

From the Desk of the Editor...

I apologize for this issue being a little later than usual, primarily due to Vacation Bible School last week. And, after observing all the horrible things that artificial ingredients in the VBS snacks did to the kids –including my own – my thoughts are strongly on both 1) diet and 2) misconceptions or lack of understanding that others may have about kids in general, and our kids in particular.

As all successful nursing mothers soon find out, you can't feed a breastfed baby on a bottle-feeding regime. And, as serious home schoolers eventually come to realize, true homeschooling is *not* just traditional school done at home. Likewise, it has occurred to me many times that the ideal diet is not just a meat-potatoes-vegetable fare with substitutes of vegemeats, soy milk and egg replacers (though those things may certainly be a part of it). But, like breastfeeding and home schooling, proper diet is a whole lifestyle, distinctly different in both content and format from that of the world or worldly churches.

In regard to being misunderstood or judged wrongfully, we expect it from “outsiders.” But it is especially disconcerting to find it among fellow believers, whether we are the accusers or the accused, whether dealing with children or other adults.

“How often serious difficulties arise from a simple misunderstanding, even among those who are actuated by the worthiest motives; and without the exercise of courtesy and forbearance, what serious and even fatal results may follow... While it is important on the one hand that laxness in dealing with sin be avoided, it is equally important on the other to shun harsh judgment and groundless suspicion...

“No one was ever reclaimed from a wrong position by censure and reproach; but many are thus driven further from the right path and led to harden their hearts against conviction. A spirit of kindness, a courteous, forbearing deportment may save the erring and hide a multitude of sins...

“Even under false accusation those who are in the right can afford to be calm and considerate. God is acquainted with all that is misunderstood and misinterpreted by men, and we can safely leave our case in His hands.” (PP 519-520)

