

# **RETURN TO THE HIDING PLACE**

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## **Randy Frazee Teaching Example**

### **Return to the Hiding Place - Sermon #1**

## **Training Leaders to Take a Stand**

**JOKE:** Little boy presented his report card to his father. He says “Dad, here’s my report card along with one of your old report cards I found in the attic. The father responded, you’re absolutely right, my old report card isn’t any better than your’s. So it only seems fair that I give you what my father gave me.

Raising children is tough business. It takes wisdom. Each kid is different. Raising our children is one thing, but raising our children to love and follow God is another level all together.

### **SETUP for RHP Clip:**

In 1940’s Netherlands, there was a group of courageous Christian teens. Nazi’s were exterminating Jews. In 1945 when Hitler was defeated 6 million of an estimated 9 million Jews had been killed.

Hans Poley told the writer Peter Spencer that when populations are taken over a 5/5/90 rule engages. **5% of the population** were engaged in these horrific acts – **5% population** were engaged in resisting. **90% did absolutely nothing** but sit back and watch to see who won. Christians like Corrie were among the 5% who did something as seen in *Return to the Hiding Place* film, sequel to the *Hiding Place*. *The Hiding Place* film was produced by Billy Graham Evangelistic Assoc and was the top Christian film of its time. This was the story Corrie ten Boom and her family who provided safe houses and safe passageways for Jews during WWII.

*Return to the Hiding Place* is about the Teenage Resistance Army which rose up and helped save Jews with Corrie. They gave up their lives and their college education to help smuggle Jews to safety. They helped save over 800 Jews in the Netherlands. Many kids lost their lives in the process. Peter Spencer is the Writer/Director/Exec. Producer of *Return to the Hiding Place*. This true story is told through the perspective of Hans Poley, the first teenager to go into hiding in the ten Boom home. This is a MUST SEE movie. Here is a clip from *Return to the Hiding Place*. A Jewish Rabbi asks Hans why he would risk his life to save people he doesn’t know.

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## **RHP Clip: Hans & Eusie on stairs**

Eusie was one of the 800 Jews who survived. He declared “the war was won not by men and armies but by girls and boys who humbled themselves before God” and God exalted that. They believed in God deep in their heart. Jesus was real to them. We as parents should desire for our children to have that kind of deep faith in God and want that for our kids. Hans’ faith is radical. The reality is that our kids are going to need that kind of faith in the culture we live in. When Randy grew up the values of the culture mirrored his Christian values. But TODAY, it has been DECLARED. The war has been fought - **we live in post Christian nation and our children will need a different brand of faith.**

## **[Insert RHP Clip – Will of the Students]**

The question becomes what is the best pathway to hold this kind of faith?

**WHO?** Who is the best person to get them there? The Who is you (parents)

3 Reasons why come from Scripture: Ephesians 6:4 – ***fathers do not exasperate your children; instead but bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.***

**Reason 1:** Parents involved in the spiritual development of their children makes a huge difference. Usually the mother takes on responsibility for the children. Fathers need be involved. Both being involved will dramatically affect the end result. Dad’s need take point man responsibility. With the combination of mother and dad working together, there is a better chance for success. (include disclaimer single parent households. God will find a way to provide for their needs)

**Reason 2:** Parents have the power. God has wired an amazing bond between a parent and a child that just cannot be replaced by anybody else. The impact is stronger if their parent shows up and participates in the spiritual training of child. Even if we put the best Bibleland teacher with your child 24/7, it wouldn’t compare to impact of an average parent showing up with a big heart to see their children follow the Lord.

**Reason 3:** Parents have access. There are 168 hours in a week. In yesteryear, churches used to have 3-5 hours a week with a child to help them in their spiritual journey. People used to go to church Sunday morning, Sunday evening and on Wednesday. Statistics today state families show up about 1.2 times a month to

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church and count them as a seriously committed family. This adds up to less than 30 minutes a week to help build up your children spiritually. In Texas we say “that dog won’t hunt.” It won’t work. Parents have access to the other 167 hours.

