

**Protect Our House**  
**I Sam. 2:12-17; 22-25**

**Introduction:**

- A. Do you remember when you first saw your child? You were going to do all you could to protect them.
- B. However, what about when it comes to their spiritual lives? What are we doing to protect them?
- C. Some people think their kids walking away from the faith would never happen because they attend worship services. We must understand, being church-going people does not produce Christ-loving people.

**Eli and His Sons**

- A. Eli judged Israel for 40 years (I Sam. 4:18). He also served in the role of priest (I Sam. 1:9).
- B. And yet, Eli's sons were worthless men (I Sam. 2:12). Their sin was great before the Lord (I Sam. 2:17).
- C. If we want to help protect our kids spiritually, we need godly leadership in our homes.

**Prioritize Worship**

- A. Jesus prioritized worship. It was His custom to attend the synagogue on the Sabbath (Lk. 4:16).
- B. We should never forsake the assembly (Heb. 10:25).
- C. Worship is important for many different reasons, but consider these three:
  - 1. Provides the Lord the glory due Him.
  - 2. It gives us the opportunity to learn, grow and mature in our faith.
  - 3. It places us around other people of like-minded faith.

**Model Discipleship**

- A. Jesus spent 3 years modeling and molding His disciples so they could carry out His work (Matt. 4:19).
- B. Raising faithful kids will not happen by accident. We must train them (Prov. 22:6; Eph. 6:4).
- C. We need to be more concerned about training our children for spiritual success than their physical success.

**Emphasize the Word**

- A. The scriptures were of great importance in the life of Jesus (Matt. 4:11).
- B. The Bible is one of the greatest treasures we have (2 Tim. 3:16-17; Isa. 40:8).
- C. Do our lives reflect we believe the Bible is one of the greatest treasures we have (Job 23:12; Deut. 6:6-7)?

**Conclusion:**

- A. The old saying goes, "You can lead a horse to water but you can't make him drink."
- B. As leaders of our families, we can only do so much, but let's make sure we are doing the right things do help ensure the spiritual protection of our children.