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**PRESIDENT
JOSHUA B. CARSON**

“While a simple concept, it seems worthwhile to consider that a well-tuned harp without well-trained hands would have allowed torment to remain resident.”



A Harp Without Hands

“Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might;...” (Ecc 9:10).

For some length of time I just stood looking at the guitar next to the casket. Of course, it was perched there intentionally, and no one was shocked by its placement. In fact, it would have seemed odd if my uncle’s infamous Taylor 710CE had not been next to him as people paid their last respects. Although many of our family members are gifted with instrumental ability, it was a well-known fact that nobody could play the guitar like Uncle Bill. Some of my greatest childhood memories are of him playing in the living room, surrounded by family, and everyone had a smile on their face.

The thought of hearing him play those old hymns at home took my mind to a portion of the interactions between David and Saul. Near the end of his kingship, Saul’s only reprieve from torment was dependent on a shepherd’s melodic ability. Jesse’s boy met the measures and filled the position of someone who was “a cunning player on the harp” (1 Sam. 16:6). The soothing sounds wrought from the harp were the result of extensive practice; for David’s mastery of the instrument did not originate overnight. At the sound of his skilled strumming, Saul’s bloodshot eyes and tormented demeanor would begin to subside. It’s important to note that this change was dependent upon David, the skilled musician, having the harp in his hands. While a simple concept, it seems worthwhile to consider that a well-tuned harp without well-trained hands would have allowed torment to remain resident.

Whether handling a harp or hurling a stone, David’s practice made him proficient. Maybe you’re not musically gifted, but that doesn’t mean you do not have a harp. Maybe your harp is a spreadsheet. Maybe your harp is a mop. Maybe your harp is your words. Maybe your harp is your cooking. Maybe your harp is...

Whatever your harp is, spend time refining your skill. Whatsoever your hand finds to do, do it with your might; and in doing so allow the Lord to bring calm and the peace of God to difficult situations.

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♦To report on those trends and events which directly affect the work of the church.

♦To promote and enhance the ongoing ministry of Indiana Bible College.

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GUEST PULPIT: Intoxicated with Babylon



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DO PRODUCTION ELEMENTS HAVE A PLACE IN THE APOSTOLIC CHURCH?

Written By Jordan Blake

Note: The opinions on this page are entirely those of the individual and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of Indiana Bible College.



Jonathan Blake, Pana, IL - I believe that occasionally it does get to be too much, but I have personally rarely seen that. In my experience, it is more often a compliment to a service, than a distraction. Whether we like it or not, we are a visual society. If we are going to capture attention initially, we have to be aware of that. Although, there is no substitute for the genuine move of God, which has nothing to do with media, staging, or anything else. The danger is neglecting what is really important in favor of just the visual. It does no good to go through all of the trouble, effort, and expense of concentrating on these production elements if we neglect the spiritual side of worshipping and the preparation for the move of God.



Shane Britt, Hartselle, AL - I think quality lights, stage design, etc. enhance the experience of excellence. It also gives a great feel for those watching online and increases the quality of your live streams so you can minister in an effective way. In this modern society, I do believe the church should try to remain relevant in that area without compromising our worship, our identity, and the flow of the Spirit. I believe this COVID-19 crisis has made us think outside of the box. I may pastor people who never attend my church, and I want to make that experience the best I can. But the bottom line is: when anything in the church distracts a worshipper or keeps someone from responding to the Word of God, it becomes excessive and dangerous.



Justin Anthony, Bellevue, NE - It only has been given too much emphasis if the efforts in that area supersede the efforts in prayer, fasting, and the Word. These elements set the proper atmosphere and sound level, as well as create attractiveness. Can these things be overdone? Yes. Can they be underdone? Yes. Does the Spirit of God depend on these production elements? No. The technology is neither holy nor unholy; it is about people. I try to measure the point at which we begin to rely on these things. I believe a lot of the weight of the spiritual temperature of the church has much to do with the pastor's leadership.



Bryan Ballester, Raleigh, NC - With every generation, there are new elements that help in our method. Technology has, obviously, greatly increased. We are looking to grow and to improve, but it must never get to the place where it takes away from the Spirit of God. Have some leaned too much on effects? Absolutely. But on the other side of it, I think we can incorporate these things into our church and it can be powerful for the new generation. There is a different culture in each congregation, and some are more or less comfortable with these things. We can use it to our advantage, but at the end of the day, it has to be saturated in prayer, anointing, and

the outpouring of God's Spirit.



Duane Bolinger, Des Moines, IA - The answer is probably "yes" and "no." They are great to enhance what we have, but at the same time, churches have the tendency to rely on that. I do believe technology can help to set a worshipful atmosphere, and I think there is Scripture to back that up. In the Old Testament Tabernacle, there were many things that were meant to create an atmosphere for priests to worship. I do believe in using these production elements to an extent, but I believe that we also have to rely heavily on the anointing and moving of the Holy Ghost. The danger is when we put more emphasis on the surroundings than the One we are worshipping.



Andrew Romine, O'Fallon, IL - In some places, they have gone too far, and in other settings, they have not gone far enough. We are not in the entertainment business, but those things can be helpful in facilitating the purpose of the church service. For instance, when you are preaching, you use a microphone so you can hear the preacher. Also, screens have been massively beneficial in helping people to know lyrics and allow them to have their heads up. Currently, with many churches being on a live stream, production lighting is going to bring illumination that further enables communication. These things are best when people can walk into a service and almost not even notice them. My principle question is: when is this going to be an asset to us? Or, is this a distraction?



Bryan Spooner, Flint, MI - I believe the Apostolic church has a pretty good hold on staying balanced, and I have not noticed these things to be too widespread. I am not against such things that may occasionally be used to briefly grab the attention of the crowd, but if worship looks or feels like a "production," it lends itself to a performance environment, and I am completely resistant to that. I think it is difficult to call this black-and-white because demographics have a lot to do with even the specific things we preach. Of course, I am not speaking about doctrine, holiness, or so on, but how you relate to the congregation. For instance, the attention spans of young people are very short. Some things change with demographics; however, we must ensure that Jesus is the main focus of our worship services, and I lean on God for discernment in areas where direction is needed, such as this.



Rick Schellhardt, Paducah, KY - There may not be a straightforward answer to that. I do try to incorporate worship elements and tools if they add, but I would also say wisdom has to be used because everything needs balance. I heard of a quote from Charles Spurgeon, and he said, "Discernment is not just seeing right from wrong; discernment is seeing right from almost right." Worship sounds noble, but my concern would be only getting it 'almost right'. We can get our worship services wrong if we lose sight that worship is for God. While I am not inherently against any of these tools, we can take anything too far. We can create an atmosphere where suddenly worship becomes about us, how we feel, and if it did not feel professional enough, then we were somehow not in the presence of God. So if we use any tool, we must ensure it does not get out of place and become about us.

APOSTOLIC TABERNACLE: WHERE GOD IS REAL SAM EMORY | MERCED, CA

Written By Linda Schreckenberg



Pastor and First Lady Emory

The vision of Apostolic Tabernacle began back in 1955, by its founder, the late Rev. William Paul Yandris, affectionately known as “Elder Bill.” He would be thrilled to see where God has taken his vision for Apostolic Tabernacle in Merced, California, under the visionary leadership of Pastor Sam Emory.

Bro. Emory, along with his lovely wife, Shirley, has pastored Apostolic Tabernacle since October 2006. He also serves as the Apostolic Man’s Director of the Western California District. The Emory’s have four children: Mary Bradford, Sammy Lloyd, Randy Lloyd and Renee White.

Principles of Growth & Revival

“Some things are regional and may not work in every area,” said Pastor Emory. “You have to know your community, your surroundings, and the needs of the people you’re trying to reach. Then you can go and win them and have revival. Revival is a process, and you have to keep up with change. Revival, keeping the people renewed and refreshed, happens in the church, and harvest is what happens in the world. If the body is healthy, they will produce the harvest we’re looking for.”

“My priority for the church is to be integrated in the people’s lives,” he said, “But a pastor’s priorities can’t be all kingdom and no family. Here at Apostolic Tabernacle, they know Sis. Emory is my first priority, and they are my second priority. I didn’t marry the church. I married a wife. I watch over the church, but I take care of my family. My motto for the church is that she is someone else’s bride. She does not belong to me.”

Growth for Apostolic Tabernacle is accomplished by reaching outward. Pastor Emory prayed about possible campus locations, and a young man dreamed about an area on the southwest side of town where they were able to rent a Methodist church building. Before the young man could start a free-standing campus, he needed thirty people in home Bible studies. Bro. Emory explained, “I wouldn’t give a man a building with no people in it. My motto is to build some people, and the people will build the church. He had fifteen people, so I gave him a couple to work with him, and they grew the work to thirty people in home Bible studies. We pay their bills, while they baptize and grow the work.”



A Convert is Baptized

Apostolic Tabernacle has the main campus, a Spanish Campus, a West Campus, a Southeast Campus for Asians, and a bi-lingual campus in Atwater, north of Merced. They divide the campuses by language, not by culture. If they speak English, they come to the main campus. They also have built five churches in Thailand and support a missionary family from Apostolic Tabernacle, serving in Uruguay.

