

# THE ARISE SCOOP

A Christian Newsletter for Kids & Parents



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## SO WHAT IS HALLOWEEN?



When I was a kid like you, I loved Halloween. I loved free candy! Have you ever wondered how it all got started? Halloween is bit of an odd holiday. Many of our holidays celebrate a specific event, like the birth of Jesus (Christmas), the resurrection of Jesus (Easter), or the Independence of our country (4th of July).

Halloween is not a typical holiday. We don't entirely know how it started, but we have some information. Hundreds of years ago, a people called the Celts lived in Europe. The Celts believed that the souls of the dead visited Earth on the last day of October. We don't know why they thought that, but that's what they believed. In fact, they had a festival in honor of these "souls of the dead."

Many years later, the Roman Empire invaded the Celts and took over. The Romans kept some of the beliefs of the Celts, including the idea that the souls of the dead visited Earth on the last day of October. As the Roman Empire grew, this idea of the souls of the dead visiting earth spread all over the world. That's how it got to the United States.

So, how did we get the name Halloween? About 1,300 years ago the Catholic Church declared November 1 to be All Saints' Day. The church calendar already had a number of days honoring specific saints. November 1st was picked to be the day to honor all saints who didn't already have a day named in their honor.

And the mass that the Catholic Church celebrated on November 1 was called *All-hallow-mas*. This meant "mass of all the hallowed [saintly people.]" It was commonly called "All Hallows' Day." Somewhere along the line, the night before became known as *Allhallowe'en*, which was short for "evening before All Hallows' Day." It was then shortened to what we now call it, Halloween.

So why do people dress up as ghosts, goblins, vampires, and other scary creatures? The people who started all this Halloween stuff many years ago believed that if they appeared scary, they would scare away the spirits of the dead who were roaming the earth on All Hallows' Eve. These people also carried food to the edge of town and left it there, hoping the spirits would eat that food and not come into the village. You don't have to worry though.

That's why today, people pass out food (candy!) to people dressed up. We no longer wear just scary costumes. We dress up to be whatever we want. Now you know a little bit more about Halloween.

Pastor Don



Arise UMC  
11211 Dexter Pinckney Rd  
Pinckney, MI 48169

**Kids Fear Factor: How to Help Children Overcome Fear** By, Mimi Bullock <http://ministry-to-children.com/kids-fear/>

The spirit of fear plays upon the deepest parts of a child's being. A child's natural tendency is to fear the great big world he finds himself in. Children's workers are familiar with the common but serious fears of children. The most popular are fear of the dark, what is under the bed and anything unfamiliar in his life. This vulnerability makes him a potential candidate for the fear factor. This spirit is a negative motivator that peaks children's curiosities and tempts them to step into the realm of the mystical in order to 'take control' of their own lives. The Bible very plainly says that this spirit is not from God and in fact, His perfect love drives fear away. You can turn off the television and keep kids from seeing spooky films but you can't hide them away from a world that loves Halloween and all things scary. So how do we as children's pastors help kids overcome the fear factor?

**Talk About It**

Fear loves the dark. Let's face it. How often do you get prayer requests about being afraid of the bright morning sunshine? Address kids' fear factors. This season is the perfect time to unveil what fear really is and what God thinks about it. Kids should be allowed to express how they feel and what they are afraid of in a safe, non-judgmental environment. A small class setting or smaller 'informal' parties are perfect for sitting down and shooting the breeze with kids. Talk about your own

**Just For Fun**

1. What do you call married spiders? *Newly webbed*
2. What is a ghost's favorite desert? *I scream*
3. Why doesn't Dracula have any friends? *Because he is a pain in the neck.*
4. What is a witch's best subject in school? *Spelling*
5. Why was the Jack-O-Lantern afraid to cross the road? *It had no guts*
6. What is a scarecrow's favorite fruit? *Strawberries*
7. What kind of monster likes to disco? *The boogieman*
8. How do you make a skeleton laugh? *Tickle it's funny bone*
9. What do you call a witch on the beach? *A sand*



Come play and enjoy our new playset, courtesy of Mr. Chuck Thibodeau for his donation and Caleb Hudson for his leadership and work in directing Boy Scout Troop 312 in refurbishing it.

**Thank You!!**



Parenting is hard. Marriage can be hard. And during these times, living in and raising your family in the Christian Faith can make us feel like outcasts. Sometimes it's easier to look the other way when our children sin. Sometimes it's easier to not discuss the issues at hand in your marriage. Sometimes it's easier to skip prayer when you're in a rush at dinner time. These are just a few examples we as parents face day to day. It's tiring at times. But the bible teaches us to raise children the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it Proverb 22:6.

That's what our parent/marriage group is all about; normal, everyday folks who believe in God and want to raise their children knowing and loving God as well. We need strength in the Lord **and in** each other for support, guidance, and love. Let's get together in good fellowship and enjoy one another's gifts. We meet monthly for a potluck meal, the kids play, and the parents discuss whatever is on their hearts.

Consider attending, all are welcome!

Contact Carrie Germain at [carrie@germain.us](mailto:carrie@germain.us) for details.



1. Teach children to armor themselves with God's strength. Ephesians 6:10-20
2. Teach children that God is always with them. Isaiah 41:10

**Prayer**

Surround your children with prayer. Pray for them, targeting specifically a fearful spirit. Teach children how to pray with faith and understanding. Show them by example how to pray and how to pray for each other. Including children in the labor of praying for one another will pay huge spiritual dividends all their lives. Build a fear factor proof prayer net around your children's ministry and watch kids soar in God's perfect love. If you sense fear is a real problem amongst your children, bring your prayer request to your church prayer ministry or support staff.

1. Teach your children to have faith in God. Hebrews 11
2. Teach children to pray. Philippians 4:4-8

**Jack-O-Lantern Morning Offering**

There are many legends surrounding the beginnings of the Jack-O-Lantern, but one thing that it represents is how much God loves you. He can take us, carve out all the guilty goop like our mistakes, failures, and sins, put the light of Christ inside of us, and help us shine for all to see. You can remember the Jack-O-Lantern and how God wants to work in your life when you pray this Morning Offering at the beginning of each new day.



Heavenly Father,  
I offer You this day  
All that I do  
and think and say,  
Uniting it with  
what was done  
By Jesus Christ,  
Your only Son.