

NGJ

No Greater Joy

"I HAVE NO GREATER JOY THAN
TO HEAR THAT MY CHILDREN
WALK IN TRUTH." III JOHN 4

Safeguarding your children



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contents

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**All Scripture taken
from the Authorized
Version (King James)
Holy Bible**

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**No Greater Joy
Ministries Inc.
1000 Pearl Road
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Article illustrations by Clint Cearley

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Safeguarding your Children

*by Rebekah and
Gabriel Anast*

Dad's reaction and openness about sin, and God's hatred of sin gave us assurance in dealing with the world when Dad wasn't around.



Trajan Ware stands all smiles while bearing his "Shield of Faith" and "Sword of the Spirit."

16 Missions School in Bangkok, Thailand

by Joshua Steele



The three Missions School leaders stand ready with earlybird students to begin the program. Clockwise from top left: Isaac Mazur, Teacher T.J. Slayman, Administrator/Teacher Joshua Steele, James Pratt, Teacher Dewayne Noel, and Scott Appleton.

(On the Cover)

Tremaine, a former inmate, now a blood-bought child of the living God, street preacher, church teacher, NGJ shipping and handling manager and daddy with four-year-old son Trajan, who lately has taken an interest in standing up when his daddy stands up to preach.

BY REBEKAH AND GABRIEL ANAST (REBEKAH IS THE ELDEST DAUGHTER OF MICHAEL AND DEBI PEARL)

SAFEGUARDING YOUR CHILDREN

And the Truth shall make you Free

One day when I was eight years old, I went down to the mailbox to get the mail. Lying in the grass near the mailbox was a magazine with a solid white cover. I assumed some of our mail had escaped the mailman and went over to pick it up.

The magazine fell open in the middle, and for about three seconds I stared in amazed horror at the hard porn in front of me. A dozen conversations and statements that my Dad had made about such things came rushing to my mind.

Once during a trip to Memphis with our family, I recalled seeing on a downtown street a half-dressed woman being jerked around and slapped by a man in a pink suit.

“She’s a prostitute,” Dad told us. “He’s a pimp. She works for him, selling her body to lascivious men who will burn in hell, so that she can continue to buy drugs to satisfy her addiction. God hates prostitution and pornography, kids. It destroys lives and families.” We kids stared in horror at the man and woman who were now stumbling into a building with neon signs and blacked out windows.

“Do you know what pornography is?” Dad persisted. We stared at him, still shaken by what we had just seen. “It is photographs of naked men and women... and other things I won’t even tell you about.”

“Why do those women let people take pictures of them when they are naked?” we asked.

“Most of those women were molested when they were kids, by their uncles, their brothers, friends, or even by complete

strangers. They have no self-value. They feel worthless, and so they don’t guard their bodies. Instead, they sell their bodies for money to other worthless men who are molesting other women and girls.” We all swallowed hard and shuddered.

“God hates this kind of sin so much, that when the children of Israel went into Canaan, he told Joshua to kill every man, woman, and child because they had all been involved in sexual sins. God says that it is better for a man to have a big grinding stone tied around his neck and then be thrown into the sea to drown than to face the wrath of God that will come on him if he messes with little kids that way.” We all nodded. It would be a just retribution for such an evil person.

“Whenever you see pornography, kids, I want you to turn away from it – don’t look at it, because it will stay in your mind and bother you for years. Wad it up and burn it, or throw it away so no one else will ever see it. And don’t trust anybody. If an uncle or cousin wants to talk to you about this kind of stuff—or touch you—I want you to scream at the top of your voice, and run away and tell on them. Don’t be polite or wait to see if he’s really a bad guy or not. The first minute you feel as though something is wrong, run away from that person...” Dad went on to give us detailed instructions about protecting ourselves and our minds. All of this came to my memory the moment that pornography magazine fell open in my eight-year-old hands. Even though I had never seen

pornography before, I instantly knew what it was. A righteous indignation swelled up inside of me, and I crumpled the magazine up as small as I could get it and carried it home. I took it straight to Dad and told him about it. We set it on fire, and I felt a grim satisfaction for having destroyed one small piece of evil in my world.

When my brothers were ten and twelve years old, they found pornography stapled to the trees in the woods where some filthy hunter had left it for the Amish kids to find. My brothers reacted the same way I had. They turned their backs and approached each tree with their backs to it, pulled down the pages and wadded them up into tight balls, stuffed them in their backpacks and brought them home to burn.

I have often wondered what our reaction to pornography would have been if Dad had never told us about it. What if we hadn't known what kind of people create it and use it, and what God thinks about it? He even told us what to do WHEN we ran into it. . .not IF! Dad knew the world was so corrupt that there was no way he could shield us entirely. So he equipped us to handle the corruption ourselves. If I had never heard of pornography

that day when I picked up the magazine, I think my own shocked curiosity would have led me to turn the pages and begin the searing of my conscience. Then, my sense of guilt would have kept me from telling my parents what I had found. And what would I have done with the magazine? Hidden it? I don't know. But the truth and knowledge I held that day assured my freedom and safety. I thank God so much for what Dad did for us!

When I was 14 years old, we (my brothers and I) were swimming in the creek with our neighbors. They had three boys the same ages as we were: 14, 12, and 10 years of age. A perverted looking local drove by our swimming hole repeatedly, leering out the window at us. My brother Gabe made a comment about his probably being a queer. The 14-year-old friend looked curious and asked, "What's a queer?"

My brother replied, "You know – a faggot." The boy shook his head in confusion. Gabe said, "A homosexual." Still not understanding, the 14-year-old, homeschooled neighbor boy just shook his head. Gabe laughed, sure that his friend was playing dumb.

"Come on! You got to know what a queer is. You know, guys

that mess with other guys or boys. Perverts!"

To this day I can remember the look on the other boy's face. It was NOT a look of surprise and curiosity. It was a look that said, "*There's a word for it? You know about that? Do other people know about it? Do you know...?*" I felt sorry for our friend that day. I wondered what experiences he had run into—unprepared and unwarned.

Many times as a child I remember standing at Dad's side when he would go into a gas station to prepay fuel. If the station carried pornography, Dad would scrape his money back off of the counter and tell the cashier that he could not buy gas there because he just noticed they promoted rape and child molestation. The cashier would look shocked, and Dad would point at the porn magazines behind him. The cashier ALWAYS looked guilty and ashamed. He would glance at us kids; we would all be looking at him with suspicious shock (are you a child molester???) before we turned and walked out. These incidents burned a sure reaction into us. Dad's reaction and openness about sin, and God's hatred of sin gave us assurance in dealing with the world when Dad wasn't around.

Knowing Good and Evil—from God's Perspective of Good

Our parents also made sure we understood the difference between righteous sexuality and evil sexuality. There was a clear distinction in our minds. When we were very small, Dad candidly explained that God created all beings, male and female, for

pleasure and reproduction. God created sex to be pure and holy between one man and one woman, who would eventually be Mommy and Daddy to a whole passel of kids. There wasn't supposed to be any confusion or shame in that relationship. It was intended by

God to be whole, functional, and happy.

When our dogs were mating, Dad called us outside to see what they were doing, then told us to go back inside and give them some privacy. Inside, at the kitchen table, he sat down with

some paper and a pen and drew a picture for us of sperm swimming up a canal to an egg. He gave us a thorough, practical explanation of reproduction. We were 8, 6, 4, and 2 years old.

I was so excited about the miracle of the whole process, that when my cousin came over later in the day (she was 9 years old), I got out Dad's diagram and tried to tell her what he had told us. Fortunately, I couldn't remember the exact names of parts, and went to ask Mom. She hastily took the paper from me and said that it was up to my cousin's parents to tell her all that stuff, and that I wasn't supposed to talk about it outside the family. Later on Dad explained to me with more detail that the facts of life is a subject that just isn't discussed in public, even though it isn't shameful. I didn't

understand fully, but took his word for it.

Our parents gave us a happy understanding of marriage by letting us see them hug, kiss, and enjoy each other's company. They never gave us the specifics of sex, but often assured us that marriage was great and God had someone wonderful in store for each of us if we stayed pure and walked in righteousness until it was time to get married. This great example, contrasted with occasional glimpses of the ugliness of sin, and made it easy for me to make up my mind to wait for the best.

