

## ***Family Driven Faith* by Voddie Baucham, Jr.**

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“Imagine the alarm if nearly 90% of our children couldn’t read when they left high school. There wouldn’t be room enough at the school board meetings to hold all of the irate parents.”

This is an issue posed by Voddie Baucham, Jr. in his recent book titled *Family Driven Faith: Doing What It Takes to Raise Sons and Daughters Who Walk With God*<sup>1</sup>.

It is a book that takes a serious look at not only the culture around us in the secular sense, but perhaps more importantly the church culture that is in many cases being even more of a negative influence on multigenerational faithfulness that should be the fundamental characteristic of the people of God.

Baucham cites Christian Smith in the first few pages as one who has conducted “the largest study of teen religion to date” in a book titled *Soul Searching*.

“Our research suggests that religious congregations *are* losing out to school and the media for the time and attention of youth. When it comes to the *formation* of the lives of youth, viewed sociologically, faith communities typically get a very small seat at the end of the table for a very limited period of time. The youth-formation table is dominated structurally by more powerful and vocal actors. Hence...most teens know details about television characters and pop stars, but many are quite vague about Moses and Jesus. Most youth are well versed about the dangers of drunk driving, AIDS, and drugs, but many haven’t a clue about their own tradition’s core ideas. Many parents also clearly prioritize homework and sports over church or youth group attendance.”

Baucham very effectively and courageously takes on the problems of not only our families but also our churches as he very insightfully places the blame squarely on the shoulders of parents who would like to point a finger at the government for taking God out of schools but who are more guilty by having first taken God out of their homes.

At this time I have not read the entire book, but I can confidently recommend it without reservation. It is a must-read for anyone raising children and striving to do so in a Biblically centered way.

I will end this short review with two things:

1. An encouragement to each of you to take some time over the summer to read this book. There are copies on the book table but it is also readily available at [www.cvbbbs.com](http://www.cvbbbs.com), [www.christianbook.com](http://www.christianbook.com), or [www.monergism.com](http://www.monergism.com).
2. A quote out of the book: “*If I teach my son to keep his eye on the ball but fail to teach him to keep his eyes on Christ, I have failed as a father. We must refuse to allow trivial, temporal pursuits to interfere with the main thing. Making the team is a tremendous achievement; however, it must be put in its proper perspective. No sports endeavor will ever be as important as becoming a man or woman of God.*”<sup>2</sup>

Grace and peace,  
kevin

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<sup>1</sup> Crossway Books, copyright 2007

<sup>2</sup> *Family Driven Faith*, pg 20