



# NO GREATER JOY

*"I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth." III John 4*

## On Close Examination

When you have spent ten minutes with a parent and child, you can feel whether or not there is a healthy environment for growth and development. Now we are not looking at how much they know or even how informed they are in parenting skills. To be able to define technique and principle is useful and often saves a lot of time when faced with a problem. But there is something that runs much deeper; it is as deep as the soul. We see parents who are socially clumsy, intellectually slow, and couldn't discuss child training with any coherence at all; yet they are good parents, raising stable, contented kids.

On the other hand, we know of parents who are wise enough to provide stimulating and challenging conversation on points of child training, parents who could probably teach an impressive class on the subject. They have read several good books, retained most of what they read, and are very confident of their abilities. Yet,

as you see them relate to their children, you know they have problems that will lead to great disappointment.

What is the missing ele-



ment? It is a matter of the soul. We are not talking about religious indoctrination or spiritual airs; we are talking about the life and attitude that makes us who we are inside. In some homes you can sense that the parents and the children are just coexist-

ing. Out of the chance of nature they are sharing the same dwelling. They may maintain a compromising truce, bringing relative stability, but you know that what you are seeing are souls in competition. The parents have disciplined the children into subjection, but the children are not walking in the parents' light; they are walking around their parents' displeasure. There is no mutual respect and appreciation. The parent and child are walking separate paths. Due to the necessity of circumstances, their paths are running parallel, but they are not walking together, not in fellowship. They are all survivors. For practical purposes they have learned to get along with various degrees of give and take.

Then there are those relationships where parents seems to have invisible radio links to their children. It is like they were in constant communication. You sense that the parents' most important moment-by-moment task is to nurture their children. We

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Dear Pearls

"In my attempts to be what one author terms a "Gentle Parent", my little girl could bring me to my knees in frustration and anger. When I finally did resort to a spanking, I felt like I was reflecting my parent who was out of control and had beaten me. The information in your book, when applied here in our home has not only removed from me the fear of being a reflection of my parent, but has allowed a feeling of loving control and training to come to our home. I was the emotionally weak mother who was afraid to turn my child's favor against me, for fear of losing her affection. Instead, as your book states, she has fallen more in love with me. The wooden "Spankyspoon" that we use is almost like her friend. Our marriage has been greatly strengthened through our uniting in our child-raising theories."

From KY

## Close Examination

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are not talking about constantly indulging, or even constant attention, but just an awareness of their child's soul. The parents are ever on guard, stimulating, challenging, teasing, encouraging, appreciating their children.

If you were to approach a child who is part of such a culturing relationship and ask, "What does your Mother/Father think about you? The child would unhesitatingly, and with a contented smile, tell you, "My Mama/Daddy thinks I am great." I am by no means suggesting it, but if you were to teasingly say,

"You are so much trouble, your mother is going to give you away." The child would not be angry. He/she would pity your ignorance or stupidity, condescendingly smiling at you as if to say, "Poor ignorant man; doesn't he know that my Mama would be unhappy without me?" How would your children answer if someone asked them how you felt about them?

Children who are tolerated and pacified feel insecure. They are angry. They come to such a frame of mind that if you told them their parents had decided to give them away, they would explode in anger, because they feel it could be true.

Only parents who feel desperate will admit to this condition. Many Christian homes are in this deplorable state. Busy, career absorbed parents speed along through life, take their children to church, send them to youth camp, go to an occasional ball game, take them to Disney World, restrict the kids' TV, ration the sweets, make sure they get a good education, spank them when they are young, and nag them when they get older. They watch them go through all the "stages," and then one day the parents stop long enough to exclaim, "That ungrateful kid! Well, I gave him/her everything. Why is he/she so angry? You

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## MARKETPLACE SUCCESS

Few parents have the bold confidence to care more for their children's happiness than for their marketplace success.

