

There is a certain element of risk involved when teaching your children Biblical truths. Our older son, Brady, became a Christian 4 years ago at the age of 7. Since that time he would periodically remind his brother, Anthony, who is 2 years younger, that he was going to Hell. When we would talk to Brady about this, he would respond, "Well, it is true." Yes, from a theological standpoint he was correct. We tried to encourage him to change his approach in helping Anthony get to a point of understanding what Jesus had done for him. In one way, we were glad Anthony did not give in to the pressure from his older brother. When he was ready to make the decision on his own, which he did this past April, it was truly his decision.

Over the past 4 years we have started, and restarted 'Family Devotion' time in our home a few times. These lessons have ranged from going outside and sitting under an umbrella and being sprayed with water to illustrate God's protection around us, to turning out all the lights in the house to illustrate living in darkness as compared to living in the light. Some of these devotions would work out just as I had hoped they would, while others would end up with my wife and I sitting alone at the table because both boys had to be sent to their room. There has been one constant the last 4 years that has had a great impact on the boy's decision to follow Jesus Christ.

Every morning the boys and Sharon would have a devotion time over breakfast. A daily devotion was read followed by a 5 minute reading time on their own. I believe this impacted greatly Brady and Anthony's decision to follow Jesus Christ. In fact, Brady made that decision one morning during devotion time. Anthony, before getting in the shower one night, asked us if he could pray to ask Jesus into his heart anywhere. When told yes, he got in the shower and started praying. The boys introduction to Jesus Christ was in the home and I feel they made those decisions at home because this where they felt most comfortable. We love our church and the opportunities it offers, but our home is where the boys need to learn biblical truths.