



THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

www.nacoc.org

May 18, 2010

The Pressure Families Feel to Feel Good

“But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.” Matthew 6:33

There is a gargantuan pressure in our society to feel good. And I’m not necessarily talking merely about sensuality. I’m talking about *feeling good*. But there is a Grand Canyon between feeling good and *being good*.

Feeling good is buying the kiddies’ love with presents you really can’t afford. Being good is exercising discipline over your mountain of debt because you know they don’t really need more stuff and you don’t have the money. And even if you did, your consistent, caring, presence in their life is more important than the next iPod gizmo that can hold seven gazillion rap songs.

The world’s version of feeling good has ruined Tiger Woods and multitudes of less notable husbands. But being good is what makes women truly love and appreciate their spouses.

Feeling good might be getting your husband to dance like a marionette. Being good is respecting him as the leader of your home and honoring his role—and *yours*.

Feeling good is like taking a walk through the Okefenokee Swamp—it’s kind of fun, but you never know where the next step will take you. (*Okefenokee* was the Seminole word for “land of shifting earth.”) If you live your life anchored to the idea that feeling good comes first, soon your anchor won’t be anchored at all and your family will become yet another wreck on the reef of pleasant feelings.

Feeling good distorts how you treat others, causing you to be so easily offended at your neighbor’s miscues. The idol of feeling good may enslave you to others—for fear you will not feel good about making them feel bad. Feeling good can be a vicious taskmaster.

Feeling good is all about the present, the feeling *right now*. Being good is about doing right things *now*, no matter the present feeling, so I can feel really good in the future. Oh, this principle is *soooooo*, needed in families today. Abraham was a *be gooder* instead of a *feel gooder*. In his sandals, I would have struggled when Jehovah commanded the sacrifice of his son. But his action was based on confidence in what was right when Jehovah commanded the sacrifice of his son. But his action was based on confidence in what was right (obedience)— even if it meant giving up something so precious— and enduring a personal anguish right now.

Moses gave up feeling good in royal splendor to suffer with God’s people. Why? Because he developed **conviction** about being good over feeling good.

And dare we speak of our Lord, “who, existing in the form of God, counted not the being on an equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being made in the likeness of men; and being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, becoming obedient even unto death, yea, the death of the cross” (Phil. 2:6-8). It was the **only** way to save you and me from an eternal pit of misery and despair.

Which is more important: feeling good or being good? Neither. Both. You see, it’s not an either-or proposition. It’s a now-or-then proposition. Our Lord “endured the cross” for the “joy that was set before him.” But that joy was obtained through a proper order, a proper means. And not by some shortcut devised by the devil.

The problem is this: we have long been trained at Satan’s knee to feel good about ... continued next page

...all the wrong things, for all the wrong reasons. My goal is to feel “on top-of-the-mountain” good about my wife, my children, my church, my life, my service. But I can’t reach that summit if I’m not willing to *endure* the climb. There are things in our families and others we must endure: a bitter tongue, a thoughtless act, a broken attitude. And the answer is not to respond in kind, but to do good, knowing it will bring forth fruit in its season.

Just start observing the people around you and ask this question: Is the way they are behaving about feeling good or being good? Then ask the same question of yourself. It may feel good to chew out the “stupid” lady (who is having to work two jobs to support her “down and out” husband and four kids) because she forgot the special sauce on your jumbo taco meal. But as you boast about your triumph (over and over), you are slowly creating a cancer for yourself with an eternal bitter fruit.

Work on being good, doing good. Sacrifice feeling good now for feeling *great* later. Be willing to make a hard choice today and invest in your future. Or...will you sacrifice your future for a mess of pottage today?

-The Family Friend, Calvert City, KY, Jared Jackson, 03/2010

EPHESIANS CHAPTER ONE

E C A R G T R U C K D O O L B Y	ALSO	GLORY
I M A G I N A D O H U H T O B R	APOSTLE	GRACE
S P O R T T D E E D O S C E T O	BEING	HOPE
S K I D S E W S D A T S M O Y L	BLAME	JESUS
S P O I S O T S E A R A E D M G	BLESSED	MAKING
S O R T R I V E A L L T O N T E	BLOOD	MIGHT
T H E L I U W L D B I B H E A R	BODY	POWER
C I D E P O H B E L T S O P A P	BOTH	PRAISE
O S S E N L U F H W F R O M R Y	CHOSEN	SEALED
B L U S T E R T T O O L S A L L	CHRIST	SPIRIT
A T H G I M H E E D S R I N D S	COME	WHAT
P L U G N G E T L D J S K E N G	DEAD	WISDOM
O O Z E U I A L L R E E L I N T	EARTH	WORD
S O W O O H K L I O L A S I N G	FILLETH	WORKING
L U R E W I N A F W E W E U N G	FROM	WORLD
A W E A R I N G M S U B E R S O	FULNESS	WROUGHT

“THAT’S WHEN”

When a farmer stops plowing his land, stops planting seed, and stops harvesting, he has stopped doing those things that identify him as a farmer.

When a Christian stops attending the assembly, stops studying the Bible, stops singing and praying, stops teaching others, and stops giving as he has been prospered, he has stopped doing those things that identify him as a Christian.

Are you still a Christian in God’s sight? Take an inventory of your life, right now!

-Handley Herald

YOUTH NEWS

- Thanks to our youth for working hard to collect food items for the Children’s Home in New Mexico. They collect 592 items.
- This month’s Youth Devo will be held May 21st, at the Wall’s campout.
- Area Wide Youth Meeting Sunday, June 13, at the Hwy 15 Pontotoc Church of Christ

For daily devotional & updates call NEWSLINE @ 534-0016

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Linda Griggs, was released from the hospital Monday. She is recovering from (6) bypass surgery.

Nicki Weaver, was able to be at worship Sunday, but is still having a difficult time with her eyes.

Marie Yancey, (sister of Sue Marques) her surgery was rescheduled for Thursday, May 20. This is a serious surgery on her leg. Please remember her.

Bill Lyon, is recovering from eyelid surgery.

Donna Weeden, will begin very intense chemotherapy on June 1st. (friend of Sarah Walker)

Adam & Monica Lindsey, are expecting a child that doctors believe to have some abnormalities. They will be seeing a specialist.

Pauline Smith, is having health problems. The family request no visitors at this time but would appreciate calls or cards.

Craig Glen, has bleeding behind his eyes and is diabetic. (friend of Troy & Novene Robertson)

Continual Prayer List

J.A. Thornton, the Shane Nance family, Connie Walton, J.D. Stroud, Wayne Jernigan, Dee Cox, Tom Elliott, Terry Young, Bobby Montgomery, Jean Drummond

Shut-Ins

Lessie Bryant, Billy Joe Garner, Laura Mae Harris, Belle Cross, Raymond & Amy Vest, Nursing Home/Assisted Living:

Sue Collins, Shane Hutton, Corrine Hall, Willie Jackson, Dessie Lee Allred, Mattie Golden, Eunice Mabry, Faye Owen & Anna Davis

Military List:

David Wilhite-Navy-Florida Barry Wilhite-Marine-Navy -Virginia, Jimmie Stutts-Air Force-California, Tiffany Erwin- Army-Fort Campbell, KY; Aaron Raines-Army, Afghanistan; Jamie Vansandt, Alaska; Michelle Montgomery, Fort Leonard, Missouri, Jim Vest-Afghanistan

BIRTHDAYS

May 22.....Will Bowlin

May 27.....Olen Clark

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

May 20.....Bill & Karen Botts

THANK YOU

Thanks for your prayers, calls, flowers, cards and visits while I was in the hospital. It meant so much.

Rivers Robertson

(Troy Robertson's mother)

PICNIC & CAMPOUT

This Friday, May 21st, will be the annual Spring Picnic/Campout held at Randy and Christy Wall's beautiful lake. You may come early and fish if you like. The meal will be served around 6:30PM. Please remember to bring your lawn chair and stay as long as you like. This month's Youth Devo will be held at the campout. We appreciate the Wall family so much!

GOSPEL MEETING

Our Spring Gospel Meeting is fast approaching, so begin inviting your friends and neighbors. Our guest speaker will be Jesse Robertson. Bro. Robertson teaches at Freed-Hardeman University and is a minister at the Estes church of Christ. The dates for the meeting are May 30—June 2. We will have regular service times on Sunday, plus a meal following morning worship. We will meet Mon.-Wed at 7PM. Adult I Class will host a meal Mon. night, Adult II, Tue. Night and Adult III on Wed. night at 5:45. All are welcome.

AREA ANNOUNCEMENTS

Gospel Meeting @ Hwy 178 Church of Christ, New Albany, May 16-20. Terry Wallace will be the guest speaker. Mon. -Thurs. night @ 7:00p.m.

Visit our website @ <http://www.nacoc.org>

OUR RECORD

Sunday School	n/c
Sunday A.M	134
Sunday P.M.	107
Wednesday	92
Contribution.....	\$3,031.07
Budget	\$3,305.70

TO SERVE

Scripture	Steve Todd
A.M. Prayer	Brad Pounders
Closing Prayer ..	Bobby Marques
P.M. Prayer.....	Phillip Young
Closing.....	Randy Wall
Wed. 5/26..	Troy Robertson
Wed. 5/26.....	Bill Botts
Usher & Lock	Greg Clayton
Greeters.....	L&N Weaver

PANTRY ITEM: CANNED MEAT

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday School.....	9:30
Morning Worship	10:30
Evening Worship.....	6:00
Wednesday Bible Study	7:00

Elders

Richard Jennings	534-6671
Troy Robertson.....	534-3491

Deacons

Bill Botts	316-2422
Greg Clayton	538-0791
Roger Clayton.....	534-5240
Andy Clemmer	816-5887
Harold Russell	534-4648
Randy Wall.....	316-9255

Minister

Office.....	534-4649
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Deadly Marbles

The Mexican man who loaded the scrap metal from a southern Arizona junk pile into his beat up truck bed was excited. The big haul would mean food on the table and money in his pocket once he sold the scrap metal for cash at a recycling plant in Mexico.

As the truck pulled onto the highway, little steel balls from an antique dental X-ray machine began to drop onto the ribbed bed of the truck. These tiny, radioactive marbles bounced among the shifting sheets of metal and rolled back and forth in the truck bed. Some of them spilled along the highway.

After the scrap metal had been sold, the man hurried back to his village with the metal balls still rolling in the grooves of the truck bed. In no time at all the children discovered the shiny, bright treasures—and the game of marbles became popular in the village. The balls were a coveted addition to any child's collection of marbles.

Before long, many in the town began to complain of similar symptoms: red rash, fatigue, loss of hair, vomiting. After many months and several deaths in the village, the truth was discovered: dozens of people were suffering from severe radiation poisoning.

The pretty little balls, held, traded, and treasured, turned out to be both delightful and deadly.

Sin is a lot like those little marbles. Although it often appears to be harmless, innocent and fun to play with, it's always a deadly poison. (Job 20: 12-15)

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