

OCTOBER 2022



I remember when my daughter Jasmine announced that she and her husband Brian were going to have a baby. I was so excited. My daughter made me a T-shirt that said, “I am a Studly Grandpa.” And yes, I have photos of my precious grandchildren everywhere. These grandchildren are all mine.

To have a grandchild, I have been told, is the greatest, and I agree. All of the mistakes I have made as a parent, I can now mend; I am going to spoil my grandchildren like no child has been spoiled before. And listen closely, no Grandparent books or guidelines for me. I know what my job is: spoil, spoil, spoil. **CHANGING DIAPERS IS OPTIONAL.**

The Apostle Paul once said, *“Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor”* (Romans 12.9-10). Look once more at this last clause, *“...outdo one another in showing honor.”*

God's desire for us is to spoil each other. Spoil each other with honor just as God spoils us with his honor. I understand that “outdoing” and “spoiling” are two different words, but the word “spoil” does give us a sense of what the Apostle Paul is asking us to do. Be like a spiritual grandparent and spoil your brothers and sisters in Christ. Tell them how much you love and appreciate them. Find whatever opportunity you can to express words and acts of kindness. Like any grandparent, spend time with them, enjoy them, and show a glitter of pride in your eyes.

At Beth Eden and Aldersgate, we take relationships very seriously. This is what church life is all about: building healthy relationships; caring for each other, loving each other, forgiving each other, and accepting each other. You see, the church is the Master's woodshop. There is a little dust about, as well as, imperfections. But the Master is here, with us, so let us work together by spoiling each other with the same grace that God has given to us.

Let us pray: Gracious and loving God, you have called us to love one another just as you have loved us. Through your Spirit, help me to be loving and caring. Help me to be understanding and forgiving. Help me to spoil others by building them up and not tearing them down. Help me to outdo others in showing love. Amen.

OCTOBER SERMONS, 2022

October 2nd - The Blame Game, John 9:1-12

October 9th - Alone No More, Matthew 28:16-20

October 16th - Who Is Saved? Matthew 7:21-29

October 23rd - Give Me Proof..., Matthew 14:22-33

October 30th - The Axe Lies At The Root, Matthew 3:1-12