Marketplace success with all its inherent trappings seems to be the antitheses of happiness. No one ever wrote poetry about it. No one ever credited success with saving a marriage or encouraging the children. From the death bed we have never heard someone wishing they had spent more time in business. Success in the market place is its own end, valued for its inherent experience. It is hedonistic, a trip that is satisfying to the ego. It is a pitiful measure of a man, but one by which many secure their identity. Those who sacrifice to pass on wealth to their children usually sacrifice their children. Those who sacrifice their children's youth to professional education, with the goal of marketplace success, sacrifice their children on an altar of vanity.

### A Worthy Publication

Have you ever heard of the small publication called, "Onward Christian Soldiers."

It is a booklet that comes out 4 times a year profiling Christian courage through the centuries.

Last time it featured Nate Saint. You will remember him as the pilot from the book, "Through Gates of Splendor." They recount the story of his ministry with pictures, maps, and an update on his family.

It is a wonderful tool to help introduce your children to missions. This month I sat and read about how Nate Saint was killed by the Auca Indians. Then I read how his widow continued as a missionary and how his children went back to the beach where their father had been killed and were baptized by the very men that had killed their father. I love reading how Nate's grown children are now serving God in missions. It is a great publication. It is \$12.00 for 4 issues. Onward Christian Soldiers, PO Box 550, Sarasota, FL 34230

## Close Examination

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would think I was the enemy! Oh well, it is out of my hands now. I just hope they don't bring that bratty grand-baby over here again this weekend."

If you fear you have allowed this condition to develop in your home, what can you do? You must change your entire philosophy of life. Your perspective and values must be revamped. Decide where your priorities lie. The key is to determine where you are going to invest your best emotional energy? When you can look in your child's face and smile with a genuine relaxed pleasure and delight, you have turned the corner to renewal. When you can get in touch with your child's soul and know that your hearts are beating together, you have conquered. To maintain that fellowship is the best of parenting, and the best of what

this life can offer.

Children are not deceived. They are great psychologists. They want to be loved, valued, appreciated, understood. Your conversion must reach all the way to the deepest recesses of your soul, or they will know you are fake.

John the Baptist, the forerunner of Christ, was given the ministry of preparing the nation of Israel for the coming of Messiah. His calling was "to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just; to make ready a people prepared for the Lord (Luke 1:17)." Fathers, Mothers also, your children need your heart. There is no substitute, no technique, no wisdom, no program that can take the place of the heart. Your intelligence and education alone are worthless. Psychology is a deceptive vanity. Techniques, including the ones we teach, are

paint brushes without artists. God breathed into us a living soul – making creatures with whom He can fellowship. If you would fellowship with your children, you must breath your soul into them.

You may need to make adjustments that allow you to have more relaxed time with the children. But sometimes the problem is deep in the soul of the parents. If you cannot be heart-to-heart with your children, because your heart is corrupt, you need to go to God in repentance. When you have peace with God, you will exude peace in the home. You will become approachable to your children. They will come to enjoy just spending time with you. You will become their best friend. ~



# The Power of the Media

If you come to the Church which is at Cane Creek, and maybe hang around the volleyball court with your children, then you are eventually going to become the “star,” disreputable or otherwise, of one of our newsletter articles.

This week in our community, a little seven-year-old boy came to his mother and with cautious concern asked, “Mama, am I going to be in Mike Pearl’s news letter?” This family is not part of the local church, and I haven’t seen that little fellow in years, so the question must have been strange to his mother. She asked, “Why do you think you are going to be in the news letter?”

With foreboding, he then related an event that occurred earlier when he was playing with Clint, his seven-year-old cousin, whom I see most every day. As the story was told by Clint’s mother, here is what happened. Clint and his cousin developed a conflict of interests, with ensuing verbal differences, resulting in heated debate over personal priorities—nothing novel for two seven-year-olds. Their discussion was the foundation on which philosophy, dogmatic religion, and civil law are eventually forged. So Clint, with the brilliance of a logical tactician, resorting to his best argument, said, “If you don’t.....then I am going to

tell Mike Pearl and he will put you in the newsletter.” That did it. Clint’s threat won the day. What a deterrent! But I am afraid we are developing a new kind of childhood phobia. It will probably end up in the first year psychology books as “Publication exposure schizoid hyper self-imposed discipline mania.”