Many parents write us saying that they are trying to protect their children's innocence. They don't want them to know about the evil in the world. I understand their concern. It is a sad thing that we live in a world where evil

has such free reign, where child porn is a legal and accepted part of society. It is sickening. I hope the Lord returns for us soon and breaks the teeth of the ungodly before He casts them into the lake of fire, where they will be in torment for eternity. But the truth is, children are going to come across the reality of our corrupt society one way or another. They will either hear it from a twisted pervert, another clueless kid who is making poor guesses and choices, Hollywood, a book, the Internet, or . . . from you. Which source do you want them to get it from first? Dad made sure he was the first to tell us life's secrets; he made sure his information was the most thorough and complete; and he made sure we knew everything from the standpoint of good, rather than evil.

To Parents

I know a girl who is twenty years old and is still a virgin. She is beautiful, outgoing and smart. There is a constant stream of guys vying for her attention. She smiles at them and shakes her head, "no," when they ask her to go out with them. "I'm not ready to get married yet," she tells them. I once heard her telling some other young people that when she meets the man she thinks might be the one, and he asks her out, she is going to bring her family along on their first date as a surprise. She has two sisters and two brothers and a very lively mom and dad. If he is still interested after that first date with her very rowdy family, she says she'll consider him. By now you may have a mental image of a very spiritual homeschooled girl with long hair and a denim jumper, plus a solid history of innocence.

Not so. This girl was raised in an unbelieving family until she was ten years old. Her dad was an alcoholic before he got saved. She went to public school (bad public schools) from kindergarten through high school. Her parents impose no rules of clothing, music, dating, or anything at all, really! She can come and go as she likes, and date whomever she likes. But she never has. Why? She is walking after the Spirit of God and her parents, and not after a list of rules.

From the day her parents got saved, they began to seek God with their whole heart. Not religion. Not Church. Not even the Bible. Just God, and God alone. They laid aside their vices completely to follow Him. They seek him daily on their knees, and minister day and night to the

people around them. They are not trying to balance their Christianity and their comfort. They seek to please God, not themselves. Their home is full of needy people all the time, people I wouldn't want my kids to be around. This girl saw the change in her parents. She has watched their 100% sincerity for ten years now. She has seen the fruit of that dedication. She wants it. Rules would never have persuaded her to turn away from the world. Their love for God did.

Children will usually follow the spirit of their parents. I have met a few young people who have heroically decided to be godly and real, despite their parents; but this is the exception, not the rule. The father doesn't have to be a porno freak for the son to get involved in it. All he has to do is sit with

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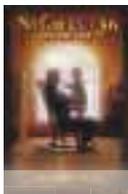
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his arm around his wife at church and then show disregard for her at home. The mother doesn't have to be a prostitute for her daughter to take that road; all she has to do is show scorn for her husband and disobey his requests. This hypocrisy will

communicate to the children that there are two rules of law in the universe: pleasing the crowd, and pleasing yourself. They'll grow up believing that if they can maintain a religious front at church, what goes on at home is their own business. God is actually out of the picture for such a family.

Any measure of hypocrisy will undermine the moral strength of your children. Absolute consistency—on any level—will strengthen and enable them to be even greater than you are. Consistency communicates that God is to be feared; inconsistency communicates that God is only “let's pretend.”

Dad, are you keeping the world out?

The world used to be out there on the perimeters of our lives. It was possible to shut ourselves away and remain untouched by the filth we heard rumors of. In order to be a porno freak, men had to drive to an adult bookstore, and go inside to buy a magazine from a nasty looking character they would never want to be associated with. Now, pornography barges into our sight on billboards, commercials, and web-pages. Whether you are looking for it or not, it will find you.

The most amazing thing about the rise of pornography on the internet is not how many children have gotten involved, but how many “mature, responsible people” went off the deep end. People who thought they were safe in their own righteousness have fallen into immorality. No Greater Joy receives letters from pastors, elders, and fathers who

have professed Christianity for years but are now in the tangle of pornography. They were unprepared for temptation in their own home. They never learned to stand and fight and resist the devil.

