

Plain Path

Weekly newsletter of the Fry Road church of Christ

Sunday, January 5, 2014

Volume 19, Number 1

“Teach me thy way, O Lord, and lead me in a plain path... Wait on the Lord; be of good courage, and He shall strengthen thine heart” (Psalm 27:11-14)

YOUR CHILD'S NEW TOY

by Bob Pulliam

The American Family Association Journal (October 2013) reports that the current average age for beginning exposure to pornography is eleven years old. Yes, that's eleven as in preteen eleven. Keep in mind that this is just an average. You can't wait until their eleventh birthday and start protecting them. A child can be exposed much earlier, and they may have

gotten a toy for Christmas that will help providers gain that access. This is *not* just a problem boys struggle with. Girls, in increasing numbers, are entertaining themselves with this illicit intrusion into their holiness.

What's the problem? That is the question of the worldly who do not understand what God expects of His people. Nor do they understand the dangers this presents to any and every human being. The problem is not one of being too Victorian to recognize that intimacy exists between males and females. Those who are addicted to porn like to characterize us this way. And, as

(Toy, continued on pg 2...)



JUDGMENT DAY

by Bob Pulliam

The famous journalist and essayist, Alistair Cooke, once recounted the following event in American history:

The Time was the 19th of May 1780. The place was Hartford, Connecticut. The day has gone down in New England history as a terrible foretaste of Judgment Day. For at noon the skies turned from blue to grey and by mid-afternoon had blackened over so densely that, in that religious age, men fell on their knees and begged a final blessing before the end came. The Connecticut House of Representatives was in session. And as some of the men fell down and others clamored for an immediate adjournment, the speaker of the

(Judgment, continued on pg 2...)

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is often the case, the truth is vilified in an effort to vindicate evil. We are told that it is harmless; it's like any other form of entertainment; and even that it helps prepare a person for marriage (which is the exact opposite of the truth). Further on, we will discuss what the problem is here, and what the Bible has to say. But first, let's consider the availability of porn to your children or grandchildren.

Does your child have a tablet that can connect to the Internet? Then they have access to porn. Do they have a smart phone? Then they have access to porn. Do they have a computer that has no filters installed? Then they have access to porn. And the porn sites are not waiting for your in-

nocent child to come looking for them! They are actively seeking your child through deceptive search queries and redirects that will land them with an eyeful. And curiosity, more often than not, will be more powerful than what they have been told about not looking. They believe that no one can know that they ever clicked to the next image or page, and feel safe doing so. After all, God didn't strike them dead for looking at what they just saw! It only takes a few moments to make the process "comfortable" enough to move from curiosity to enjoyment. As the enjoyment releases endorphins in their developing bodies, they find an exhilaration unlike anything they've ever known. From what I've read, it doesn't take long for addiction to take hold.

Addiction, then, is the first

element of danger we might point out. It isn't just that you are compelled to engage in something. It is a compulsion toward destruction! So we begin with the spiritual danger. Sensual lust is a sin (Mt 5:28; Rom 1:24; I Th 4:3-5). We are what we think (Mk 7:21-23). And we cannot help but think that which we have wilfully exposed ourselves to! Paul told Timothy to flee youthful lusts (II Tim 2:22); but people today seem to know better and rush toward them. The end for the unrepentant will be the same as for all who reject God's counsel (Mk 9:43-48).

But there are physical consequences as well. The most immediate may be the virus inflicting your computer, and the computers of everyone in your e-mail address book (yes, your habit does affect others). Porn sites do not

(Toy, continued on pg 3...)

THIS WEEK'S DAILY BIBLE READINGS

NEW TESTAMENT READING

JOHN 1 - 5

January 5 - 7

OLD TESTAMENT READING

GENESIS 1 - 9

January 8 - 11

I TIMOTHY 4:13

(Judgment, continued from pg 1...)

House, one Colonel Davenport, came to his feet. He silenced them and said these words: "The day of judgment is either approaching or it is not. If it is not, there is no cause for adjournment. If it is, I choose to be found doing my duty. I wish therefore that candles may be brought."