He explained his concept of soulwinning; “People with great personalities and the gift of gab aren’t necessarily soul winners. Everyone in the church should be involved in some way in the soulwinning process. The guy that parks the car must have a smile on his face. He’s the first face of the soulwinning team. The greeter that greets with a smile is the second step. The usher is the third part, and he or she should look for the right place to seat that individual. Every part of the service is part of the soulwinning process. Without the increase of God, none of us are soulwinners. This way of soulwinning has brought results and excitement in the entire process. If there is untapped talent on the pews, I must get them engaged.”

Organization & Management

Pastor explained, “I’m a vision-casting pastor, so I have an Administrative Pastor who manages our department heads and keeps me informed. We keep our finger on the pulse of each ministry. Reports are just paper, but I can look into the eyes of our department heads and ask how they are doing, see their frustrations, if any, and go from there. We’re using Zoom now, but before that, I always kept in touch with them through the week. If I give someone something to do, they don’t need me for every little detail, but they can always come to me for help.”

Pastor connects with the campus pastors and preaches at each campus two or three times a year. They have one church at the main campus during revivals, at Easter, and at Christmas. All of the campuses are required to be there, so they know they’re connected to something much larger than their initial campus.

If Pastor Emory finds a good book on leadership training, etc., he buys copies for his leaders. He said, “I believe Jesus’s training mission was ‘Watch Me, do it with Me, and then do it by yourself.’ He took the disciples with Him, encouraged them and sent them out to do what He did. The Apostle Paul said, ‘The things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do....’” He explained, “My motto to them is, watch me. The things that I do well, copy, and the things that I do not do well, find a better way.”

His advice to his leaders is to remember that children mirror their parents, so they are actually pastoring little “parents.” He said, “Watch me pastor the big Joneses, and then you’ll know how to pastor the little Joneses, because they learned their mindsets at home. It’s not up to the church to raise the children, but that responsibility falls squarely upon the shoulders of the parents to put godly principles and precepts of godly things into their children at home. They’re training an Apostolic generation in Apostolic truth.”

Departments at Apostolic Tabernacle include: Music, Children’s/Sunday School, Youth, Hyphen, Single Adult, Hospitality, First Impression/Welcome, Bereavement,



Sanctuary Filled With Hungry Souls



Pastor Emory Preaching

Discipleship, Men's, Ladies, Spanish, Hmong, Food Pantry, Parking, Stewardship, Media, Baptismal, Janitorial, Security, and Deaf Ministry.

Special Miracles

While evangelizing, Bro. Emory was preaching for Bishop Ray Johnson. The Bishop asked him to pray with a woman and her five children standing there. The lady's husband was in the hospital with West Nile Virus, and they were to

pick him up the next day in a body bag! Bro. Emory said, "The family was weeping, so I quoted the Scripture in Matthew 18:20, 'Where two or three are gathered together in My name, there I am in the midst of them.' I asked them if they believed that, and they nodded yes. Then, I quoted Matthew 18:19, 'Again, I say unto you, that if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done of My Father which is in heaven.' I told them we were going to touch and agree that their father was going to be healed. Their faces were blank, so I went through the process three times, because miracles take a while. I told them to start praising God like it had already happened. Silence! Not a word! I said, 'Close your eyes and see your dad sitting on the side of the bed, fully clothed. He gets up off the bed and into a wheelchair. You take him downstairs, and he gets out of the chair and walks to the car. Can you see that? Suddenly one of the young ladies began jumping up and down. Then, it became contagious, and they were all dancing and shouting. Months later, Bishop Johnson came to me at the conference in Ohio and asked me if I remembered the family whose dad had West Nile Virus? I said, 'Yes.' He said, 'When they got there to pick him up, he was sitting on the edge of the bed, clothed. He got into the wheelchair and then walked to the car from the wheelchair.'"

Personal Ministry Principles

Pastor Emory has two principles of ministry: stewards and servants. The servant does, and the steward manages. He explained, "God placed me in a church to serve in a place where there are ministries, finances, etc. that I have to steward. God referred to Moses as His servant. And, when God got ready to replace Moses, he told Moses to go get His servant, Joshua.

"God will always look for a man that will serve and be a steward. Jesus taught and preached about stewardship and discipleship. When the disciples asked who would be the greatest among them, Jesus took them to the upper room. The first thing He did was dismiss the servants, whose job was to wash their feet and to serve them. While Jesus waited, not one disciple picked up the towel to wash another's feet, so Jesus took off His robe and put on the greatest garment one could wear, the towel of a servant. If you can become a servant, there's no place that God won't take you, and if you can become a steward, there's nothing that God will not give you."

He enjoys preaching on faith, anointing and being blessed of God. He said, "The Spirit and the bride say, 'Come.' The Spirit is always willing, but we have to work on the bride."

Current Facility

The church property consists of ten acres. The main facility is around 10,000 square feet. It includes a fellowship hall, and a Sunday School/Educational Department with seven classrooms. The sanctuary seats around 600-700 people. The pre-pandemic attendance of the main campus was 385 total combined campus attendance of 575. The total of all campus baptisms for 2020 was 97.

Personal History

Bro. Emory was raised in Anniston, Alabama, and attended a Baptist church. He received the

Holy Ghost at twenty-six years old in 1980 at Apostolic Tabernacle in Merced, where he was enlisted in the military. He said, "When I was baptized, I wouldn't get out of the water and asked what was in the water. Pastor Yandris kept telling me to get out of the water, but I dove back in. Finally, he grabbed me out of the water, saying, 'There is nothing in this water, man! The power is in the name!'"

Bishop Yandris walked by him one day and said, "I think you have a call to the ministry. You just do what I tell you to do." And he did everything his pastor told him to do.

Bro. Emory said, "In my life, I developed my definitive statement of faith which is that God is real and He can do anything. I evangelized for ten years and am on my fifteenth year of pastoring and that is still my definitive statement. He's the champion of all."

He studied two years of radiology at Merced Junior College and was a radiology technologist at Merced Hospital for twenty-four years.

Bishop Yandris had the greatest impact upon Bro. Emory's life and ministry. Others who influenced his ministry were Rev. Randy Keyes, Rev. Larry Booker, Bishop Ray Johnson, Rev. Billy Cole, and Rev. Kenneth Haney. Milestones in his ministry included preaching the Landmark Conference in 1997, General Conference in 2013, NAYC in 2017, and the Simply Jesus Conference for Rev. Ron Libby.

Church History

Bro. Emory received his ministerial license in 1988, and evangelized for ten years before pastoring Apostolic Tabernacle after Bishop Yandris's son, Bro. Nathan Yandris, left to evangelize. Attendance at that time was around 275. The outreach method then was home Bible studies, and he and Sis. Emory still teach home Bible studies today.

Human Interest

People would be surprised to know that at his core nature, Bro. Emory is really a "backward guy," by his own admission. His favorite family pastime is whatever Sis. Emory wants to do. Interestingly, he collects Lego cuff links and neck ties, often giving them away. His pastor, Bishop Yandris was his favorite preacher, and his favorite book is Tale of Three Kings by Gene Edwards.



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A Day in the Life of Tupelo Children's Mansion



Chad A. Parker
Executive Vice President

"I want to make sure that I'm not misunderstanding," the case manager said, shocked and confused. "You're saying that Ian is on his own, and he is not allowed to contact you?"

"That's right!," affirmed Ian's father. "Ian turned 18 last week. We will no longer be sending any support for him, and he may not call us... we're done!"

"I don't understand. I thought your last visit went really well. Ian seemed very positive about returning home," the case manager questioned.

"Oh, he did have a good time. We didn't want to make a scene while he was home. We made sure he had a good time and was able to obtain a few more of his personal items. You can tell him that he's never coming back," said the father.

"Okay, but what about his college plans? Can we get you to assist us in completing his FAFSA for student financial aid, so he can pursue his college education?" the case manager asked.

"Absolutely not!," exclaimed Ian's father. "FAFSA will ask for our personal information. We are moving and changing our numbers; we do not want him to have access to that information. He is on his own."

The case manager pleads, "I just feel..." Ian's father cuts the case manager short by hanging up the phone.

I wish I could tell you that I just made this story up to appeal to your heart. I wish I could tell you that this was an extreme case. However, neither of those statements would be true. Sadly, this very conversation (and many more like it) happen all too often. As I'm writing this article, we've had similar conversations with two families in the last two weeks.

As our older residents graduate and "age out," they can be forgotten. No family to return to; no place to call "home." TCM case managers work hard to make sure these children can pursue their dreams, but even then, they are limited in what they can do. I am thankful that we serve a God who is not limited! We've been able to witness the miraculous for these kids in the past, and we believe that the graduates of 2021 will be no different.

This year we have twelve residents who will be graduating and pursuing their dreams. Would you help us pray for their futures? Most will enter into this transitional phase of life without any family support. Would you pray for our case managers and residential staff to have wisdom as they help them plan for their future? No doubt, God has great plans for these young people!

As always, if you feel a desire to make a lasting impact on the children at TCM, we are always accepting applications from those who are called. Email your resume with a letter of interest to ermajudd@mansionkids.org. Want to volunteer or intern at TCM? Email me at chadparker@mansionkids.org.

Three Reasons We Should Focus on Reaching Teenagers for Christ

By Greg Stier

I'm often asked, "Why do you focus on reaching teenagers?" I think the assumption by most is that by my stage of life I should settle in to pastoring a church somewhere or being a "real evangelist" who reaches adults with the Gospel. While both of those options are good callings, neither is my calling.

When I get asked the question, "Why teenagers?" My answer is always the same: because they are the most strategic age group to reach and mobilize for Jesus.

