



An initiative of WISCONSIN FAMILY COUNCIL

Tuesday, March 5, 2024

Deconstruction

Playing with Legos is something I (Dave Skahen) love doing with my kids. Imagine dis-assembling a fully completed Lego model and re-assembling it. You don't need any instructions to dis-assemble it. My 3-year-old could do that. Re-assembling is different. Everything needs to go where it's supposed to go. It requires knowing where pieces fit. It involves thought, knowledge, skill, and instructions. Similarly, this is what is taking place in the deconstruction movement. While someone falling away from the faith is nothing new (Genesis 3; Matthew 13:20-21; 2 Timothy 4:10), the term "deconstruction" is new and has gained steam in the last few years. Deconstruction has become synonymous with re-examining the Christian worldview WITHOUT using Scripture as the authority. The Bible is seen as a tool of oppression to be rejected, not a standard of truth to be affirmed. Instead, the ultimate authority is the self.

Some deconstructionists argue they are following the lead of the reformers by, "always reforming." But is that what is truly happening? Is that what the reformers did? No. They were always reforming <u>according to the Word of God</u>. There would be no Reformation without Scripture. Conversely, deconstructionists do not use any standard as their guide other than themselves. Core doctrines, such as God's wrath, original sin, penal substitutionary atonement, and biblical sexuality are all seen as toxic and harmful.

Pastors, here's a few ways to help your congregation avoid deconstructing:

- Always have room for questions. Whether it's Q&A during your morning services, or leaving a question box in the lobby, leave room for questions. Be approachable and remind your church they can ask anything.
- If you don't know the answer to a question, simply say, "I don't know the answer to that, but I will do some research and follow up with you."
- Always be ready to give a reason for the hope that you have (1 Peter 3:15). However, there will be some who simply do not like the answers you give them. The gospel is offensive. The same is true of core Christian doctrine.
- Continue to preach the clear, simple gospel every week. Most deconstructionists have a strawman view of Christianity. Be clear in your gospel presentation to build strong disciples.

In Christ,



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P.S. Please pray this week for State Representative Katrina Shankland (Stevens Point) and State Senator Duey Stroebel (Saukville).

P.P.S. The Spring Non-Partisan Election is on April 2. See what is on your ballot at <u>My.Vote.Wi.Gov</u>. (Sample ballots should be available soon.) This year Easter Sunday is right before the election. If you choose to exhort your church to "Honor God" with their vote by April 2, we recommend doing so on March 10 or March 17, so as to avoid this Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday.