

Series Explanation

Everyone who reads the Bible has questions. No matter how old you are or how long you have been following Jesus, if you spend any time studying Scripture you are going to have questions. Sometimes you hear things around the church that make you wonder if the idea is in the Bible at all!

Q1: Heaven gained another angel!

This phrase, or a similar phrase about gaining angel wings, is used when someone dies. People who use the phrase are always trying to comfort someone or honor a loved one. We can hardly fault them for their motive. Try as we may to be loving, helpful and kind, we really can heap dirt in the hole of progress we are trying to dig. This is one of many ways we can open our mouths and inadvertently stick a foot in there!

Who are we?

Like angels, we are beings created by God. "Angel" in both Greek and Hebrew means "messenger." Angels are often depicted in Scripture as carrying a message from God. Humans are different though. We are image bearers of God! In the creation narrative, God said, "Let us make mankind **in our image, in our likeness**, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground" (Genesis 1:26). God created humans to reflect His creativity, responsibility, authority and majesty! We are different than angels!

Since then, humans messed up and are no longer as we were created. Because of that, we are under the impact of a status change. David wrote of this in Psalm 8. "You have made them a little lower than the angels and crowned them with glory and honor" (v. 5). We are lower because of sin, but a time is coming when we will be restored as God originally intended. Until then, we find restoration in Christ's sacrifice that returns the glory and honor God wanted us to have.

Simply, we are different than angels and uniquely created to reflect God and bring him glory!

Q2: Spare the rod, spoil the child.

Did Jesus really say that? Of course not! At least not according to the bible. The phrase, "spare the rod and spoil the child" is not a Christian phrase at all. That phrase is found in a narrative poem written in the 1600s titled "Hudibras" by Samuel Butler

[Proverbs 13:24](#) says, "He who withholds his rod hates his son, but he who loves him disciplines him diligently."

When we look at the verse, "He that withholds the rod hates his son," one needs to understand the tools shepherds used in tending their sheep.

They used a crook to lift sheep out of holes they had fallen into, and they used the rod, a straight stick, to guide them.

The sheep were not beaten with the rod. "Sparing the rod" in that sense, means that a parent must guide his or her child and teach the child right from wrong. The word "discipline" comes from the same root word as "disciple," and discipline is teaching, training, setting an example of proper behavior, and giving consequences that help a child learn how to behave better.

Our motivation for the discipline of our children is to show them their sinfulness and point them to Christ.

Family Night Big idea – Read Proverbs 18:21

Our words have power and we must use them wisely.

- **Elementary School** – Ask, "What is something you've said that hurt someone's feelings?"
- **Middle/ High School** – Ask, "Is there something you've said that you wish you could take back??"

Prayer "Lord, we know that what we say matters. Even when we are trying to be helpful, sometimes the words don't come out right. Help us be wise about things we say. Amen."

Velocity (Middle and High School Students)

Velocity: Meet at the church this Wednesday, Jan. 24th.

Gravity: No Gravity Today

Today's Songs

The Lion and the Lamb.....Big Daddy Weave
Who You Say I Am.....Hillsong
This is My Song.....Northpoint Worship

Kenya Correspondence

You can now correspond with the student you sponsored. There is a mailbox in the hallway for your letters, cards, and pictures. Everything needs to be flat and 11x14 or smaller. We will send to Kenya monthly.

New Series Starts Today

Tyler and Chad will examine statements that we think come from the Bible but in reality, find their origin elsewhere. The series title is "Did Jesus Really Say That?".

Father/ Daughter Dance

Dance is February 9th at 6pm at Pine Needle Plantation (2891 Ellis Rd., Register). Tickets are on sale now. Cost is \$30 per couple. Register at the Welcome Desk in the Lobby or online.

Look Up Lodge

Summer Camp for current 3rd-5th graders, May 28-31. Cost is \$249. Registration Online or KidsJAM. First 20 students to register and pay \$100 deposit, secures a spot.