Here are 3 HUGE reasons we should strategically focus on reaching teenagers for Christ:

Teenagers come to Christ quicker than adults. According to Shane Pruitt, Director of Next Generation Evangelism for the North American Mission Board, 77% of those who trust in Jesus do so before the age of 18, while only 5% of those who become Christians do so after the age of 30. In the words of my grandpa, "We got to get the gettin' while the gettin's good!"

Teenagers can spread the Gospel farther and faster than adults. The average teenager has well over 400 online and face-to-face friends. Because teenagers have huge influence over their peers they can use this social media channels to advance the message of Jesus in ways we adults never even dreamed of.

Every major spiritual awakening in US history has had teenagers on the leading edge of that awakening. From the 1st Great Awakening in the 1700's when Jonathan Edwards wrote, "The revival has been chiefly amongst the young" to the Jesus Movement of the 1970's where a teen and twentysomething movement swept California and, then, the nation, young people have led the way for the spiritual revitalization of the church and the advancement of the Gospel.

I believe that, if the church focuses on reaching, discipling and mobilizing teenagers to advance the Gospel as a strategic priority, then it will transform our churches from the inside out. On-fire-for-Christ teenagers can, like a thermostat, set the spiritual temperature for the entire church. Revival that starts in the youth room soon spreads to the church auditorium. Think about this: There are currently just over one billion teenagers worldwide. Generation Z, as they have been called, is the largest generation in the history of the world!

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GOD'S CHOSEN FAST:

HOW TO OVERCOME RESISTANCE TO FASTING

Interviewed By Linda Schreckenber



Charles Rhodus
Merrillville, IN

Bro. Rhodus, please tell us about yourself, your ministry, and the church you attend.

I've had the Holy Ghost for over forty years and have been in ministry for thirty-five years, during which time I've assisted, pastored, and evangelized. My wife, Tammy, and I planted a church in Hammond, Indiana and were there for eleven years. We installed a new pastor there less than three years ago and left that work in his hands. We now attend the Christian Revival Center, pastored by Rev. Michael Otano, a great man of vision and prayer in Merrillville, Indiana.

You're very passionate about the topic of fasting. How important do you feel fasting is in reference to Christian discipline?

The eating drive is the number one drive of the body and is the determining factor. If a person doesn't have his eating under control through fasting, that simply means his flesh is in control. Paul said to walk in the Spirit and live in the Spirit. How can you do that if your flesh is controlling you? We want to be careful and not let entertainment or anything else control us, and fasting brings self-control. Great men and women of the Bible were those who fasted. Moses fasted two forty-day, back-to-back fasts. Jesus fasted forty days. When He took His twelve disciples to the Mount of Transfiguration, Jesus brought Elijah and Moses, who had both fasted for forty days when they were alive, back from the dead.

Adam and Eve in the garden, as well as Jacob and Esau, dealt with the eating drive. There are people who don't pray and fast, yet they're used by God because they have faith. In my opinion, they're on dangerous ground. We don't want to crash and burn. Fasting is all about humility and gaining faith in God, not faith in ourselves. We must keep ourselves under subjection!

Why do you feel many struggle with the discipline of fasting? How can they overcome that struggle to make fasting become a joy?

I've gone for weeks or periods of time without fasting. Then, I had to start slow, maybe fast half a day for two or three days to get my body and my mind back into it. There is a spirit of fasting, just like there is a spirit of prayer. And, the Apostle Paul mentioned the spirit of holiness. The spirit of

holiness refers to a mindset. I want to have a mindset of holiness before the Lord and live in that mentality.

You can get into a spirit of fasting and maintain it even after the fast. Many break their fasts with a huge meal, but that defeats the spirit of a fast. In my book on fasting, I explain maintaining the spirit of fasting for several more days afterwards. Then, you will begin to know the joy of fasting and look forward to fasting, because the Spirit has taken over.

You mention the word "secrets" when referring to fasting in your studies. Can you explain what you mean by "secrets?"

There are older revelations and information that haven't been talked about for a while, yet they are valuable secrets. My study has uncovered some of those powerful concepts, or secrets, that will work for us today. There have been teachings contradictory to what the Scriptures are actually saying. For example, in Matthew 17, one misnomer is the contradictory teaching that the mustard seed is about small faith. Jesus rebuked small faith five times in the gospels, so small faith does not move mountains or get miracles. Jesus was talking about strong faith, big faith, as the potential of prayer and fasting. We know a fast doesn't necessarily move God, but it builds our faith to greater dimensions to believe for greater things.

Can you explain some of the specific how-to's regarding fasting that you would like to share with others?

Many of us have the discipline for a one-day fast. In the Bible when they fasted, they laid aside everything, including work, and set aside the entire time to pray and seek God. They expected an answer, and God came through. Those of us who work and have busy lives can set aside our Saturday or day off to fast and pray and seek God. I share stories and Scriptures in my book on fasting, but it's not a book just to read through. I wrote it to be a book of learning, so I break down a fast and show examples of how, and how not, to fast.

There are various types of fasts. What has worked best for you in your personal experiences?

Being consistent in fasting is most important, regardless of which type of fast we do. One fast I do, among others, is the 24-

hour Jewish fast that begins at 6 PM and goes till 6 PM the next day. I've seen miracles in all kinds of fasts and between periods of fasting. Actually, Daniel didn't plan a twenty-one day fast, but to fast until the breakthrough came. It just happened to be twenty-one days, but Daniel couldn't see the spiritual warfare taking place in the heavenlies during those twenty-one days he was fasting.

Are there examples of what you have seen happen through fasting?

While working on a church plant a few years ago, I had to drive by a very immoral nightclub two or more times a week. I began to point at the club as I drove by and commanded it to burn down in the name of Jesus and not be rebuilt. I did this over several months, and one day as I drove by, it had burned to the ground. A Burger King now stands in its place.

During the time frame at that church plant, my mother and I would go to pray at the church, taking authority over the city which at one time had around 300 taverns. It was like a miniature Las Vegas, with strip clubs and bars up and down neighborhood streets. We prayed against the spirit of alcoholism and bound the demon over the spirit of that city that had it bound for decades. We did this for months. Then, one day, the bold headlines of the newspaper declared the story. The mayor was buying up all of the properties where these establishments were, and over the next year, that entire main area was bulldozed to the ground! Then, during prayer one morning, I turned to see an angel sitting in a chair in the dark sanctuary. Fasting opens up heavenly and angelic realms.

Where can your book be purchased, and what is the price?

Fasting Secrets Revealed can be purchased through Amazon.com and is available in paperback (\$11.95), eBook (\$6.95), audio (\$14.95), and iTunes.

What is your contact information?

I may be contacted through my Facebook page, Ministry of Charles A. Rhodus, or my website, www.charlesarhodus.com.

apostolic calendar 2021

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	SPEAKERS / NOTES	CONTACT / INFO
MAR 5-6	Chase Marshall Memorial Bible Quizzing Tournament Bible quizzers gather for a power-packed tournament and fellowship.	Calvary Tabernacle 902 Fletcher Ave. Indianapolis, IN 46203	Speakers for this event will be announced closer to the event date.	Visit www.indianabiblecollege.org for more details.
CANCELLED				
MAR 24-26	Launch Church Planting Solutions The best experts and experienced church planters guide participants in completing a comprehensive plan for a successful apostolic church launch.	Reneassaince Airport Hotel 5445 Forbes Pl Orlando, FL 32812	Speakers for this event will be announced closer to the event date.	Visit www.launchachurch.faith for more details.
MAR 30	Indiana Bible College Pastor's Day Honoring the special role that pastors play in the lives of IBC students. The pastor and spouses of all students are encouraged to attend classes and chapel service with their students. In the evening they are also invited to participate in the Pastors' Day Banquet.	Indiana Bible College 1502 E Sumner Ave. Indianapolis, IN 46227	Many IBC staff members will have the opportunity to address the prospective students.	Visit www.indianabiblecollege.org/pastors-day for more information.
APR 6-8	Indiana Bible College Theology Conference The students of the Theology Club host a powerful conference with guest speakers, night sessions, and more.	Indiana Bible College 1502 E Sumner Ave. Indianapolis, IN 46227	Speakers for this conference will be announced closer to the event date.	Visit www.indianabiblecollege.org for more details.
APR 15	Move the Mission Kickoff Formerly Sheaves for Christ, Move the Mission is the fundraising ministry of the Youth Ministries of the United Pentecostal Church International. Since its inception in 1953, over \$134 million has been raised to fund missions and ministries around the world.	This event will be promoted at churches nationwide.	When you invest in Move the Mission you intentionally share the gospel around the world!	Visit www.movethemission.com for more information.
MAY 6	Indiana Bible College Graduation Banquet Honoring the graduating class of 2021.	Event location will be announced closer to the event date.	The banquet speaker will be announced closer to the event date.	Visit www.indianabiblecollege.org for more details.
MAY 7	Indiana Bible College Commencement Exercises Honoring the graduating class of 2021.	Calvary Tabernacle 902 Fletcher Ave. Indianapolis, IN 46203	The commencement speaker will be announced closer to the event date.	Visit www.indianabiblecollege.org for more details.
JULY 28-30	North American Youth Congress The world's largest apostolic youth event, filled with dynamic preaching, singing, and fellowship.	Lucas Oil Stadium 500 S Capitol Ave Indianapolis, IN 46225	Speakers for this conference will be announced closer to the event date.	For more information: www.northamericanyouthcongress.com
SEPT 2021	Mid-America Renewal Conference (MARC) Indianapolis, Indiana - A power-packed preaching conference in the heart of the Midwest.	Calvary Tabernacle 902 Fletcher Ave. Indianapolis, IN 46203	Speakers for this conference will be announced closer to the event date.	ibc@apostolic.edu indianabiblecollege.org or call (317) 262-4030 or (317) 514-8069
OCT 5-8	UPCI General Conference 2021 Don't miss this incredible gathering of apostolic ministers and acquaintances worldwide.	Indianapolis, IN	Speakers for this conference will be announced closer to the event date.	Visit www.upcigc.net for more information.
NOV 1	AYC Online Applications Available Apostolic Youth Corps is a branch of UPCI Youth Ministries that facilitates the pairing of ministry-minded Pentecostal students with North American and international sites which need and desire evangelism assistance.	Destinations will be announced closer to the event date.	AYC North American trips are open to applicants 15-35 years of age. If an applicant is 14 and turning 15 during the same calendar year as the trip, they also qualify.	Visit www.apostolicyouthcorps.com for more information.
DEC 19	Christmas for Christ Offering Christmas for Christ is an annual offering received during the Christmas season that supports church planters in North America. Our goal is to raise \$6 million dollars.	Churches nationwide will participate in this offering.	Every church should set a special day to bring their best offering to Jesus. The official date is December 20, 2020, but can be altered according to the local need.	Visit www.christmasforchrist.faith for more information.