**Deuteronomy 6:4-9** – *“Hear oh Israel. The Lord your God, the Lord is One. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all of your soul and with all of your strength. These commandments that I give to you today are to be on your hearts. FIRST PRIORITY: Must first be on your heart as parents before you train up your child. Continued... Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit down at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down, when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.”*

Parents are the ones carting their children around. They are there at mealtimes, there when kids are going to bed, when they are sick, etc. In the spirit of **Carpe Diem** – seize the day for the sake of your children. Parents feel intimidated in this role especially dads. They feel guilty.

**JOKE:** Randy’s solution is that he is equipped because he has a several degrees – both under graduate and graduate. That is what Randy suggests for congregation. The church has several applications for seminaries that parents can choose from. It’s all about applications. Parents need to get equipped. Sure, it will take 8 years and you will be equipped, but downside is that your kids will be grown.

No, just kidding, that’s why we go to church to learn from those who are trained like Randy. They come along side **NOT** take the responsibility. That’s why you come to church. Let’s take a look at the “WHAT”.

**WHAT:** Equip your children in what the Bible says – how to live out the life that Christ made available to them through his death and resurrection.

**Colossians 2:6-7:** *So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in Him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.* Two phrases that stick out: “just as you received...as you were taught...”

The Christian faith is set up to be passed down generation to generation.

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**PROMISE:** If you commit to this journey, it will pass down your faith to your children. In the process of this journey your life will be anchored in too. This process will need more than 30 minutes a week per month. You must be in church every week and break the statistics.

**Joke** – There is only one excuse that will be accepted as a legitimate excuse and that is if you or your children are coughing up small farm animals. (coughs) Oh, there's a little piglet...(cough) Oh there's a rooster... You must bring in the animal you coughed up for it to be signed off as a legitimate excuse.

**HOW:** How can we take this goal of being the spiritual leader of your home and make it something extremely tangible?

Parents must engage their own faith first before passing it on to their children. Moms and dads must engage first. Then engage your family.

Research shows that the character of your child has been formed by age 5; after that your child would have to experience a reformation to change. The first 5 years are given to us by the environment and the people around us. What parents say to their children will have more impact on them than anything you say for the rest of their life.

If your child is very young on week 1– pray daily over your child that they will come to know the one true God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Week 2 – pray your little child comes to know that God is involved in and cares about her daily life. Week 3 - pray for your child's salvation and right relationship with Jesus through faith. It will shape who they will become.

Discussion is where the power is not in having the right answers. Parents need to take leadership with their teens. Take leadership and tell them you want to read out loud together. Do not let teenagers pull the wool over your eyes. If they push back and say they do not want to read they are just seeing how much their parents want to do it. When the children become adults, they will point to that experience knowing that their parents wanted them to believe.

Families need to make a commitment and bring their families to church every week. There is Power in the memorization of Scripture.

**WHEN:** the time **is now**. Randy & Roseanne are now empty nesters. They had many ideas and dreams of how they would help their children in their spiritual life.

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All sudden one day, they woke up and their children were gone. Before you know it – time is now.

Randy is hoping that at the end of the study all of the children will bring their report cards to their parents and instead of getting a swat on their behinds, parents will sing praises of what God has done in both the lives of the parents and their children. There are very few things more important than raising our children to be like Jesus. It requires a deep faith that mirrors that of Hans Poley, and the courageous teenagers of the resistance army.

## **CLOSING STORY:**

The ***Believe*** story book was written by Randy along with Steve Adams who was the illustrator. The publisher wanted them to send in their dedication after finishing the book. Randy and Roseann decided to dedicate the book to their 2 grandchildren.

Steve Adams is a Canadian Illustrator, renown for his work with the Wall Street Journal, Harvard Business Review, secular children's books from Penguin's Books and others, sent in his dedication with letter. As he studied the scriptures to illustrate the book, he got to the end and he finally "got it." It was through this experience that he became a believer of Jesus Christ. He said these are the things that his father had tried to teach him when he was little but he didn't embrace it. His father has since passed away and he is not here to see this day. Therefore he dedicated the book in loving memory of his father who inspired him. What does it mean? If parents will be courageous and train their children to follow the Lord, you have put them in the best possible position to follow the Lord all the days of their life. They may not receive it right away. If you do your part there is a good chance they will be coming back. It might not be in your lifetime, but never give up hope.

Close in prayer.