Several months ago we discovered another, far quicker, deterrent to public displays of negative emotion – otherwise know as throwing fits. We were keeping a little four-year-old girl when, to get her way, she suddenly resorted to her last-measure tactic. She stiffened and commenced to scream hysteri-

cally. It was obviously designed to cause us distress and deep concern – a poor judgment on her part. She looked as if she were totally lost to the insensitive world around her, submerged in her own vortex of emotional suffering and anguish; but not so much that she didn’t hear Deb say to Gabriel, “Go get the video camera, we need a picture of this.” She turned it off faster than an inflating air bag, sat up and asked, “Why are you getting the camera?” Deb answered, “Oh we are making a video on child training and we just need a few shots of kids throwing temper tantrums.” And then, with the arrival of the camera, Deb gave her the nod to resume her display, saying, “Go ahead.” As they all stood waiting, camera poised, faces anticipating good footage, the little girl, in a most controlled voice said, “No way,” and walked off with the utmost display of dignity and self-control. The best we can discern, she just didn’t want the publicity.

Do you suppose these out-of-control kids could really gain control of their emotions if they had sufficient motivation? The Psychologist may dub this one “Panasonic Panoramic Paranoia.” Who knows, a ready camera could rid us of ritalin—or perhaps just a threat to make their picture and story available to this newsletter. Send me your story. I will keep the names anonymous if you don’t think you can stand the publicity.



# UNBOUND

Dear Mrs. Pearl,

I literally just finished reading your article entitled, "Bound" in the February '97 newsletter, and I felt compelled to write to you before I even set the newsletter down. I am writing not only to thank you, but to commit myself to the accountability that comes from acknowledging my own sin and attitude to another person. That article was about me. My husband is a man of God, desperately struggling to please me, and feeling frustrated by his ineffectual life. As I read your article, I realized that I created his bondage in my attempt to motivate him to do things my way—to meet my selfish imaginations and romantic expectations.

Everything in me wants to go into the detail of the downward spiral our family has experienced in relationships—husband/wife; parent/child; family/church, etc. All the time, with me convinced that my husband isn't taking responsibility and seeking and following God. What incredible conviction!

I purpose, this very minute, to allow God to make me painfully aware of the looks, attitudes, words, and actions that either tear down and bind up my husband. I covet your prayers and pray for your continued willingness to be used by God to make these spiritual truths so obvious. Thank you. No one has ever dared to tell me so personally what I have done to create the situation I so vocally bemoan.

Tonight, I will greet my husband with joy and delight, and I will decide to think of him fondly, and with respect. I will control my attitude and my actions. I will pray for and extol my husband publicly and privately. I will set an example of honor for our sons. I will repent of my sin toward my husband.

I will write again in the coming months and share the transformation I am sure our family will experience,

## OUR MISSIONARIES

For those of you who keep up with our missionaries, T.J. Slayman is excited about the work in Laos. He is seeing the hand of God move right now, but he anticipates a day in the future when Laos will open up to missionaries. When it does, he will know the language, country and culture and be in place to fill the void with the message of Christ.

With Nathan moving on to Laos to be with T.J., Rebekah is once again alone in the tribe. Her language learning is going great and she is praying the power of God down on the people.

Raymond Beachy and family are settled in Port Moresby and are hard at work supporting the Lindseys.

T. J. and Rebekah will both be home for our Mission's Conference in July and August. If you would like to have either of them in your church, please contact us. They will be a real challenge to your young people. Print MISSIONS on the outside of your mail.

The best way to assure that your teenagers will not desire to be part of the world is to involve them in ministering to the world. When you carry someone's burden you will never succumb to the temptation that crippled them, nor will you ever feel superior. When you look down on people from the protection of your room it is easy to "sit in the seat of the scornful," but when you are walking the same dirty street carrying the bread of life to their dwelling, you see them through eyes of faith and hope. Parent, you can not teach compassion and ministry. You must be a model of the image you desire them to be.