Shutting evil out of your life is not really an act of righteousness. Just about the time believers (and stoic, clean-living non-believers) learn to deal with pornography on the web, some greater and more insidious evil will be introduced by the world at large. The answer is something more aggressive—and more fundamental! The answer is to believe the gospel, the reality of your sanctification—that you are dead to sin and alive unto God. In this stand of faith you will worship God in the Spirit and have no confidence in the flesh. You will walk after the Spirit and thus not fulfill the lust of the

flesh. You will be free from sin right down to the most secret and fundamental part of your being. When Paul wrote Romans and told the believers that they should “through the Spirit... mortify the deeds of the body,” he wasn't talking about some Sunday-school rules that they should abide by. Half-baked Churchianity is never enough to overcome the world. If you are not overcoming sin, you need to listen to Mike's audio series called “Sin No More.”

Even the most secluded and conservative families will be assaulted. Shutting out as much evil as you can is your God-given duty to your children, but you will never be able to shut it all out. On top of that, you cannot make your children pure by insulating and isolating their circumstances. You must train, teach, and prepare their minds to respond to the Spirit of God.

To the Youth

You are the future. I won't tell you that waiting for your mate isn't hard. It is. I have wondered a million times why God gave teenagers such powerful, raging hormones. Why couldn't He have placed that hormonal curse on the old folks that have all the patience and discipline in the world? It's

hard just to keep your thoughts straight sometimes. But if you knew what is waiting for you... if you only knew how good it could be! You would never accept a toy car in the place of a real, shiny red Porsche.

Don't listen to the disillusioned and bitter couples

who talk about how hard marriage is, struggling to get along and trying to make it work. If they talk like that, you can bet they messed up somewhere in the past and have no idea what marriage was intended to be. They think their broken product is the way all marriages are constituted.

They are wrong. Out of dozens of marriages (good marriages, but not trouble free), we know of only three that came from pure pasts on both sides, neither of them bringing into the marriage any regrets or moral downfalls. Those three marriages were fantastic

from the start.

The Bible says, “Be not deceived, God is not mocked; whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.” If you sow trouble with your flesh before marriage, you’ll reap trouble later on. If you sow purity – oh, yes! It

can be soooooooooo good! Take it from us: a pure youth makes for a fantastic marriage, without regrets, without heartache, and without fear. Neither one of us has had second thoughts, and we never will. Be assured: waiting is worth it!

Beka speaks to the young people

A few weeks after I married Gabe, he told me something funny. He said one of the things he most valued about me was that I wasn’t an “accidental” virgin. He said he had met conservative homeschooled youth from a dozen families who were virgins just by happenstance. They hadn’t personally made a choice to be pure. The parents had made that choice for them—which is good—but the kids had never made that choice for themselves. He said there was no telling how many of

them would have given away their virginity if they had been placed in new circumstances and allowed to do whatever they pleased. Have you made a choice yet? Are you doing as much as you can get away with in the confines of your parents’ ruling, or are you personally walking after the Spirit of God? Do your convictions change with the crowd you’re in, or do you know who you are?

Even the Bible college for missionary kids that I attended in 1992 taught a watered-down form

of righteousness for the single person. They discussed whether or not dating, holding hands, kissing, sexual deviances, etc., were okay. Everyone had different standards. One day a frustrated student called out, “Why didn’t God just tell us what we ought to do? Why didn’t He just give us a list of do’s and don’ts?” The professor couldn’t answer him. At that time, I didn’t know the answer either. I felt just like that student. Why couldn’t there be a list of rules to go by?

Gabe speaks to the young people

God actually was specific. The word “fornication” in the Scriptures is sexual activity outside the confines of marriage. That means, any activity or thought that you pursue for sexual pleasure. This law of God allows for different standards for different people. A thirteen-year-old boy won’t be able to look at or do things that a sixty-year-old lady could, with a clear conscience.

Sexual highs are meant to be enjoyed by one man and one woman in a context that is sacred and safe from the intrusion of other people. But in order for marriage to be holy, those who

enter into it must themselves be holy.