Theology: “Father” and “Son of Man” Are Not Proofs of Trinity



Jason Gallion

Church Today

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We Are Family

We call each other brother and sister. In doing so we remind ourselves of this central truth; we are sons and daughters who share the same father and mother. We are family. However, whether a church is a home missions church or is an established work, there is a great danger lurking which can destroy faith, disrupt thriving ministries, and turn a functioning family into a dysfunctional one. This danger is always at the door, insidious and subtle like a serpent ready to weave its way into a crack. This element of danger is gossip and slander.

In his book *Seventy, Everyone Needs a Team*, Dr. Eugene Wilson says, “Behavior is the outward manifestation of a person’s core values.” (p. 93). What are your core values? As Apostolic Pentecostals most of use would quickly give the right answers about our core values. We believe in one God, holiness, and the Acts 2:38 message. However, it our behavior that is the best representation of our true core values. Slander is a behavior that reveals something about our true core.

The Bible says in Proverbs 26:23, “Burning lips and a wicked heart are like a potsherd covered with silver dross.” It is possible for a time to cover our core with a beautiful aesthetic. It may be presented as righteous concern or magnanimous truth sharing, but beneath the veneer slander reveals a core value. No veneer of paint can long cover rotting wood beneath. When slander is present, whether it is against spiritual authority or against brothers and sisters, church families undermine faith into dysfunction.

Dysfunction is always tied to disorder. The Bible is clear that we are one body. You cannot be healthy if the head is fighting the heart, arms, or legs for supremacy. There is only one head in the body and the head is first in order. We need every part of the body of Christ. Diversity has its place in the body. Thank God not everyone attempts to sing. We do not need everyone to be a preacher, or everyone to be a musician or everyone to be a pastor. We absolutely need order and unity within the body.

If your team or organization is experiencing tension, it is not only a core issue, but a fuel issue. Proverbs 26:20 says, “Where no wood is, there the fire goeth out: so where there is no talebearer, the strife ceaseth.” We must not only address underlying values, but eliminate the behavior that is fueling and reinforcing strife.

Church leaders cannot neglect the fundamental and necessary emphasis to maintain unity. While we would like everyone to absorb and retain core biblical values, people are forgetful. We all need reminders of what our value must be. This means not only teaching it to those we lead, but modeling it. Just as it is dysfunctional for one parent to undermine the other in front of their children, it is not right for leadership to slander other leadership or lay ministers. What we model will be repeated in excess. We are a family. At some point in the future, it is almost certain we will face spiritual battles in which we will depend on our spiritual family be fight by our side to help us through. God created the church family to function in unity. We must be vigilant against the poison of gossip on any level done corporately. We have a mandate to multiply. We don’t know the day or the hour when the King will return, but we must do all we can to multiply what our King has entrusted to us before time runs out.



Bobby Killmon

Theology

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How do we show terms like “Father” and “son of man” cannot be used as “proofs” of a plurality of persons in the godhead?

The biggest problem is seeing how these terms are used everywhere else in the OT. Making sure we correlate or let Scripture interpret Scripture is necessary. We believe in a single divine Author. We really believe all Scripture is inspired, that holy men of old wrote and they were moved by the Holy Ghost. If that is the same belief of the seeker you’re dealing with, start with showing how these terms were used in the entire OT.

For instance, how is Father used in the OT? God is seen as Father by virtue of creation (Deut. 32:6). He is the Father of Israel (Jer. 31:9; Ex. 4:22; Hos. 11:1-4); Father of the King (2 Sam. 7:14); Father of each individual Israelite (Mal. 2:10). So all of these passages show that Father is “Creator—creation” language, not divine persons.

The term “son of man” is used 70xs by Jesus Himself. Rushing to Dan. 7 as a proof of a cosmic trinity is problematic, again because that’s not the only use of the term in the rest of the OT. Multiple passages show that the term “son of man” applies to human beings (Num. 23:19; Job. 25:6; 35:8; Ps. 8:4; 80:17; 144:3; 146:3; Is. 51:12; 56:2; Jer. 49:18, 33; 50:40; 51:43; Ezek. 2:1, 3, 6, 8; 3:1, 3, 4, 10, 17, 25; 4:1, 16; 5:1... and the list could go on and on.) The overwhelming biblical evidence is “son of man” refers to human beings. Specifically in Dan. 7 the son of man is “given dominion, given glory, given a kingdom” which means the son of man cannot be about a co-equal person. One person of the trinity cannot empower, give, establish, or impart anything to another. But, the man that God became can be given granted dominion through His obedience.

These OT and NT terms must be interpreted from God’s Self-revelation. The Bible shows how these terms must be understood and used. This has led Catholic scholar Edmund Fortman to admit, “Jesus did not invent the term ‘Son of Man’... Does the title affirm Jesus’ divinity? No...” In Gal. 3:24 Paul writes by the Spirit of God, “Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.” We cannot be led to the man that God became, Who is the only saving sacrifice, the only High Priest, with the One saving name of Jesus... if we don’t let the OT show us how to be led to Christ.



T. W. Massengale

Church Growth

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Church growth must be intentional. By the same token, new convert retention must be intentional as well. Without a well-organized discipleship plan, most churches will only keep 10-

20% of their converts each year. With a good plan, you can see well over 50% retention.

There are two important elements to a well-developed plan: (1) appoint a new convert care (NCC) director, and (2) assign a care partner to each new convert. The ministry director makes sure every convert is being cared for and no one slips through the cracks. The care partner does the work that insures that the three key elements of new

convert care are being enacted. These three elements are Instruction, Fellowship, and Involvement. If these three area are addressed for every convert, you can expect the highest retention possible.

Instruction: First Week Counseling, home Bible study, and new members class. As the name suggests, the same week a person is baptized or receives the Holy Ghost, someone sits down with the convert and covers the basic information they need to survive Satan’s attack (daily prayer, daily Bible reading, faithful church attendance). They are also set up with a home Bible study (taught in their home by the care partner) and enrolled in the New Member’s Class (taught at the church).

Fellowship: Dinner Ministry and Quarterly socials. The Care Partner works with the NCC director to assign families in the church to invite the new convert over for dinner or to go out after church for fellowship. A different

family each month for 12 months. The point of this is to help the convert to make friends in the church. If they fail to make friends, they will return to their friends in the world. Once a quarter, all the new converts and their care partners get together for a social outing. Fun, food, fellowship and friends are made.

Involvement: the Care Partner invites the convert to become involved in whatever areas of ministry they are involved in. They mentor their convert to be involved with them. Then, in the New Member’s Class, they are given a Service Gifts Analysis quiz that shows them what areas of ministry they are naturally gifted in. The NCC director works with the convert to get them plugged into a second ministry that will help them grow and mature in their Christian walk.

For a detailed outline of this plan, call our office: (317) 781-7712. Cost is just \$5.00.



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Spiritual Growth

carol@carolclemans.org

Are You Hungry for God's Wisdom?

I love reading the Proverb of the day. The book of Proverbs = God's wisdom. Proverbs 24:3 – 5 NLT "A house is built by wisdom and becomes strong through good sense. Through knowledge its rooms are filled with all sorts of precious riches and valuables. The wise are mightier than the strong, and those with knowledge grow stronger and stronger."

My nationwide counseling is based on God's wisdom to help people heal and grow spiritually, emotionally, and relationally. A big part of helping the hurting heart is sharing the gold-mine of God's wisdom. I encourage through God's Word for each person to 'stir up the gift that lieth within them.'

After the new birth experience (Acts 2), we all must learn to 'grow up unto Him' (Ephes. 4:15). We must learn to develop an intimate relationship with God with an inner dialogue in all our waking hours. God wants our whole (all) heart, soul, mind, and strength. Heart, soul, mind is the collective invisible self where we process our thoughts, feelings that create actions.

We must invite God into every decision we make. Our 'strength' is our body – we are to 'glorify God in our body and our spirit, which belongs to God' (1Cor. 6:20). If we all allow God into our thoughts, feelings, and actions, we will have love, joy, and peace in every relationship.

