



*from the desk of*

*Randy Moerbe*

## **Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads, Pt. 2**

Deuteronomy 6:6-9 (NIV) 6 These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. 7 Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. 8 ***Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads.*** 9 Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.

This week we'll be looking at the second of the Scripture sections that the Israelites were to wear - Exodus 13:11-16  
In part below:

*..... 'With a mighty hand the LORD brought us out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.... When Pharaoh stubbornly refused to let us go, the LORD killed every firstborn in Egypt, both man and animal.... And it will be like a sign on your hand and a symbol on your forehead that the LORD brought us out of Egypt with his mighty hand.'*

As New Testament Christians, the slavery that Jesus frees us from is the slavery of sin, a slavery that can bind us no less than that of slaves in Egypt.

As part of your faith conversation with your children, talk to them first about what it means to be enslaved by something.\* Follow that with a discussion of how does sin can enslave us. Depending on the age of your child and how comfortable you are with it, you could even talk about the problem our society has with pornography\*\* along with a variety of other sexual issues.\*\*\* I would strongly suggest to you that in today's world we can't assume our children/teens aren't confronted by these things!

Sin enslaves and brings destruction while at first seeming to offer wonderful things. The 19 year old Aggie student last August and the 20 year old student in December surely went out to party with the promise of a good time - only to meet their untimely deaths due to drug overdoses. Such is always the case with sin.

The time to help your children with decisions is to form the answers before facing choices. Remember the verse from 1 Peter 5:8 and help prepare your child for the world that is all around them -

*<sup>8</sup> Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.*

DCE Randy

*\*The dictionary definition of "enslaved" is to cause (someone) to lose their freedom of choice or action.*

**\*\***Teens and Young Adults Rank not Recycling As More Immoral Than Viewing Porn

When asked to rank a series of action statements (lying, over-eating, stealing, etc) according to a five-point scale: **“always OK,” “usually OK,” “neither wrong nor OK,” “usually wrong ” and “always wrong,”** teens and young adults rank **“not recycling” as more immoral than viewing** pornographic images. Combining the percentages of those who chose always and usually wrong for each statement, theft (taking something that belongs to someone else) ranked #1 at almost nine in 10 (88%). Not recycling ranked #4 at 56 percent, and porn was all the way down at #9 with only a third (32%) of teens and young adults ranking it as morally wrong. (from <https://www.barna.com/research/porn-in-the-digital-age-new-research-reveals-10-trends/>)

\*\*\*Excellent resources can be found at the Focus on the Family website – here is a link to their page on Sexuality - [http://www.focusonthefamily.com/parenting/sexuality#\\_ga=1.206773015.563366445.1479241707](http://www.focusonthefamily.com/parenting/sexuality#_ga=1.206773015.563366445.1479241707)