ups and downs of the road to adulthood (p. 1-3). “

### **A Little Humor...**

An elderly man was desperately ill. Knowing the time for his departure was near, he called for his closest friends to come see him one last time. Attending him were his doctor, his pastor and his business manager.

The old man said, “I know you can't take it with you, but who knows for sure? What if the experts are mistaken? I want to account for all possibilities. So I'm giving you each an envelope containing \$100,000. When I die, I want you each to slip the envelope in my jacket pocket at the funeral service. Then, if I do need money in the life to come, I'll be ready. And I'm giving the envelopes to you because you are my most trusted friends.”

Shortly thereafter, the man did die. Each of his three friends was seen slipping something into the deceased's coat pocket as he walked up to the casket to pay his final respects.

Following the service, while these friends were visiting with each other, the doctor, with a sheepish look on his face, said, “Guys, I have a confession to make. You know with the cost of medicine today, I don't make that much money. The hospital is desperate for funds. We can't even replace the CAT scan machine that's broken down. So, I took \$20,000 for the new CAT scan and put the rest in the coffin.”

The minister cleared his throat and looked down at his shoes. He said, “I, too, have a confession to make. As you know, our church is seriously overburdened by the needs of the homeless.

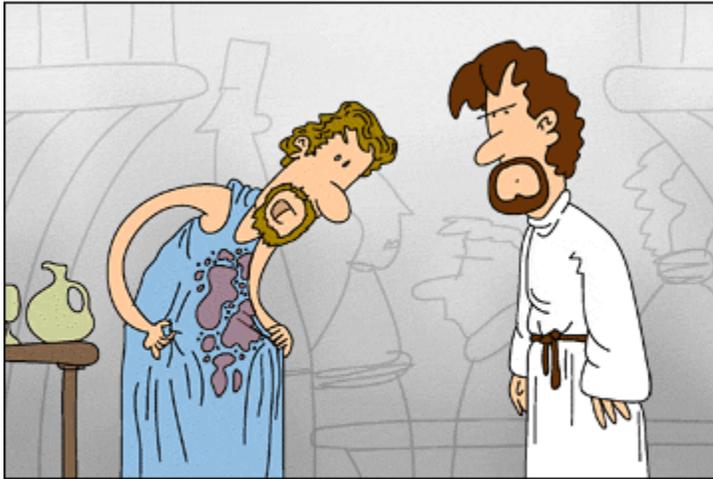
I couldn't just see burying that money. So, in hopes of helping the homeless, I took \$50,000 out of the envelope and put the rest in his pocket.”

Looking sternly at the doctor and the minister, the businessman exclaimed, “I can't believe what I'm hearing. I am astonished and deeply disappointed that you would treat a solemn

trust so casually. He was our friend. I want you to know that I placed in his casket my personal check for the full \$100,000.”

<http://www.sermoncentral.com/illustrations/SearchResults.asp?Category=Humor&Page=1&Sort=rank&keyword=life&ScriptureBookA2=&ScriptureVerse2=&TopicID=0&since2=0>

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(See John 2:1-11)

10-05-2012

IS THERE ANY CHANCE YOU COULD TURN JUST  
A LITTLE BIT OF THAT WINE BACK INTO  
WATER?