I call it being Holy Ghost controlled! We cannot blame other people for how we choose to act. God has never taken our choice away. My book, God's Design for Marriage, explains in detail from scripture how to have love, joy, and peace continually in your home.

God's Word is the healing balm for hurting hearts. Whether single, married, widow/er, or divorced, God's wisdom is the healer of past or current painful issues and has answers for the future – to be holy as He is holy!

www.carolclemans.org – 500 plus articles, book: God's Design for Marriage, nationwide counseling 28 years (636) 448-0121. Join: www.patreon.com/carolclemans. Follow/like Life Enrichment Ministries, Inc. & Carol Theobald Clemans on FB, Instagram/Twitter.



Delano Sherley

Accounting & Tax

2021 Trends

A recent article listed the following trends emerging in 2021: many in ministry will move from full-time to bi-vocational status. There will be more baby boomers than children in most churches. A boom in "micro-churches" (50 or fewer people). This will be fueled by multi-site campuses. Virtual church will complement in-person services – with a blended approach. Nearly 90% of churches feel they are in



Vickie Hodges

Identity and Scripture

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LIFE-Living In Freedom EVERYDAY (Part 1)

Most every human being will experience life's hurt, pain, trauma, and abuse within their lifespan. Life's unpleasant experiences have a way of causing our emotions and memories to become damaged and unhealed. Usually, the first three emotions we are confronted with are guilt, shame, and worthlessness. Let us take a look at the definitions of guilt, shame, and worthlessness.

Guilt - feeling of having done wrong or failed in an obligation; to make someone feel guilty, especially to induce them to do something against their will. Shame - the uncomfortable feeling of guilt or of being ashamed arising from the consciousness/memory of something dishonorable, improper, ludicrous done by oneself or done by another person. Worthlessness - the feeling of being unimportant; no value or worth; no meaning of life.

Now, let us determine the lens from which we are experiencing or viewing guilt, shame and worthlessness. Are we experiencing these emotions through the lens of the victim or the perpetrator, or possibly both—the victim and the perpetrator?

Next, we have a few questions to ponder. Do we feel or are we carrying this guilt, shame, and worthlessness due to something we have done ourselves, or something someone has done to us? Are we carrying the perpetrators' guilt and shame? Maybe these emotions stem from others not believing us when we confide in them?

Last, write or journal about the time you first experienced these emotions/feelings. How old were you? Who was involved (friend, acquaintance, spouse, family member, stranger)? Where were you (home, party, school, etc.)? This exercise will be a major emotional healing milestone. After we have written down even the smallest of information, simply pray for God to send someone into your life who you can trust, and who will not be judgmental toward you. And yes, we know that the ultimate Counselor is Jesus, yet there may be times we need someone who is more tangible and knowledgeable regarding this emotional healing journey.

A most profound statement ever spoken was from Dr. James Hughes at Greater Life Church in Webster, Texas. He said, "God loves the victim. Yes, God truly loves the victim. And He loves the perpetrator. Jesus died for both." Feel free to use the contact information below for faith-based and confidential counseling.

Vickie Hodges is a UPCI licensed minister with 35 years experience in Early Childhood Education and Brain Development Research. She is the author of LIFE (Living In Freedom EVERYDAY) Recovery Series. Vickie is a trainer and a speaker at seminars, retreats, conferences and universities. She can be reached at VickieHodgesSharingLife@gmail.com or (281) 489-0055.

need of a "revitalization." Healthier churches are "fostering" and "adopting" struggling churches. Average attendance and donations are predicted to decline 20-30% after the pandemic is stabilized, however, smaller churches will recover quicker. New church startups are also trending down.

2020 may be over, but we enter 2021 with many challenges. The way we "did church" has changed and continues to do so. In some areas things will never go back to "normal". How is your church dealing with this shifting landscape? How have you planned on providing the resources needed to meet these changes? Be



Daniel Sirstad

Relationships 201

www.dsministries.com

I Love You Too!

Within most relationships, one person is the primary initiator, and the other is the responder. For example, in the area of affection, one spouse says, "I love you," and the other spouse responds by saying, "I love you, too."

The initiating spouse will reach out their hand first, and the other spouse responds by accepting the other's hand.

This dynamic is mainly because of people's temperament enhanced by their environment and potentially learned behavior.

It is essential to understand this will always be the case. The initiator will mainly initiate, and the responder will generally respond. Trying to change these defaults may cause an immense amount of stress, anxiety, and conflict within the relationship.

However, there can be movement on behalf of the responder to gravitate towards the center. The responder needs to learn to initiate more than they usually do. Even if both spouses are naturally responders, one still initiates more than the other.

Temperament will determine the extent of the dominance of the initiator and the responder. For instance, the initiator could do so 80% vs. the responder initiating 20%. Or, it could be 60% vs. 40%, etc.

In the 80/20 example, it would be beneficial for the responder initiating affection only 20% of the time to minimize the gap between them and their spouse who is initiating 80%. In most cases, the reason for this is that the dominant initiator will begin to wonder why the other rarely initiates affection. If there is no change, what will naturally happen is the initiator will start to back off. A big reason for this is they will at least subconsciously begin to distrust the other. If there is no communication, the responder will be confused, and the relationship, without intervention, will turn cold.

If you are the one that says, "I love you too," be more aware. Say, "I love you," more often, and let the initiator say, "I love you too." Push past the discomfort and you will both benefit and feel like winners.

Contact me to discuss how I can be of service.

Dr. Daniel Sirstad is a UPCI ordained minister and has a PhD in Clinical Pastoral Counseling. As the Executive Director of DayStar Ministries, Dr. Sirstad travels extensively teaching and preaching on relational subjects. He counsels for many congregations throughout North America using HIPAA-compliant video technology. dsirstad@dsministries.com

willing to embrace these changes by reducing or eliminating financial support for some programs that are no longer effective in order to provide resources needed for new areas of opportunity and changing demographics.

On a personal note, I have not seen many of the negative trends above reflected in most of the Apostolic churches that we work with. In fact, many experienced their best year financially in 2020. There is no recession in God's economy.

Delano Sherley is a CPA and president of Delano Sherley & Associates, Inc. He can be reached at 513-737-1314. Delano Sherley & Associates, Inc., 8366 Princeton-Glendale Rd., Suite B5, West Chester, OH 45069. Email: Delano@dsacpainsc.com Website: www.dsacpainsc.com

THAT'S OUTRAGEOUS**Chinese Textbook Rewrites the Bible, Claims Jesus Stoned Woman to Death**

A communist textbook that's being used in Chinese schools falsifies the biblical account found in John 8:3-11. The textbook claims that Jesus murdered the woman who was found in adultery and said He, too, is a sinner.

The textbook, published by the government-run University of Electronic Science and Technology Press, states: "The crowd wanted to stone the woman to death as per their law. But Jesus said, 'Let the one who has never sinned throw the first stone.' Hearing this, they slipped away one by one. When the crowd disappeared, Jesus stoned the sinner to death, saying, 'I too am a sinner. But if the law could only be executed by men without blemish, the law would be dead.'"

"I want everyone to know that the Chinese Communist Party has always tried to distort the history of the Church, to slander our Church, and to make people hate our Church," a parishioner who uploaded the textbook on social media was quoted as saying in his post.

Bitter Winter, a magazine that reports on religious liberty and human rights in China, noted the subtle objective behind manipulating the textbook.

"The story teaches that the law and the (Chinese Communist) Party are good and pure, and transcend the impure human beings who happen to represent them. Even if the officers are corrupted, their decision should be accepted—because, honest or corrupted, they represent the Party, and the Party's law should never be questioned," the magazine writes.

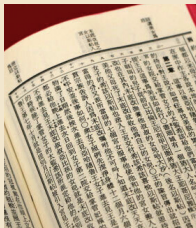
The magazine reported earlier that children were also being taught to oppose religion, encouraged to question the beliefs of family members and report those closest to them to authorities.

Facebook Suspends Christian Scholar for Disagreement with Transgender Military Policy

Facebook suspended Robert A.J. Gagnon, a prominent Christian scholar on the topic of Bible sexuality, for seven days. His crime? Speaking out against transgender ideology and President Joe Biden's new transgender military policy. Facebook claimed that Gagnon's criticism of this government-imposed ideology violated the platform's "Community Standards on violence and incitement." Ironically, Gagnon's post drew attention to Facebook's suspension of his friend, Laurie Higgins, who got a seven-day ban for criticizing Biden's policy.

"There was absolutely no incitement to violence on our part. We abhor violence done to any person," Gagnon told PJ Media on Tuesday. "This is just a thinly veiled and pathetic excuse for censorship of any critical views toward trans-tyranny over our consciences, religion, and reason."

"Only one point of view is being allowed," he added, ominously. "Trump was not the great danger to the Republic. Left-wing canceling is." Gagnon teaches as a professor of New Testament Theology at Houston Baptist University.

**Scholars Wonder: Does the "Equality Act" Achieve True Equality?**

When it comes to radical sexual and gender ideology, President Biden has done more than sign an executive order reversing the Trump administration's ban which prevented transgender individuals from serving in the military.

