



There are thousands of practicing witches in the United States today. Ghost is another word for spirit. Séances, in which people attempt to communicate with the dead, are common in occult circles. So if we tell our children that all of this is make-believe, then we are **disarming their defenses** against the occult influences that really exist in our society today.

Young people who were former satanists have testified that they began dabbling in the occult with a very innocent attitude. If only someone had told them as a child that “the devil is real and he wants to destroy your life,” perhaps they would have recognized the danger they were entering.

Again, your child is not going to become a satanist because he went Trick-Or-treating. But do we really want to communicate with our child that we support what this holiday represents? 1 Thessalonians 5:22 says to, “Avoid and abstain from all appearance of evil.” Many churches offer children an alternative on October 31st, so that they don’t have to feel like they are missing out on all the fun. Often they hold a “Hallelujah Party,” in which children dress up in Bible Character Costumes and enjoy games and prizes centered around a theme that glorifies God. God said, “I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live.” (Deuteronomy 30:19)



We would like to encourage open and engaging communication with your Children regarding the evils of this world. Understanding and knowledge are the first steps to overcoming evil. The famous quote by Irish orator, philosopher and politician EDMOND BURKE (1729-1797) sums it up well, “All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing”. Reach others for Christ on this most unholy of days, share your faith boldly and hand out literature that will encourage good, solid, Christianity, and invite people to church!



CHRISTIAN FAMILY CHURCH

CHATTANOOGA

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Jesus is Lord

HALLOWEEN

SHOULD WE PARTICIPATE?



❁ TRICK OR TREAT & GOD ❁

We all have an opinion about Halloween, but what is God’s opinion? Should Christians participate in a pagan process that glorifies the dead, evil spirits, ghouls and costuming in strange and worldly characters in the name of fun? Let’s investigate the history of this practice and how it fits into Christianity and the behavior of modern Christians.





**CHRISTIAN FAMILY CHURCHES'
HALLOWEEN PRINCIPLE**

While we do not interfere with a family's right to participate in anything they choose, the churches policy is to "avoid any appearance of evil"

*I Thessalonians 5:22 (Amp) **Abstain from evil** [shrink from it and keep aloof from it] in **whatever form or whatever kind** it may be. We encourage Christians to be separate from the world and it's strange customs. 2 Corinthians 6:17 (Amp) So, Come out from among [unbelievers], and **separate (sever) yourselves** from them, says the Lord, and touch not [any] unclean thing; then I will receive you kindly and treat you with favor.*

You might say "But I did this when I was a kid and I turned out okay". That may be true. However, desensitization is a common trick (excuse the pun) of the enemy. Small, insignificant, regular touches eventually entrap people. Think about an alcoholic, they did not become an alcoholic after one drink! Regular touches of evil eventually ensnare and can hurt people. "Be careful little eyes what you see". Ignorance of the reality of continued fear has led many people to mental facilities and opened the door to spiritual attack. 2 Corinthians 2:11 To keep satan from getting the advantage over us; for we are not ignorant of his wiles and intentions. Be aware of satan's plan of destruction for you, and do not entertain it.



If a man harbors any sort of fear, it makes him landlord to a ghost. ~Lloyd Douglas

HOW DOES FEAR AND FUN MEET?

There is controversy in some circles of parents over whether or not they should allow their children to celebrate Halloween. For many Christians, these are principles opposite to Bible based Christianity.

Halloween is the most important festival of the year for witchcraft and Satanic cults. All one has to do is look around at Halloween decorations to see what the holiday celebrates. Pumpkins and Jack-O-Lanterns aside, we have mostly WITCHES, SKELETONS, AND GHOSTS. Some people even decorate their yard with TOMBSTONES. SPIDER WEBS are also a popular decoration, giving the appearance of a HAUNTED HOUSE.

WHAT DOES ALL OF THIS REPRESENT?

Halloween originally began as a feast to the pagan god, Samhain. He was known as the "Lord of the Dead." Granted, people today do not send their small children out trick-or-treating in honor of Samhain, the Lord of the Dead. But do we want to participate in this holiday at all? God said in His Word that all forms of magic, witchcraft, sorcery, spells, charms, horoscopes, and communication with the dead is an abomination (Deuteronomy 18:10 & 11).

Also, in Exodus 22:18 God says, "thou shalt not suffer a witch to live." Suffer means to permit. In the Children's International Bible there is a reference for this scripture to the dictionary in the back of the Bible. It defines witchcraft as, "using the power of the devil to do magic." Galatians 5:19-21 includes witchcraft as a work of the flesh along with murder, drunkenness, fornication, etc. Verse 21 says, "they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God."

"Wait a minute," you say, your child does not do witchcraft. It is true that letting you small child go to a Halloween Party or Trick-Or-Treating is not in itself witchcraft. But why would we want to participate in a holiday which celebrates death (remember the tombstone and skeleton decorations?) Or, why would we want our child to participate in a holiday depicted by witchcraft, evil spirits or communication with the dead (ghosts, haunted mansions)?

This holiday and it's symbols have been a part of our American culture for so many years that it is easy to just accept them as "cute" and "harmless." But we need to consider what they represent because we want to glorify God in everything we do. By allowing your child to participate in this holiday, you are communicating to him or her that "goblins, skeletons, ghosts, haunted mansions, and witches are something we accept." "Oh, no," you may say, "but I tell my child that they are all make believe." Unfortunately, that would be a lie.

HERE ARE SOME OF THE THINGS PRESENTED DURING HALLOWEEN, DO THESE AGREE WITH SCRIPTURE?

GHOSTS	WITCHES	SCARY
JACK O' LANTERNS	GRAVE YARDS	TRICK OR TREAT
BLACK CATS	MAGIC	EVIL
SPELLS	HAUNTED	ZOMBIES
FEAR	SACRIFICES	WITCHCRAFT

Philippians 4: 8-9(The Message)

Summing it all up, friends, I'd say you'll do best by filling your minds and meditating on things true, noble, reputable, authentic, compelling, gracious—the best, not the worst; **the beautiful, not the ugly; things to praise, not things to curse.** Put into practice what you learned from me, what you heard and saw and realized. Do that, and God, who makes everything work together, will work you into his most excellent harmonies.