1 Cor 13:8-13

I spent a lot of time in front of the TV as a kid. After school Cartoons.

The Older I get, the more I see people living like the Cartoons and shows I used to watch as a child.

Barney Christianity: Well I hope so!

<u>Illus</u>: God, If I love you, and you love me, and were just part of one big family. With a Great big hug and kiss from me to you, won't you say you love me to?

That's Childish, you don't actually believe God is like a big PURPLE DINOSAUR do you?

Heaven is not like imagination Is. You can't just wish yourself there with the Magic Words! Shimberrie, Shimberrah, Shimberrie, Shimberah!

Don't be like Barney, Be Like Dora!

Gee boots how will we get to the enchanted Castle?

Can you say Map? If there's a place you want to go, I'm the guy you need to now I'm the Map, I'm the Map, I'm the Map, I'm the Map!

Jesus is THE WAY!

(John 14:6) Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

<u>Our problem</u>: is that we can't say BACKPACK! We can't find our bibles to save our lives.

We don't know what it says!

<u>Illus</u>: Our Bible is the last thing we think of, but the first thing we need!

We need to Quit Wishing for a Better Past and Start Preparing Ourselves for our glorious future.

Sesame St. Christianity:

Sunny Day, Sweepin' the clouds away, Come and play, everything will be A OK! Can you tell me how to get, How to get to Sesame Street?

If I could just find Happiness, Everything would just Great!

<u>Illus</u>: When the Sun shines I get Endorphins, Endorphins make me Happy! Happy people don't really have Problems. **So Don't Worry**, **Be Happy - Just Keep Smiling!**

<u>That's Childish</u>: (1 Cor 14:20) Brethren, be not children in understanding: howbeit in malice be ye children, but in understanding be men.

Christianity is not a Place you arrive at, but a Path you walk.

Learning to share and play nice is not going to get you to heaven. - (Tit 3:5; Eh 2:8-9)

But you can come to Christ as a little child!

(Mark 10:14) Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God. **Believe on Jesus.**

Being Happy Does not Mean Problem Free!

(John 16:33b) *In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.*

Being Happy is not about the things we have or don't have: (Heb 13:5) Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have:

Being Happy is realizing we are Not Walking Alone: ... for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.

(1 Pet 5:7) Casting all your care upon him for he careth for you.

<u>Christianity isn't like Barney or Sesame St.</u>, <u>Neither is it</u> <u>The Flinstones</u>: Yaba Daba Do Christianity

The 5 oclock whistle blows, Fred hops out of the earth mover and beats feet home! Its FRIDAY!!!!!

<u>Illus</u>: The Exit off 195 on to 286 North! Cars go wizzing by trying to beat the next onramp surg.

Fred gets home, Grabs the family and beats feet over to the Restaurant, orders a Super Slab of Ribs.

The waitress lugs it out to the car, hooks it to the window, and it flips the Flintstone family SUV on its side.

Yaba Daba Do!!!

When things are going our way we have a tendency to live in the flesh! We do what we want, when we want, all weekend till we drag back in on Monday Morning.

Yaba Daba Do!!!

<u>Don't We have liberty in Christ!</u> Yes, Liberty to Do Right (1 Cor 10:23) All things are lawful for me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but all things edify not.

Many times we end up using our liberty in Christ as an opportunity to Sin. (Gal 5:13) For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another.

We will be faithful to God until our flesh gets a better offer. Yaba Daba Do!!! - Living for the Weekend.

As Long as the Family still has 2 wheels on the ground and moving down the road, we think we are OK!

That's Childish!

This is why we train and discipline children!

(1 Pet 4:2) That he no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh to the lusts of men, but to the will of God.

Living for pleasure is Childish!

Illus: Ever have trouble getting the kids to like shutting off the TV and going to bed? Their Flesh doesn't want to. Illus: Li'l Audrey, hated to eat her veggies, all she ever wanted was candy. So she would feed the Dog the broccoli and eat the candy.

That's Childish: So is living for the flesh!

(Rom 8:5-8) For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit. 6 For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. 7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. 8 So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.

We cannot Escape the consequences of Living for the Flesh, It Will Mess up the family.

In Real Life, not Cartoons...

Fred can't wait play with his hobbies, Wilma gets engrossed in her Facebook relationships, Pebbles is Pregnant, and BamBams on Meth.

(Gal 6:7) Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.

Then when the family is flipped on its side from the weight of sin, we call for the Preacher to play Barney:

Illus: The Barney Bag!

With a little bit of luck and the Barney Bag, We'll see what we can make today!

With A Kiss, Prayer, and a Scripture Promise, I am supposed to take the left overs the world didn't want in your life and turn it into something pretty!

Life isn't like The Road Runner and Wild E Coyote:

Acme doesn't have a magic pump that will reinflate your life

No matter how big a Rocket you buy, you cannot catch the Road Runner of Pleasure to satisfy your flesh.

You cannot crash & burn & magically walk away w/o scars.

That's Childish: Life is not a Cartoon.

It's time for us to Grow UP!

(Luke 12:23) *The life is more than meat, and the body is more than raiment.*

(Life is More than what we Eat & what Excites us)

The Scariest Version of Carton Christianity is ...

Scooby, Scooby Do----- (Where are You?) (Heb 10:24-25)

Scooby Do: Rut Row Christianity

Everytime something goes wrong or things get scary, Scooby and Shaggy go Hide!

We Sow to the Flesh, and Pray for Crop Failure. We live for Self, rather than the Savior.

We are shocked, embarrassed, & a little annoyed when the Bill of Sin comes due & we shout RUT ROW RAGGIE, and we try and hide from our problems.

(Ecc 11:9) Rejoice, O young man, in thy youth; and let thy rased heart cheer thee in the days of thy youth, and walk in the ways of thine heart, and in the sight of thine eyes: but know thou, that for all these things God will bring thee into judgment.

Its Our Nature to Hide:

Adam and Eve tried to hide themselves from God.

Elijah ran into hard times and fled to the cave, out of the will of God and laid down, didn't take care of himself.

God ends up playing Bugs Bunny "Ehh, What's Up Doc?"

That's Childish! Grow Up!

(1 Ki 19:9) And he came thither unto a cave, and lodged there; and, behold, the word of the LORD came to him, and he said unto him, **What doest thou here, Elijah?**

That's Childish! You can't fix your problem by hiding.

You Can't lay out of church and fix your problems! You can't be right with God apart from faithfulness in church You can't be right with your spouse apart from church!

<u>That's Childish!</u> Now is not the time go and hide! <u>Illus</u>: Put off your Jammies! They aren't helping you!

Get up, take a shower & wash that Kentucky Fried Chicken hair of yours and get to church!

We don't let our kids hide from their problems in their room, not go to school/homework, not take care of their hygiene. **So why do we?**

The Problem is, we didn't trust God enough to obey, so we don't want to face him in our disobedience. How does that help us?

(Psa 18:2) The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower.

He is the One who loves me, understands me, & want to bless me:

(Ps 27:1) The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

Don't waste you life infant of the TV or Tablet.

Ladies on the View will never bring you a meal when your broke.

Ellen & Dr. Oz will never sit down with your wayward teen. Dr. Phil won't come and pray with you in the Hospital! The people on the TALK can't help your marriage.

Life is not about our wishes.

Life is not about our pleasures.

We don't fix our lives by hiding from our problems. (1 Cor 13:11) When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things.

It's time to grow up and turn to God in Humble Obedience.

And Be Saved:

Be Healed:

Be Whole:

(James 4:10) Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.