

## Bermudian Church of the Brethren

**WEDNESDAY'S WORD** – a midweek thought from Pastor Larry M. Dentler  
to share a word of inspiration ... encouragement ... challenge ... a smile ... in the middle of your week  
April 15, in the year of our Lord 2020 – #832

### Lessons from Living with A Two-Year-Old in Quarantine

Having 10-year-old Jericho and 2-year-old Jaxsen in our home makes the Dentler household always a lively place! But these “stay-at-home” quarantine days have especially been a learning time for us all. Jericho is so easy going. He’s learning to do homework from home, rides his bike, plays with his strap, climbs “Jericho Rock,” and enjoys his video games. But Baby Jax makes me laugh. He goes through life full throttle. He loves his Pap and that face lights up when I come thru the door. It has occurred to me that we could all learn some lessons from Jax as we live thru this difficult time.

**Listen to Momma** – When Jax gets in trouble it is usually for not listening to his mother. That can be a tough lesson to learn for a strong willed 2-year-old. For us it’s “*Listen to The Father.*” In this time more than ever it is important that we spend time “listening” to the Father ... and we do that thru spending time in His Word.

***“But God will bless all who listen to the Word of God and carefully obey everything they hear.”*** Luke 11:28 TPT

**Take A Nap** – Jax goes thru life hard. And then just winds down. With his “casey” (the pillow case he likes to hold) and his “neena” (pacifier) and his little sleepy song... you know it’s time for a nap. This time we are living thru can be exhausting emotionally & physically! Even Jesus paused in the midst of intense ministry for rest. Make sure you are getting adequate rest. And ‘minister’ to each other by giving each other sometime & space for quiet and rest.

***“Let’s go off by ourselves to a quiet place and rest awhile.”*** Mark 6:31 NLT

**Laugh!** – Jax has the deepest laugh when something strikes him funny, and most of the time he is such a happy boy. This time can be stressful for families all being cooped up together. Find joy! A family favorite funny movie. Tell some kids jokes. Remember and re-tell those funny times in your family history. Laugh together!!

***“A joyful, cheerful heart brings healing to both body and soul.”*** Proverbs 17:22 TPT

**But It’s OK to Cry** – Just as Jax laughs hard... he cries hard. It breaks Pap’s heart but sometimes those tears just have to come. These are stressful and uncertain days. Emotions can be on raw edge. It’s OK! The Lord cried too! He understands! Tears can be prayer.

***“I have heard your prayer and seen your tears...”*** 2 Kings 20:5 NIV

**Routine & Familiar Is Good** – Jax has a couple Disney movies that he asks for over & over again. Knows them by heart. But there is some comfort in the familiar. Try to have a regular schedule for things as much as possible. Meal times. Devotion times. School times. Game

time. TV time. Bed time. The Lord created life with a rhythm. Days. Seasons... there is comfort in the rhythm of life. God is a God of order.

***"As long as the earth continues, there will always be a time for planting and a time for harvest. There will always be cold and hot, summer and winter, day and night on earth."*** Genesis 8:22 ERV

**Love Each Other** – The first time Jax saw me on TV for our worship video, he just laughed and laughed and put his little head to the ground to try to do a somersault. He kept looking at the TV and then at me and saying, “*Pap Pap!*” Being together can place a strain. We can get grouchy with each other. Be patient with one another. Be gracious with one another. Forgive one another. Remember to express love... often!

***"Above all, constantly echo God's intense love for one another, for love will be a canopy over a multitude of sins."*** 1 Peter 4:8 TPT

**Worship!** – When we put Jax to bed we have a time of singing and prayer. He loves the songs about Jesus. When we sing “*Jesus Loves Me,*” he emphasizes with great gusto the “*Yes!*” He loves the new word we learned for Palm Sunday, “*Hosanna!*” And loves to shout his version of “*Hallelujah!*” It soothes his soul and settles him for rest. One evening Cathy and I were watching a Gaither Homecoming video and when a lively praise song came on, he stood up from where he had been playing with both hands in the air! We are all missing gathering on Sundays for worship, but I hope you’ve been tuning in to our recorded worship / message each Sunday. And, one of the unexpected blessings of this “season” is almost all churches are posting worship opportunities. YouTube videos like ours, Facebook Live, Livestreamed services. I’ve been watching services from little churches like the North Liberty Church in IN (where I served for 8 years), and large ones like the Ocean View Church in Myrtle Beach that I attend when I’m there. Franklin Graham had a message this past Sunday, Max Lucado has a daily Facebook message. Sight & Sound’s “Jesus” was televised. The wonderful TV series “The Chosen” about the life of Christ can be streamed or seen on DVD. There are just so many opportunities right now. Raise those hands and worship Him!

***"As you serve Him, be glad and worship Him. Sing your way into His presence with joy!"*** Psalm 100:2 TPT

O dear ones, I pray you are doing more than surviving these days... I pray you are thriving! You are greatly loved! You are not alone! The Church is alive & well! And today... ***"a little child shall lead (us)."*** (Isaiah 11:6)

Jaxsen's Pap Pap, Pastor Larry <><