# Youth Missions Retreat.

July 22-25, 1997

Are you or your young people interested in obeying our Lord's last words, **"Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature?"** If you would like to know more about missions and how you can be a part, how to prepare yourself or your children to go to a foreign country, to a people who have never heard, you are invited to come to what may be the best four days of your life. This is a learning experience.

- **Rebekah Joy Pearl**, our daughter, will fly home from Papua New Guinea for this occasion. She will tell of her work in word, song, slide and video. She will also be shepherding the teenage girls' dorm.
- **T. J. Slayman** will also be flying in from Laos for this conference. He will tell us of the ministry in Laos. He will be managing one of the boys' dorms.
- **Dr. Milton Martin**, an old veteran missionary with many years of experience among primitive tribes will be the main speaker. Through his ministry hundreds of Independent Baptist churches were started among the Indian tribes of Mexico.
- **Shad Williams** is a world missionary, ministering in India, Africa, and the Philippines. He will astound and challenge us with word, song, and pictures of the thousands that have trusted Christ through his ministry.
- **Michael Pearl** will be teaching twice each day, demonstrating the chronological method of teaching the Bible.
- **Steve Schnell**, one of our own, from Bible Baptist Translators in Bowie Texas, will be giving us a mini course in Linguistics and Translation. You will learn some of the techniques of language learning and Bible translation.
- **Many other missionaries** will be there to testify of their ministry.

The whole family is invited, but we are particularly interested in teenagers or young adults who have already shown an interest in missions. All Bible believing, fundamental missionaries are invited. For those interested in serving God this will be a thrilling experience. This is a how-to training for missionaries and would-be missionaries. This is not going to be a family-life or a child training camp. We are not inviting those who are having trouble with their teenagers. They will be bored with the seven hours of programming each day. Don't bring the unsaved or the carnal minded. We want only dedicated young people and adults. There will be recreational activities, but we are not arranging the camp to entertain. All young people should be accompanied by an adult. There will be no baby sitting. You will be responsible to maintain watch on your own children at all times. If your children cannot sit still for two hours at a time, you will be uncomfortable.

## Camp NaCoMe

We have reserved the most beautiful camp grounds in Tennessee. It is just ten miles from our little community. It is nestled in a valley of giant oak trees with a crystal clear spring creek flowing through the middle of the camp. The stream ends in a deep blue lake sitting right in front of the cabins. The accommodations are grand (in a camp sort of way) and the food is sumptuous.

There are several quarters where whole families can stay together – first come basis. But in most cases, the men and boys will be quartered together and the girls and ladies will be quartered together. The large buildings are divided into small rooms that sleep four to eight with sufficient bath facilities in your own room or building. There are some very nice handicap rooms.

NaCoMe Camp is ten miles SW of Centerville TN, 80 miles west of Nashville, 180 miles east of Memphis. Registration will take place at 3:00 PM Tuesday, the 22<sup>nd</sup> of July. The camp will end, Friday, July 25<sup>th</sup> with the noon meal.

## Camper tuition

- \$75.00 for each person 12 and older,
- \$45.00 for those 3 - 11.
- No charge for those under three years

We are expecting to fill up the 365 beds in the camp. If you desire to register please send a deposit (check) of \$20.00 per adult (12 and older) and \$10.00 per child (3-11 years old). Include the name and age of each person coming and their family status.

If you need more information before registering, we will send it upon request. Just put the word CAMP in large

## Now it is your turn to minister.

You can do what hundreds of others have done. Be a very special friend to someone by giving them a copy of TO TRAIN UP A CHILD. By purchasing eight or more books, you can receive a 40% discount. You can purchase eight books for \$18.64 + \$4.50 S/H. That is just \$2.33 each, for a total of \$23.14. If you cannot afford to give the books, you can do what others are doing and sell them at your cost or at retail price.

## Missionary Resources

Read **Bruchko** and discover what it is like for a nineteen-year-old boy to walk alone and unprepared into the dense jungles of the Andes mountains in search of a primitive, savage tribe. He first knew he had found them when he felt their arrows tearing his flesh. This man is still alive and still ministering to the Indians of Colombia.

Read **Lords of the Earth** and see what it is like to stand between two warring tribes with a message of love and peace. They thought he was a god when their arrows wouldn't kill him.