(Great Quotes & Illustrations (Word Books, Waco, 1985), p156.)

Many people try to adjourn

their lives from duty to God. Some even do so in the face of tragedy. The faithful service we render to the Lord in our lives will be a means to our great glory in the day of judgment. Although we are given the victory in Jesus; yet we still must work out our own salvation with fear and trembling (Phil 2:12).

May this new year see us in diligent service to our Savior, and may He continue to grant us the blessings of peace with our God and creator as we live in this storm ridden world.



FAMILY NEWS & NOTES

News and Notes of Interest
to Fry Road Members

Because of the large number of visitors to our services, we would ask those wishing to identify with the congregation to do so by expressing this interest directly to the elders.

Upcoming Meetings & Events:

Gospel Meeting (Mark White)
January 26 - 29, 2014

Gospel Meeting (Steve Wolfgang)
April 13 - 16, 2014

V.B.S. ("We Would See Jesus")
June 23 - 26, 2014

Annual Singing
September 20, 2014

Sick and Shut-Ins

Sections have been removed to preserve member's privacy

"...I was sick, and you visited me..."
Matthew 25:36

Sermons:

Next Sunday:

As Christ Also Received Us

Tonight:

A Bible Summary

Grief Stricken

(Toy, continued from pg 2...)

rank at the top, but it is an exposure danger that your friends will not appreciate. The next problem in line is financial, because you eventually will be drawn to purchasing porn. Don't tell me you won't. You're dealing with professionals. They know what they're doing... you don't! Many have maxed their plastic for pleasure. For children, their innocence has been violated, and their respect for the opposite sex compromised. They can never look upon a potential mate with the respect that is deserved. It will be a struggle (possibly an impossibility) to look for anything other than sex in their search for a mate. If we could peer into the dark recesses of unknown truth, it may be quite surprising how many divorces are the result of this very problem. And adults already in a relationship when they start a porn addiction will find this lack of respect powerful enough to tear them apart.

Your child is happy with their new toy. Don't miss the possible dangers. After all, you wouldn't give your ten-year-old a chain saw for Christmas. And while a new toy may have benefits, take precautions against the way Satan may use your gift to destroy that innocent life (I Pt 5:8). 

*"Be of sober spirit,
be on the alert. Your
adversary, the devil,
prowls about like a
roaring lion, seeking
someone to devour."*

(I Peter 5:8)

FOR THE RECORD

WEEKLY ASSIGNMENTS

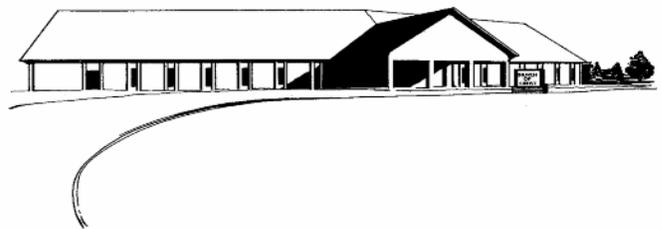
MONTHLY ASSIGNMENTS

Sections have been removed to preserve member's privacy

IN KEEPING WITH OUR LONG STANDING AGREEMENT, THOSE SERVING PUBLICLY ARE REMINDED TO PLEASE DRESS IN A MANNER RESPECTFUL OF THE GOD WHOM WE SERVE.

ELDERS:

Ruben Amador
Matthew Heaton
Donnie Mangrum
Steve Voss



DEACONS:

John Coleman	Ken Dunsmore
David Ellison	Ray Farrell
Aubrey Garner	Steve Geraci
Steve LaGrasta	John Light
Steven Martin	Mike McMurray
Jason Mock	David Stevenson
Glenn Tomblin	

TIMES OF SERVICES

Sunday Bible Classes	9:30 AM
Sunday Morning Assembly	10:30 AM
Sunday Evening Assembly	6:00 PM
Wednesday Bible Classes	7:30 PM

EVANGELIST & EDITOR:

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