President Biden has also vocalized support for the Equality Act, a bipartisan bill originally introduced in the 116th United States Congress. Christian philosopher and researcher Nancy Pearcey describes the purpose and subsequent effects of the Equality Act:

"Introduced by Nancy Pelosi, the Equality Act inserts 'sexual orientation and gender identity' (SOGI) into the Civil Rights Act, elevating them to the status of protected categories, like race and religion. If the act passes, any person or institution that does not bow before a radical sexual ideology will be silenced."

We can predict the Equality Act's likely impact based on what is happening in states, cities, and local jurisdictions that already have SOGI laws. Here are a few of the ways they have been used to silence dissent from a state-imposed sexual orthodoxy:

- Individuals are losing their jobs, from medical professionals like Dr. Josephson to schoolteachers to tech innovator Brendan Eich, the founder of Mozilla, who was kicked out of his own company.
- Therapy for minors is being outlawed if it does not affirm the SOGI agenda. Parents tell anguished stories of searching high and low for a therapist who will not instantly channel their child into a homosexual or transgender identity.
- Students are being kicked out of graduate schools for not embracing the state orthodoxy on sexuality.
- Schools collude with trans activists by refusing to tell parents which gender identity their children claim at school. Teachers are using the students' opposite-sex names and connecting them with therapists who help them transition – without informing their parents.
- Women's sports are increasingly dominated by male-bodied competitors who identify as girls or women.
- Adoption and foster care agencies are being shut down if they affirm that children fare best in families with a mother and a father, as has happened in Pennsylvania, New York, Illinois, Massachusetts, and the District of Columbia.
- Women's spaces are being invaded by men who identify as women. For example, the Downtown Hope Center, a shelter for homeless, abused, and trafficked women in Anchorage, Alaska, is being sued for not accepting a biological male.
- Small business owners whose craft involves expression are being sued for declining to express views on sexuality that they disagree with. The Colorado baker Jack Phillips was taken to court twice, when activists asked him to bake a cake with a pro-homosexual message and later with a pro-trans message.

With these ripple effects already being observed at the state level, it behooves Christians nationwide to understand that the Equality Act does not reflect a truly "neutral" position on the basis of constitutional equality. Rather, the Equality Act imposes upon society a radical ideology of sexual orientation and gender identity. They are the expression of a worldview entirely different than that of the Word of God, and are themselves religious in nature, assuming a secular ethic and moral base.

With these measures being taken and their subsequent consequences revealed at the state level, it's easy to see what will soon transpire for individuals who dare to question this ethic at the national level. The "Equality Act" will only achieve equality for those who agree with this singular pre-conceived narrative of human identity.

NEWS IN BRIEF

■ The news website of a Christian organization was suspended from its Twitter account last week for saying that Dr. Rachel Levine, President Biden's assistant secretary for health at the Department of HHS, is a biological male: "On Tuesday, President-elect Joe Biden announced that he had chosen Dr. Rachel Levine to serve as Assistant Secretary for Health at the Department of HHS. Dr. Levine is a transgender woman, that is, a man who believes he is a woman." Twitter consequently suspended the account and demanded they remove their tweet.

■ A new report by a leading pro-life group has found that Missouri has become the first "abortion-free state" in America with the last abortion clinic in the state ceasing operations. The Kansas-based Operation Rescue published its "The Status of American Abortion Facilities in 2020" as part of its annual survey on abortion facilities. The report found that "a total of 45 abortion facilities closed or halted abortions nationwide in 2020, leaving one state without an active abortion facility." The news comes as a major victory for pro-life advocates.

SOCIAL TRENDS**College Must Pay \$25,000 to Pro-Life Students After Censoring Free Speech**

Pro-life college students won a legal victory recently after Chemeketa Community College agreed to change its policies restricting free speech on campus.

In the settlement, the college agreed to eliminate its free speech zones and the requirement that students request use of the zones two weeks in advance. The College Fix reports. It also agreed to pay \$25,000 to Chemeketa Students for Life leaders Marcos Sanchez and Emma Howell for their attorneys' fees.

"The only permit students need to speak on campus is the First Amendment," said Michael Ross, a lawyer with Alliance Defending Freedom who represented the students. "Thankfully, Chemeketa has agreed to revise these unconstitutional policies and help ensure that all students can engage in free expression on campus." The Oregon college is a public, taxpayer-funded school.

Sanchez and Howell, co-presidents of the student pro-life club, filed the lawsuit after an incident in February 2020. Their club planned a debate about physician-assisted suicide on campus, but the school restricted the pro-life students from promoting their event, according to Students for Life. The college also told the students that they could not hand out fliers promoting the free resources available at local pregnancy resource centers.

According to Alliance Defending Freedom, the school's unconstitutional policies restricted students to two "free speech zones" that represented less than 1.5 percent of the campus and required a two-week advance request to speak there.

**LEGAL TRENDS****Poll Reveals 71% of U.S. Young Adults Support Limits on Abortion**

A new poll conducted by a national pro-life advocacy group finds unexpectedly strong support for the pro-life movement among millennials and members of Generation Z.

Students for Life of America, a national organization with campuses at schools and colleges nationwide, released the results of a survey compiled as a project of SFLA's Institute for Pro-Life Advancement.

The project surveyed 800 registered voters nationwide between the ages of 18 and 34 from January 7 to January 11. The results have an error margin of plus or minus 3.46 percentage points. Respondents were asked to provide their views on abortion policy.

About 30% of respondents identified themselves as Republicans, while 36% were Democrats and 34% were independent. The survey found that "more than 7 out of 10 expressed support for limits on abortion."

"Far from embracing Planned Parenthood and the Democratic Party Line, Millennials and Generation Z have a more nuanced view of abortion that embraces a number of pro-life positions," SFLA President Kristan Hawkins said in a statement.



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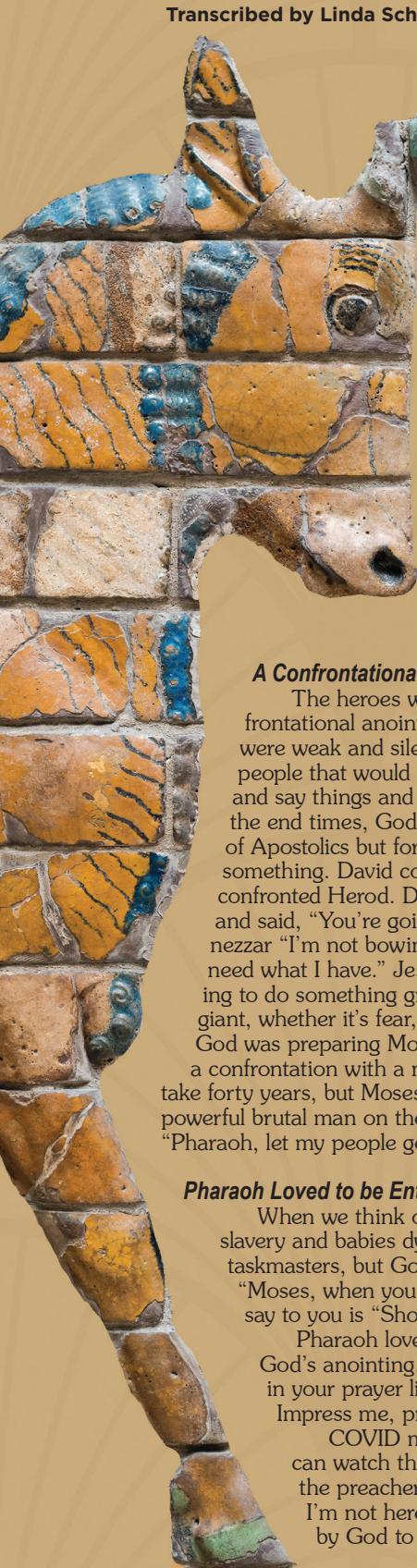
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INTOXICATED WITH BABYLON

REV. JOSHUA HERRING

Transcribed by Linda Schreckenberger



"And the Lord spake unto Moses and unto Aaron, saying, When Pharaoh shall speak unto you, saying, Shew a miracle for you: then thou shalt say unto Aaron, Take thy rod, and cast it before Pharaoh, and it shall be come a serpent. And Moses and Aaron went in unto Pharaoh, and before his servants, and it became a serpent. Then Pharaoh also called the wise men and the sorcerers: now the magicians of Egypt, they also did in like manner with their enchantments, For they cast down every man his rod, and they became serpents; but Aaron's rod swallowed up their rods. And he hardened Pharaoh's heart, that he hearkened not unto them; as the Lord had said."

Exodus 7:8-13

A Confrontational Anointing

The heroes we admire in the Bible had a confrontational anointing. God didn't choose people that were weak and silent and didn't do anything. He used people that would go before kings and before the enemy and say things and be bold. If you're going to be used in the end times, God isn't looking for a weak generation of Apostolics but for those that will stand out and say something. David confronted Goliath. John the Baptist confronted Herod. Daniel looked Belshazzar in the eye and said, "You're going to die." Shadrack told Nebuchadnezzar "I'm not bowing down." Paul told Agrippa, "You need what I have." Jesus stood before Pilate. If you're going to do something great, you've got to confront your own giant, whether it's fear, anxiety, your past or your addiction. God was preparing Moses for something far greater than a confrontation with a no-name Egyptian soldier. It would take forty years, but Moses would go before Pharaoh, the most powerful brutal man on the planet, look him in the eye and say, "Pharaoh, let my people go!"