Imagine a couple standing at the altar in their wedding finery. Both of them having slept around, more recently with each other. What does the “holy bonds of matrimony” mean to them? What privileged act of pleasure are they going to receive now that they are married? What could have been is now spoiled and gone. They have the same stolen goods they took before their vows, plus doubt, mistrust, and a nagging sense of discontentment and shame. There is no elation or joy in the perfect gift of physical union. There is

no gift at all; only spoiled, stolen goods.

Sex is not just a pleasurable act of procreation. It is an act of kindness, care, and generosity. For a woman, it is like an act of worship; for a man, it is an act of joy in the blessings and gifts of his wife. Those highs are righteous, glorious, and pure. God gave us these intense feelings and pleasures as a gift to be enjoyed. He also gave us boundaries to protect that gift, boundaries to insure maximum enjoyment and freedom, and boundaries that prevent guilt, shame, regret, and ultimately the

destruction of that gift. When the boundary of sexual purity until marriage is disregarded and violated, the enjoyment of His gift is lessened and corrupted. Persistent violation of those safe perimeters will eventually replace all enjoyment with shame and fear. Many couples get married only to discover one or both of them is broken in the area of enjoyment due to the violation of boundaries in the past. God, in His grace

and mercy, can mend the broken pieces, but...oh, the joy of having no broken pieces to begin with!

Maybe your parents have a marriage that you admire and desire for yourself; maybe they don't. If they are working through their past mistakes and are making a go of it, I'd say their efforts are admirable, to say the least; I wish more couples had that fortitude. But don't take their example, however good or bad, and aim

for the same. Aim for higher, better, purer, and more glorious examples! Make a decision within yourself to stay pure for the spouse God is preparing for you. There are some folks who need a list of rules; but the highest standard flows out of a sincere love for God. He will show you by His Spirit and with your own conscience when to draw the line. Believe that it is worth it. Be a virgin by choice.

Gabe on Safeguarding your Computer

In a general homeschool environment where the kids know way more about the computer than you do, you (not the kid next door, or your smartest kid, YOU) need to take control and educate yourself. Pornography of the vilest sort will literally be looking for your kids; perverts (ages 9 to 99, believe me...) with completely destructive intent will be trolling the chat-rooms for the naïve. There is no reason for a child who is not yet worldly wise to even have the opportunity to encounter these things. Make them worldly-wise on your own terms in your own time. Now let me give you some basic suggestions:

Q: How can I control the internet in my home?

A: The best way to control the internet in your home is to have a password system that allows only the one who knows the password to access the internet. You also have to understand that there is more than one password that you should be aware of. If you have an internet connection, there is already an existing password that allows you to log in to your internet account. That is NOT the password I am talking about. The

password you need will allow or disallow internet access of any type on your computer.

To learn how to set up a password for internet permissions through step-by-step instructions, go to onlinesight.com/userpermissions. This method will allow you to know about all access to the internet through your computer. Your children will have to come and ask you to type in the password so they can use the web. There will be no secret night-time web-surfing.

Q: If the password is discovered, how can I change to a new one?

A: The same place on your computer that allows you to change user permissions will allow you to change the password for those permissions.

Q: Is it possible to check which websites were visited during someone's use of the internet?

A: Yes. You can check the "history" in your "internet browser" by opening your internet service and typing **Control-H** (pressing the "control" key and



the "H" key simultaneously). The recent history of your internet viewing will appear when you type **Control-H**. Most people, however, who have any computer savvy will be able to erase their tracks. So don't depend on this alone. Watching and being aware is the surest method.

Q: I've heard about internet filters or filtered internet. How good are they? How can I get one?

A: First of all, filters don't work that well; some pornography will still get through. Let's say this: if your filter promises to keep out 99.99% of all porn, and there are a million sites with some pornography on them, then you still have 10,000 porn pages that can get through to you. In many

cases, it's good that you cut out so much, but you can't really depend on the filter to keep porn out of your computer.

