

Your Choice!

A preacher friend from another city related this story some time ago. He was teaching the teen class on Sunday morning and things were going well... mostly. One morning a young man interrupted the class with a long, drawn out, “Borriinnnggg.” Some in class were interested and involved. Some were a bit passive. But this one young man was vocal and aggressive... “Boring!”

What was the problem? Boring teacher or bored student? Knowing the teacher personally, I rather suspect the problem was a student who *chose* to be bored. *Chose?* Yes, chose.

Every one of us chooses to be bored, or not! Some things may *seem* naturally interesting and some may *seem* naturally boring. But such is not the case. Your mind, consciously or subconsciously, *chooses* to be bored or interested.

Problem: some things necessary for our responsible maturing are deemed boring by the average person in our culture. For many, the things of God are in this category. Many fail to see the incredible joy in store for them if and when they are involved in spiritual growth, both practical and doctrinal.

The only antidote is to *choose* to be interested in scripture and prayer. Study a short book or section (the Sermon on the Mount, the Beatitudes, or III John. Study the outline. See the development of the flow of thought and subject matter. Apply the truths and principles you discover to your daily life. Eureka! It really is interesting.... but it is interesting to *you* only when you *choose* so. It is always self-defeating to label as boring the very things that make life go better and joy grow stronger!

I am fond of the old saying, “It’s a sin to bore a kid with the gospel.” While that may be true, it is a much deeper problem when kids (of any age) *choose* to view the gospel as “borriinnnggg” simply because it doesn’t provide the adrenaline of the latest action movie or the instant gratification of the newest video game.

The trek toward deep peace (Philippians 4:7) and abundant joy (John 15:11) can be wonderfully exciting whether in the market place of life or the solitude of a fireside prayer. The more the kids see spiritual excitement and interest in mom, dad, and other church members, the more they will see how to walk “...in His steps.” No wonder king David wrote in Ps. 119:97, “**O how I love Your law! It is my meditation all the day.**”

In His love,
Ray Wallace