Pharaoh Loved to be Entertained

When we think of Pharaoh, we think of bondage, slavery and babies dying. I think of cruel punishment and taskmasters, but God didn't think of any of that. He said "Moses, when you confront Pharaoh, the first thing he'll say to you is "Show me a miracle."

Pharaoh loved to be entertained by the man of God's anointing. "Moses, show me what you learned in your prayer life. Tell me about the burning bush. Impress me, preacher."

COVID made spectators out of saints. You can watch the service and do the dishes. When the preacher says, "Pray," you can turn it off.

I'm not here to entertain you. We're anointed by God to deliver you! Church is now on your

iPhone or iPad. Watch a little church at nine, and watch a little football later. "When you're done, preacher, the world entertains me."

A Snake Fight

Aaron threw Moses's rod down, and it became a snake. Jannes and Jambres came in and turned their rods into snakes. The name Jannes means to vex, and Jambres means foamy healer. Then, Moses's rod, turned snake, ate the other snakes!

Pharaoh was like, "Wow! This is cool. I've got Moses doing miracle tricks, and magicians doing magic tricks." "I can have church and the world." But you unleash a snake fight in the spirit world! Now the rod of Moses and the rods of Jannes and Jambres are fighting. Moses probably didn't sleep by the rod that night. "Just put the rod by the bed, Moses." "I think not! That thing's going outside the tent!"

The anointing goes against your addiction no one knows about. You're tormented because the two are warring with each other. You want to go all in. Entertainment says, "Just chill, baby. It's COVID. Take time off from God. Stop praying. Binge watch on Netflix, but don't binge watch preaching!"

The Nile River was turned to blood, and Pharaoh went into his house and put it out of his mind. What did you do today, Pharaoh? "Oh, I watched the greatest river in the world turn to blood! It's no big deal, just a preacher and a false prophet."

Frogs in the House

"Unleash the frogs, Moses!" Boom! Frogs are everywhere, including the palace. I pray for an anointing that bothers the comfortable; not convicted; never going to pray through; never going to break down; never going to deal with the struggle in you. Moses's message was now getting into Pharaoh's house! What you feel here eventually will make its way into your house. God wants a place of habitation in your family, not just a visitation.

"Oh, Moses, the show was cool until the frogs! Get rid of them!" "It was good preaching until... I missed the game? He preached that long?"

Entertainment Intoxicates

You're intoxicated with entertainment when you want your deliverance tomorrow! Intoxication starts with excitement and euphoria, then progresses to confusion, stupor, and finally, death. You can watch twenty hours of shows and desire to get up and pray in the morning. Then you sleep in. Entertainment kills your discipline to step from the world into the Spirit! There's a difference in being too exhausted from work to get up early and pray and not being able to wake up after going to bed at two in the morning, because you were on your phone for six hours.

The Competition Becomes Divided

Then the lice came! Don't mess with God, because he has weird ways of getting to you. "I'm not going to pray." Well, enjoy the bugs, in your hair!

"Man, Moses! Lice? Really? Magicians, compete!" But they couldn't make the lice appear. Pharaoh's show is now becoming divided. His magicians declare, "This is nothing but the finger of God!" What a moment when the spirit of entertainment admits God's little finger is more powerful than anything it can do.

Pharaoh's already having a bad day with frogs, lice, and locusts. Then boils broke out. I never understood why God had Moses put his hand inside his bosom, and it came out with leprosy, until I found out the word boils meant leprosy. The magicians couldn't stand before Pharaoh, because they had leprosy.

"But if I stop watching the show, I won't know who dies." I know you're dead, spiritually! "If I stop being on my phone, I'll miss out on so much, and the selfies....! If I start reading my Bible instead of going to the same social media site 4,300 times a day, I won't see who posted something new." Yeah, you're going to miss out.... on hell. I'm convinced when the Rapture takes place, people will be distracted on their phones.

Confronting the Big One

The spirit atmosphere becomes tight, and the church becomes quiet when you mess with the gods of this world, and I've come to mess with the big one. Jesus said in Luke 11:34, "The light of the body is the eye. Therefore, when thine eye is single, thy whole body is full of light, but when thine eye is evil, thy body also is full of darkness."

Michael Landon of Little House on the Prairie said, "When you're entertained by shows, you're letting people into your living room, that if you really knew them, you would never let them in." You can't watch sex scenes all the time and wonder why you're struggling with adultery and fornication. You cannot let the world into your eyes and expect your heart to be clean.

"I'm not really struggling or sinning." The devils are saying, "We're inside! We've got his eyes. We've got her eyes." Pharaoh started the encounter by saying, "Show me a miracle." He died watching a miracle as the Red Sea drowned him. Apostolic anointing entertaining you will eventually drown you.

Drunk on Entertainment

You would think Pharaoh would plead with Moses, "I'm sorry, Moses, please bring my kid back to life." But his last words to Moses were, "Bless me also." You're drunk on entertainment when your family is dying and going to hell, and all you care about is blessing.

The moment you start criticizing leadership, entertainment has you, because it creates a critical spirit. Michal criticized David and became barren, and David let the Philistines kill the seven kids she already had. If Michal and Pharaoh were here, Pharaoh would say, "It'll cost you your son! Michal would say, "Don't just watch and criticize. You'll survive, but Junior dies." Entertainment is after your boy! You shouldn't make your son fight his daddy's demons and your daughter, her mother's monsters, just because you're fine.

Why aren't we seeing miracles in North America? We watch everything; games, concerts, shows, church, preaching, etc., and the devil loves it.

Throw the Rod Down, Game On

I've been praying all day, "Let the altar call get into their houses. Let it get on their phones. Let it get on their iPads!" I'm not your Hulu, Netflix, or Disney Plus, but I've come to wake you up. You know if there's another god in your house. College kid, delete apps that give access to your struggles. I pray for a John the Baptist anointing; a Samuel spirit; an Elijah mentality. I wish there were dads who wouldn't care what their teenage attitude kid thought and moms who wouldn't care who rolls their eyes at them. Throw the rod down and tell hell, "Game on!"

There are throne room angels here! I'm here to connect you to an atmosphere of heaven. I'm tired of our intercessors walking in deep depression, because this spirit has dragged them down.

Preach to the Lost

Bro. Stoneking taught me when a hero dies, and they visit you in a dream, it's probably their angel, because their angel looks like them. They thought it was Peter's angel at the door.

Eli Hernandez, my mentor, died this year of COVID at sixty. In a dream early this morning, I was sitting in this sanctuary with my family. There were different preachers and people. Suddenly, out of nowhere, Bro. Hernandez was behind the pulpit in like mid-message form, where the preacher's going crazy, and this is what he said; "Preach to the lost, preach to the lost, preach to the lost!" I turned and there was a city on fire, He was walking in the fire, and the angels were saying, "We've been sent to these cities now, preach to the lost!"

Regardless of COVID, we can have a harvest. In Alabama, fourteen people received the Holy Ghost, and twelve were baptized on a Sunday morning. In a little church outside Dallas, seven people got the Holy Ghost, five were baptized, and one came out of the water healed!

Intoxicated with Babylon

"Well, Bro. Herring, you're preaching against everything tonight." Why are you defending what you know you're addicted to that's trying to take out your child? In his book, *Intoxicated with Babylon*, Steve Gallagher says the average American sees 9,000 sexual scenes per year. The preacher preaches and you say, "Well, that was old-school!" People say that to me. Where have we fallen to when you say the word "entertainment," and you're old-school? Were John the Baptist, Paul and Peter old-school? They stood for what was right and pure. Herod, if John the Baptist and your brother's wife are in the same house, you're going to either kill the preacher or the relationship. You're going to either shut down the voice of the man of God or shut down the struggle.

"God, consume us like a fire!" Repentance unlocks things and connects you to the favor of God. "Be ye holy for I am Holy," says the Lord. Pray in tongues. Scatter the enemy's camp. "Let God arise and his enemies be scattered." Take authority and let the spirit world know, "My eye is single. My ears are single. My mouth is single. Therefore, my body is full of the light of the Holy Ghost. My eyes, ears and mind belong to Jesus." Win that snake fight, and let the magicians get boils! Let the frogs loose. It's time for victory in uncommon places, victory in hidden places, and victory in secret places.

Rev. Joshua Herring has served as a full-time Evangelist for 18 years. He & his lovely wife, Jenee, have 4 children; Jude, Jhett, Jade & Jaxton. He is based out of the First Pentecostal Church, pastored by Rev. Brian Kinsey in Pensacola, FL. The Herrings are seeking direction from God to leave the Evangelistic field to pastor in the near future.



Rev. & Sis. Joshua Herring
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Greeting Cards “With a Heart”

By Susan Thomas



Diana Taryle
Phoenix, AZ

Greeting cards are one of the most welcomed and popular forms of communication today. Greeting cards are a personal expression, a tool for communication, and a means for building and strengthening

relationships. It is also a tool you can effectively use for evangelism and personal discipleship with Creating Heart Felt Cards.

The motivation behind launching such a ministry is that the cards are a personal expression for building relationships. A lot of times you can show something and say something through a card that you normally might not be able to convey or say. There are Thank You Cards, Holiday Cards, Birthday Cards, and Christmas Cards, and too many other cards to note here. Sis Diana Taryle, of Phoenix, Arizona, states, “It is our purpose to not only create cards with quality art design, but also to create cards with a heart!” She attends Praise Center, pastored by Rev. Ronald Hall, in Prescott Valley, Arizona.