Secondly, most internet filters also cut out a lot of internet information that doesn't have anything to do with pornography. For instance, if you want to check out a news page and there is some reference to sex on the page, you may not be able to access the

news. Matter of fact, you may not be able to access this article! Some of those instances of information might be well worth living *without*. You make that decision. However, I believe that learning to live knowledgeably in a highly technical society will be necessary for most of your kids.

If you decide you need a filter, the best one I've run across is surfcontrol.com. There are

also filtered internet services that are often advertised in Christian magazines.

I believe that the problem with porn and other deviant content on the web is not insurmountable. We do need people to help in the fight. If you are a programmer, or otherwise involved in web services, find out how you can help at onlinesight.com.

Beka on Safeguard your Circumstance:

I suggest buying a glass door for the computer room. This will shut out the sound for those who need to study in silence, but allow for constant observation and accountability. The doors on the offices of the *No Greater Joy* ministry are glass. No one is allowed to have secrets. You might also consider moving the computer room to a highly trafficked area where people are walking by continually.

Dad built our house so that all the bedroom doors facing the main living room/family room. None of our doors had locks on them until we were older, and then only the girls. We were never allowed to spend time in our rooms behind closed doors. The door could only be closed for five minutes of clothes changing. If a door was closed for a longer period of time, Dad was likely to walk in unannounced to see what we were up to.

The next step to safeguarding your family is to teach them how to react WHEN (not if) they encounter immorality. Here is a short list of topics to discuss:

- What to do when they find pornography on the computer,

or in a magazine.

- What to do when a friend or relative shows them something vile.
- What to say when evil suggestions or comments are made.
- What to do when someone tries to molest them.
- What to do with evil thoughts and imaginations.



In our quiet, little Amish community where kids are sheltered like nowhere else, one day there came a family who had been “around the block”, with each other, with their neighbors, and their pets. Very gross things! They dressed Amish and talked the talk. But one day, soon after they came, their ten-year-old son was playing with the other boys

after church service. He offered to tell the boys how to copulate with a dog. One of the boys in that crowd had been raised by a daddy who had prepared him for such an assault. The young boy refused to listen and walked away to tell on the kid who was offering his perverse information. The family, who hung around for money and other hopeful evils, was asked to stay away from our church and community. This safety for the whole Church was provided by one daddy who told his son how to react in such an ungodly situation.

Another precaution my parents took was to limit—almost to nothing—our staying overnight with cousins or best friends. Now, as a mother myself, I plan to eliminate that possibility altogether for my children. Even the most conservative friends and cousins of mine had told me things I shouldn't have heard as a kid. Now that I'm grown, I'm amazed to look back and find out that most of the few girls who spent the night with me once in a blue moon, had been molested, even during the very years I knew them. Once they grew up, they told on the criminals who molested them. Back then, they were silent

BIBLE TEACHING

CDs and Cassettes (you choose)

There is dearth of Bible knowledge across this land. Bible teaching has been replaced with principle-based, self-improvement psychology. More than ever, we want to get these Bible messages into your hands, so we have priced them right down to what it costs us to provide them. In the course of the ministry, at our discretion, we give many of them away, the cost of which is covered by your gifts. All our CDs have been digitally remastered and reedited to produce a quality higher than the originals.



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The big question is: "So how do I stop sinning?" You have confessed your sins, received the baptism of the Holy Ghost with evidence of everything but ceasing to sin, yet you are still a Romans 7 Christian. I assure you, God not only saves his children from the penalty of sin but he saves them from its power as well. You can stop sinning.

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These four messages answer some of the ridiculous teachings of an ancient heresy sometimes called "Calvinism." For too long, Reformed theology has robbed the church of the power of God. The petals fall off of Calvin's tulip when it is held up to the light of Scripture.

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Michael Pearl addresses the faddish teaching on generational sins, sins of the fathers visited on the children, family curses, etc. Let the word of God free you from the curse of pop theology.

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Michael teaches on the controversial subject of Security of the believer. This is new material. Don't jump to conclusions. This is not old fare rehashed; you will be surprised at what you hear. The Church has been divided, both sides holding to a portion of Scripture while explaining away the other Scripture. Can one believe all the Scripture on both sides of the issue? Absolutely.

