

HOLDING ON

SCRIPTURE:

As a result of this many of his disciples withdrew and were not walking with him anymore. So Jesus said to the twelve, "You do not want to go away also, do you?" Simon Peter answered Him, "You have the words of eternal life." (John 6:66-71)

MATERIALS LIST:

(1) Tie down straps

SONG: "He Leadeth Me"

MAIN MESSAGE:

With all of the different things that society is bringing to our plates, we must strive to tie ourselves and our families down to what the word of God really says! We cannot be a slave to the traditions of the world, but rather a slave to Christ and His Gospel.

LESSON:

Tie down straps are useful in so many different ways. Sometimes we use them in our jobs tying down large equipment, or even in our own personal vehicles hauling 2x4s for a playhouse. The whole point of a tie down strap is to be able to keep the objects that we are hauling down so they will not move, fly out, slide off, or even bounce out of our vehicle.

There are different types of tie down straps. Some have hand jacks, some have rings. Even though there are different types, they all have the same purpose of tying down the load. No matter how big or small the load may be, they are always ready to do the job.

As a family, there are a lot of different situations that will come our way. If we are not careful, we can sometimes get our load shifted in one direction and it can be difficult to stop.

Think about this: you are a truck driver hauling a load of 30,000 pounds of lumber down the highway. You are going 70 miles per hour, and a car pulls in front of you and stops to miss a deer that has just crossed the road. You slam on your breaks, but there is just too much weight in your load to stop in time. While stopping, your trailer jack-knifes. If the load is tied down securely it will stay on the trailer. If it is not, it will end up all over the road.

In our lives, we often find ourselves shifting our loads from one day to another trying to equal our the weight on each side with work, school, family, church, etc. As a family, we must set our goals higher than they have ever been before. By tying our families down to the Bible and the teachings that are in it, we will be able to follow that straight and narrow path, but if we allow other things in our lives to take precedent over God, then we are letting our load shift in a way that may be difficult to stop.

As a family, let us rejoice that our God is alive and cares for us so much that He gave His only begotten son to die on the cross for our sins. We must keep our eyes on the target, and strap our family to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and hold fast to his words so that when the day of judgment comes, we will have tied down our lives, faith, and families to the One who truly matters!

PRAYER: God thank You for Your word! Thank You for Your love and mercy. Be with our family that we may live for You and never fall away.