A thoughtful, well-designed card is a good way to express your heart. “Care that is felt, and then expressed, is like fruit from

the vine that delights the heart, nourishes the spirit, and brings needed strength to the soul,” states Sis Taryle. Second, a church greeting card not only gives you the opportunity of expressing your heart; it also gives you the wonderful opportunity of expressing God’s heart. It tells the receiver that you care, and that God cares, too. Third, greeting cards can become very personal keepsakes. You can slip a card into an encouragement box to be read again and again. No matter how a card has aged, the message remains timeless. And the care expressed is fondly remembered and appreciated.

But above all, the most important reason to choose a Christian greeting card is for its ministry value. A card allows you to plant seeds of truth along with a caring, personal message. “Beyond any care that we can express in word or deed, God’s pure love penetrates the heart in ways we aren’t able to comprehend. Each Scripture in a card speaks words of life which the Holy Spirit takes and applies to an individual’s need,” explains Sis. Taryle.

There are few things that bring joy and light up a person’s face like a greeting card. Just receiving a greeting card brings a happy smile and gives a warm feeling of love and

caring. It’s a way of showing that someone cares and that you are not alone in whatever battle you may be facing, or maybe just a thank-you, or even to wish someone a Merry Christmas. “It allows you to convey heartfelt emotions in a non-threatening way, through a universally accepted medium. It creates a doorway into someone’s heart that may not be opened any other way,” states Sis Taryle.

The requirements for a Greeting Card Ministry are minimal. You just need a computer, a decent printer, and some creativity.

The cards adorn beautiful pictures that in themselves can convey a message. The cost to make them varies depending on what level someone wants. For more information, please call or text Sis. Diana Taryle at (480) 272-1050.

You can also visit her website at <https://www.greetingcardministries.org>.



A Burden for the Children

By Susan Thomas



Hannah Hurley
Oak Hill, WV

“Anytime anyone gets the Holy Ghost, my heart overflows with joy. To know that God is working with me to do what I cannot do; that is ‘success’ to me,” states Sis. Hannah Hurley. She attends Solid Rock Worship Center in Oak Hill, West Virginia. Her

pastor, who is also her uncle, is Greg Hurley.

“An exciting story that vividly comes to mind was one night at our Vacation Bible School. The Holy Ghost came powerfully on a child from rural West Virginia. Tears streamed down her face. She prayed so long that we had already loaded the rest of the kids up to send them home. I put my arm around her and walked her out to the van with tears still soaking her face. As I was about to tell her goodbye, she burst out between sobs saying, ‘I used to think I knew what the Holy Ghost was, but I didn’t really know. But, now I know!’ That meant more to me than words can say,” Sis. Hurley shared.

So, why did Sis. Hurley become a children’s evangelist? Her powerful testimony follows. “I had never taught a Sunday school

class in my life. A minister at our church came to me and wanted me to help him in his efforts to start a children’s church. Shortly after that, he and his family moved and I was left in charge. If I may be honest, at the beginning I hated it, mostly because I felt I had no idea what I was doing. Once, I had decided to quit, and the Lord spoke to me that I needed to keep doing what I was doing, so I did.

“One day, I went to the church to pray. As I prayed for the children’s ministry, I felt a burden. I may not have been called at that moment to go on the mission field, pastor a church, or have any position that was considered to be ‘great’ by some. But God had allotted me a place in His kingdom,



and I needed to do my very best.” Sis. Hurley adds, “I had an unshakable burden. I wept and interceded for the children of my city. God put it in my heart that day to start community children’s services on Friday night. My pastor saw my burden and how the Lord was using me to reach the children in our city. He approached me one evening and stated he wanted me to sign up with the Association of Children’s Evangelists (ACE). He told me he felt it was the will of God for my life.”

Sis. Hurley was accepted into ACE the fall of 2019. Everything scheduled for this summer was canceled due to COVID-19. “I do community kids’ services in my church, and I go with others from my church to areas in our community, to let them know about our upcoming event and get a list of kids that want to come. That Friday, we bus them all into the church and feed them. We bring them into our sanctuary for the Ultimate Competition between the boys and the girls. At the conclusion of the competition, we usually bring out a crazy character and perform a skit, informs Sis. Hannah Hurley.

You can contact Sis. Hurley through her email: hurley.k.hannah@gmail.com.



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Word To The Wise:

"Inaction breeds doubt and fear. Action breeds confidence and courage. If you want to conquer fear, do not sit home and think about it. Go out and get busy." - Dale Carnegie

A Jewish rabbi and a Catholic priest met at the town's annual 4th of July picnic. Old friends, they began their usual banter.

"This baked ham is really delicious," the priest teased the rabbi. "You really ought to try it. I know it's against your religion, but I can't understand why such a wonderful food should be forbidden! You don't know what you're missing. You just haven't lived until you've tried Mrs. Frobisher's prized Virginia Baked Ham. Tell me, Rabbi, when are you going to break down and try it?"

The rabbi looked at the priest with a big grin, and said, "At your wedding."

* * * * *



"Ed moves that we buy new choir raincoats and adjourn for pizza. Do I hear a second?"

* * * * *

A large passenger plane is on its way across the Atlantic. It flies consistently at 800 km/h at 35,000 feet, when suddenly an F-22 Raptor appears. The pilot of the fighter jet slows down, flies alongside the Airbus and greets the pilot of the passenger plane by radio: "Airbus flight, a boring flight isn't it? Take care and have a look here!"

He rolls his jet on its back, accelerates, breaks through the sound barrier, rises rapidly to a dizzying height, only to swoop down almost to sea level in a breathtaking dive. He loops back next to the plane and asks, "Well, how was that?"

The airplane pilot answers: "Very impressive, but now have a look here!" The jet pilot watches the plane, but nothing happens. It continues to fly stubbornly straight, with the same speed.

After five minutes, the plane pilot radioed, "Well, what are you saying now?"

The jet pilot asks confused: "What did you do?"

The other laughs and says, "I got up, stretched my legs, went to the back of the flight to the bathroom, got a cup of coffee and a cinnamon cake."



"Hello. I'm here to install the new pastor."

* * * * *

The doctor answered the phone on his day off and heard the familiar voice of a colleague on the other end of the line. "We need a fourth player for our golf match-up," said the friend.

"I'll be right over," whispered the doctor. As he was putting on his coat, his wife asked, "Is it serious?"

"Oh yes, quite serious," said the doctor gravely. "In fact, there are three doctors there already!"

* * * * *

A mom and her children watched a special showing the birth of a baby.

Witnessing the miracle of life for the first time, one fascinated child asked, "Mom, does that hurt?"

"Oh, yes, it does," she said, remembering her difficult deliveries. She paused to remember the beauty in her "quiver-full" of children despite the pain.

"Wow," said the kid. "Does it hurt the mother, too?"

* * * * *

Joan: Herb, if you don't stop snoring, I'm going to toss you out on your ear!

John: Does it upset you that much?

Joan: Not just me, the entire congregation.



"Uh, Reverend Dooby, the board would like to speak with you about your dishware..."



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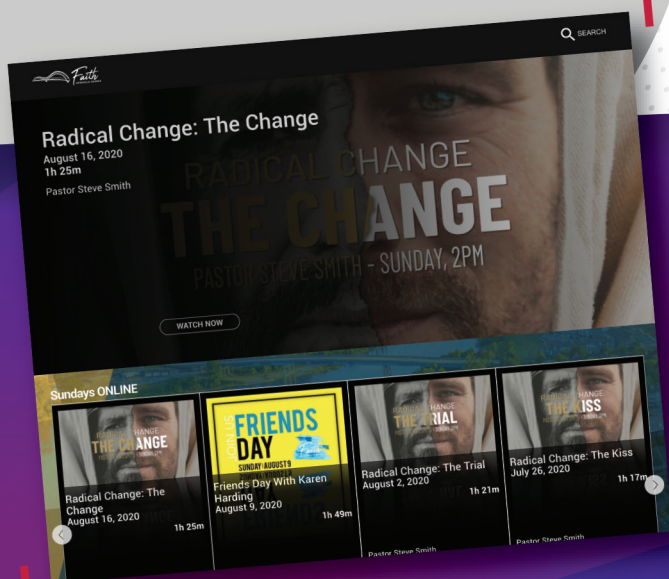
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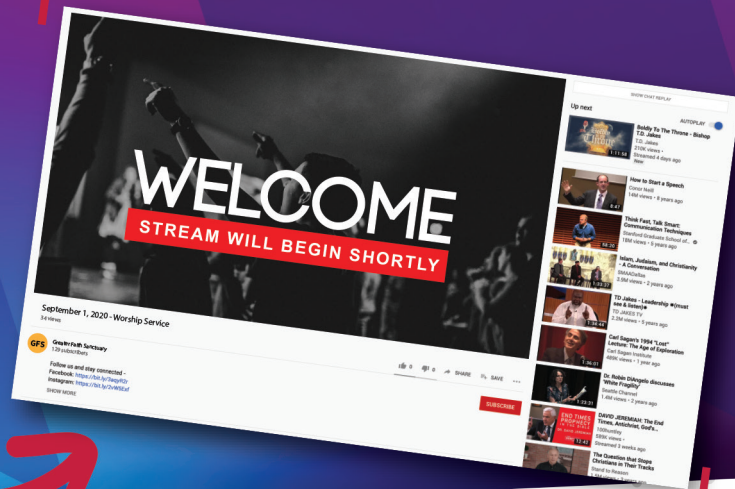
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