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Four messages on salvation: Blood, Imputed Righteousness, The Man Christ Jesus and Saving Righteousness

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Galatians

Many professing Christians who don't have a personal relationship with Christ are seeking meaning in Rabbinical Judaism, keeping feast days and Sabbaths and resorting to using Hebrew words for God and Jesus. Many are "falling from grace" in their attempt to give the Law of Moses a place in their daily lives. God gave us the book of Galatians to answer this ancient and now modern heresy.

6 Cassettes 3410-40 \$18.00
6 CDs 3410-41 \$18.00

Romans

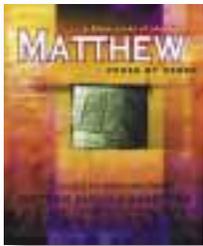
Verse by verse, word by word, this is a commentary on the book of Romans. We continually receive testimony of lives changed and souls saved through listening to this greatest of all New Testament books. Until you know the book of Romans you don't know the Bible. If you have never listened to any Bible teaching by Michael Pearl, this is the place to start. Michael also has a printed commentary on Romans which is much more extensive than the audio.

17 Cassettes 8140-40 \$48.00
20 CDs 8140-45 \$50.00

Colossians

If you enjoyed Romans, you need to hear Colossians. Learn about your spiritual circumcision.

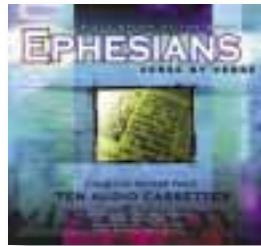
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Matthew

Michael Pearl opens new insights as he teaches the Gospel of Matthew, describing it as the last book in the old covenant. A grasp of this unique book is essential to a proper understanding of the New Testament.

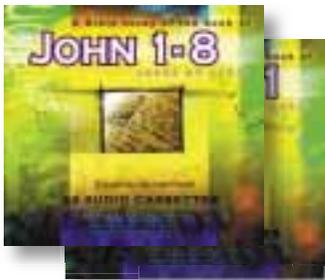
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Ephesians

Practical and Scriptural Bible teaching encourage the believer. Chapter 5 tapes include one tape on husbands and one on wives.

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Every verse is discussed, every critical word examined. Here is doctrinal and practical teaching to enrich your life.

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Mail Bag

The Pearls offer candid answers as they open their mail and discuss your questions. Many readers say it is the most interesting and helpful information on child training we have.

6 Tapes 5910-40 \$20.00

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Authority Praying

Michael Pearl preaches on the believer's position in Christ and how prayer is based on the authority that is ours in Christ.

1330-40 \$4.00



Only Men

Michael Pearl speaks directly and frankly to men about their responsibilities as husbands. Wives should not listen to this tape. We don't want you taking advantage of your man.

6650-40 \$4.00



Imputed Righteousness

The great doctrine of imputed righteousness is the heart of Biblical Christianity.

4510-40 \$4.00



Testimony of Darlene Rose

Hear the missionary story of Darlene Rose. Rebekah Pearl listened to these tapes when she was young. She says they helped mold her life toward missions.

8605-40 \$7.00



My Favorite Homeschooling Ideas

Debi Pearl discusses her best homeschooling ideas. Twenty plus years of accumulated wisdom. This tape can remove your burden. It is our best-selling tape!

6170-40 \$4.00

through fear and were ignorant of the evil things that were happening to them.

The statistics of child molestation in America are horrendous. One out of every two girls is messed with, and one out of every four boys. Our pastor's wife out here in Gallup, New Mexico, made sure her daughter stayed in the bedroom with them every time they had company. Even if the company was family! She didn't trust her own brothers and cousins around her daughter. She was wise. Her daughter is now grown and free of any grief of that sort. The mother herself wasn't so protected as a child.

There are so many stories I could tell of the despicable boldness of a molester who harmed a child, even when the house—and even the room—was full of people. Never let your little

children sit on the lap of someone you are not absolutely sure of. And never be so sure as to fail to pay attention to what is going on. Make sure your little girls wear tights, under shorts, or pantaloons of some kind that make access to their private parts difficult, and make modesty easier. Don't just close your eyes and hope they make it to adulthood safely. They won't if you don't fight for them. The Bible says, "watch and pray." Praying for them must be accompanied by attentive "watching" for their souls and their safety.

