THINGS THE WORLD WON’T TEACH OUR CHILDREN
(Ephesians 6:4)

I. **Lying is sin.**
   A. We live in a world where dishonest businessmen, politicians and TV figures do terrible things to the truth.
      1. They do it very well.
      2. So well in fact that many times we find it difficult to remember what is true and what is not.
   B. If we, as adults, find it difficult, what do you think it does to children?
   C. Lies are heard constantly on TV and in the media.
      1. Evolution is taught as fact.
      2. Characters on TV shows lie to their parents and to one another constantly.
         a. A few years ago, a craze swept the religious world that involved using episodes of Andy Griffith as Bible class material.
         b. I always found it humorous in a sad way, because, as good as that show was, those actors lied all the time to each other.
   D. The Bible plainly teaches that all lying is sinful (Exodus 23:1; Revelation 21:8; 22:15).
   E. You won’t find exceptions made for the littlest “white” lie or a little coloring of the truth, or lying for the end to justify the means.
   F. God simply says, “Don’t lie” and the world doesn’t teach that.

II. **Think of others first.**
   A. We live in a “Me first” society.
   B. Everyone is looking out for number one.
   C. This is far from what God wants.
      1. Philippians 2:3.
      2. We are to put others before ourselves.
   D. The times in which we live are for self-promoters and the selfish.
      1. God never intended for that to be the case.
   E. We have the responsibility to teach this to our children because the world won’t.

III. **Respect those in authority.**
   A. If you watch kids shows, cartoons or children’s movies, or many sitcoms, this is far from what is being taught.
      1. Parents are depicted as idiots of whom the children can take advantage very easily.
      2. Those in authority in schools are shown to be incapable of any type of teaching.
      3. Policemen and other law enforcement officers are shown to be inept, clueless or even corrupt.
   B. It hasn’t always been like this, but now it is.
C. If our children grow up thinking that all authority is for questioning and to be disobeyed how will they ever submit to the ultimate Authority - Jesus Christ?

D. We need to teach Romans 13:1ff.

E. We need to teach them Hebrews 13:17.

F. We need to teach them to respect coaches, teachers, umpires or referees or anyone that is in charge.

G. We must teach them to respect elders, deacons and teachers in the church.

H. The world refuses to teach such but we, as Christians, must teach these things to our children.

IV. Be careful what you allow in your body.

A. Alcohol is constantly being promoted on television.
   1. It seems to our children that everyone drinks.
   2. It is as if you can’t go to a sporting event without it.

B. Drugs are extremely prevalent in our society.
   1. At least one state has even legalized marijuana use.
   2. Others allow it for medical purposes.

C. Our children must be taught that their body is a temple (1 Corinthians 6:19).

D. We must teach them that the use of alcohol is sinful and that drugs will kill them or others if they use such (Galatians 5:19-21).
   1. Drunkenness is sinful and you can’t get drunk without taking the first drink.
   2. Witchcraft is from the Greek word from which we have derived the English word pharmacy and it carries the idea of drug use.

E. The world sees nothing wrong with drinking or drug use but we must teach our children such is sinful.

V. Homosexuality is a deviant lifestyle choice.

A. This blight on humanity is being pushed down our throats.
   1. There is an agenda being pushed by LGBT community.
   2. If you speak against them they wanted you treated as a criminal and a racist.

B. It is on TV, in movies and magazines.

C. It is even pushed on HGTV.

D. God condemns this lifestyle choice as sinful and we must teach this to our children.
   1. Just because legislation may be passed or the Boy Scouts can now have gay scout leaders, doesn’t mean it has changed in God’s eyes.
   2. It is still sinful (1 Corinthians 6:9-10).
      a. Effeminate has to do with homosexuality.
      b. Abusers of themselves with mankind can be translated “sodomite.”

E. We don’t hate homosexuals: rather, we love them and want them to give up their sinful lifestyle.
1. They are no more sinful than a liar or a fornicator.
2. But we cannot accept any part of that lifestyle and be right with God.

F. The world encourages and promotes homosexuality and we must teach our children the truth about this sinful life choice.

VI. **God invented sex for marriage.**
   A. Fornication is rampant on TV shows, in books and movies.
   B. As a nation, we have things completely backwards.
      1. We first fall in lust.
      2. We then have sexual relations resulting in children.
      3. We then, maybe, get married or live together in sin.
   C. Our children need to know God's perfect blueprint for happiness - one biological woman and one biological man devoted to one another and sex as a wonderful expression of their love and devotion to one another.
   D. We can't assume our children know this.
      1. We must talk to them about it.
      2. Scripture can be shown them to let them know God’s will (Proverbs 5:15-19; Hebrews 13:4; Genesis 2:18-25).
   E. We need to tell them that sex before marriage is fornication and sex outside of marriage is adultery and both are sinful.

VII. **Being a Christian is the only way to go to heaven.**
   A. You can get to heaven many different ways according to the world.
   B. We have just been told in the last week that you don’t even have to believe in God to go to heaven by a leader of one of the world’s largest religions.
   C. Our children need to know that it is not that simple.
      1. God must be put first (Matthew 12:30).
      2. The Lord’s kingdom must be sought above all else (Matthew 6:33).
      3. We must put on Christ (Galatians 3:26-27).
   D. We must teach them there is only one way to heaven and that is by being a Christian.

The idea for this sermon came from an outline by Mark Posey.