Read **Mission Venezuela** and discover the meaning of culture shock.

See the video **EE Taow!** and weep as you see live footage of a whole village becoming believers in Jesus—all in one day.

**The Hidden Woman** tape by Denny Kenaston is the best message to women that we have ever heard. Some of their other tapes are good as well, however we cannot agree with everything they teach. They give all their tapes away, but we make a \$2.00 donation for each tape, received in lots of 100. After packaging, we make nothing on the sale of the tape. We handle it as a ministry to you ladies. It could change your husband's life.

### ORDER FORM

#### To Train Up A Child

One book \$3.89 + \$1.60 S/H \$5.49

Two to four books \$3.89 each + \$2.00 S/H

Five to seven books \$3.89 each + \$3.00 S/H

#### Save 40% on order of 8 books or more (\$2.33 each)

Eight books - \$18.64 + \$4.50 S/H  
\$23.14

Ten books - \$23.30 + \$4.50 S/H  
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Twenty five books - \$58.25 + \$6.00 S/H  
\$64.25

Thirty books - \$69.90 + \$6.50 S/H  
\$76.40

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\$125.50

#### Save 48% on box of 100 books (\$2.00 each)

One hundred *To Train Up A Child* - \$200.00 + \$16.50 S/H (UPS) \$216.50

#### Other books, tapes and videos

Shipping charges when ordered alone

Bruchko, paperback, 202 pp, \$8.99 + 1.75 S/H  
\$10.74

Foreign orders double postage.  
US or equivalent foreign funds includ-

EE-Taow, the Best missionary video.  
\$19.95 + \$1.75 S/H  
\$21.70

*No credit card, COD, or post paid sales. Make checks payable to:*

**The Church At Cane Creek**  
1000 Pearl Road  
Pleasantville, TN 37147

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BRUCHKO	8.99		
LORDS OF THE EARTH	10.00		
MISSION VENEZUELA	6.00		
EE-TAOW, video	19.95		
THE HIDDEN WOMAN, tape	3.00		
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	Shipping		
	Total enclosed		

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# By Divine Design

*Excerpt from an unpublished book by Michael Pearl*

God seeks our freedom and values our individuality, making humanity a step up into divine sonship. In contrast, Satan would use humanity as a step down into the animal, the carnal, the base, the ugly, and the defiled. Satan would see us become inhuman. He delights to see God deprived of our fellowship, to see us subsist on appetite and passion rather than intellect. It is Satan's design to channel our natural passions so as to make us addicts to perversion, knowing we will then become consumers of a product that only he can supply.

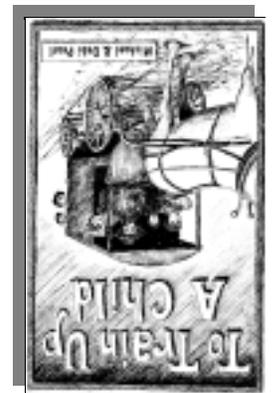
Our carnal union to Satan as benefactor of the flesh is a love/hate

relationship, but one in which he gets satisfaction from a twisted kind of worship. Where God created us finite with a destiny in the infinite, Satan would see our finite souls shrivel until they are cannibalized by our own lusts. Satan would turn us inward where there is no thought and no imagination except it be in the indulgence of appetite. Through subversion, he would destroy music, art, language, design, dignity, natural sexuality, any form of creativity and positive expression. He conceals himself and feeds us in anticipation of the day when depression causes us to despair of any destiny greater than consumption. His entanglements are first gentle and subtle, but with addiction his laughter is soon heard above our empty prayers.

In contrast, God desires free association. He would see us grow, mature, become like Himself. He desires our individuality, not our consumption. God would expand himself, not by consuming our personalities, but by our voluntarily sharing His. ~

## SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN

NATHHAN News is a special little magazine written by and for parents with special needs children. It is a gold mine of ideas, resources and contacts for those of you with children who are physically or mentally handicapped. You can write them at: 5383 Alpine Rd. SE, Olalla, WA 98359



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