The last, but not least, precaution I would recommend is to assure your children of God's hatred for those who sexually harm children. My Dad read to us the scriptures about God's judgment on those who "offend one of these little ones" and told

us plainly what actions would be categorized as an offense. He described God breaking the arms (Psalm 10:15), and bashing in the teeth (Psalm 3:6; 58:6) of the men who rape little girls. He talked about them burning in the lake of fire for eternity. I was so convinced of God's hatred for child molesters, I even felt sorry for them. If someone had molested me, it would not have crossed my mind to remain silent because I would have been so confident that I was being wronged, and that they were doing something evil to me. So many molesters put a guilt trip on the children and convince them that they are just being "loved." I knew molestation wasn't love. Assure your children of God's righteous judgment on those who harm children, and enlist them to help you watch out for those evil people.

Scripture passages and topics to read with your children:

- **Holy Sex:** Gen. 1:28; Pro. 18:22; Job 31:1; Pro. 5:15-19; Gen 26:8; Eph 5:31; Heb 13:4; The Song of Solomon; Pro. 30:18-19
- **Healthy Relationships with the Opposite Sex:** 1Cor. 7:1-9; 1Tim. 5:2;
- **The Figure of Christ and the Bride:** Eze. 16:8; Is 54:5; Eph. 5; Isaiah 62:5
- **Sodomy:** Lev 18:22; Gen. 19; Lev 20:13; Deut 23:17; 1Kings 14:24; Rom. 1:26-27
- **Child Molestation:** Mat. 18:5-10
- **Bestiality:** Lev 18:23; Ex 22:19; Deut 27:21; Lev 20:15-16
- **Incest:** Lev. 20:17-21
- **Fornication:** Prov 5:20-23; Pro. 6:24-35; Pro. 7; 1 Thes 4:3; 1Cor 6:18
- **Uncleanness:** Matthew 5:28; 1Cor 6:13-20; 1Cor. 6:9; 1Tim. 1:9-10
- **Speaking of Things Done in Darkness:** Eph 5:3-7; 5:12; Prov 5:3-5; Prov 2:11-20

Ask your children these questions and provoke a discussion.

- What are these things?
- Who does them?
- What is the penalty for these sins?
- What did God do to the nations that practiced these things?
- What will He do to the individual offender?

This should not be a one-time discussion. Let the information flow as naturally as possible. Let there be an openness in your conversation that will give your children confidence to continue to ask questions. Dad did not call a “church” meeting when he discussed these things. It was “a little here and a little there,” in the context of daily life. If we saw a broken individual, or read something in the paper, or heard a friend discussing a sad situation, Dad would speak of the sin, what the Bible said, and how the sin had cause such pain. He did not hide the gossip of sin from us; he used it as an illustration of good and evil. He made the concept of sowing and reaping part of our daily communication; evil brings judgment and death; righteousness brings reward and life.

Look into your children’s eyes when you speak of these ugly sins. Read their souls. Some of

you will be shocked. If you gain their trust, in time you may receive some heart-breaking news. Your children will at last be emboldened to confess wrongs they have done or had done to them. Be prepared to minister to them with love and compassion. Be equipped with the gospel of Jesus Christ, which will cleanse them from the stains of sin that have been burdening them. Be prepared to weep with your children, and begin a process of healing. Your heart will break, and I have no consolation for you except that you now can prevent further harm, and can minister to your children while there is yet hope for their recovery.

To the rest of you; rejoice and walk circumspectly! You are saving the next generation from a crippling evil, which Satan is using to enslave boys and girls and men and women, to the destruction of families and nations. God will bless you for

preserving boys and girls, enabling them to some day come together in fantastic marriages and strong families. God has placed their future in your hands. Read back through these materials regularly, studying the verses listed and the suggestions given. Prayerfully embark on a sure course that demonstrates your commitment to protect your children from this hideous, Satanic attack on the children. Finally, “*The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all. Amen* (2 Cor 13:14). Rejoice that the Godhead who created the family after His likeness is desirous that you seek His guidance, wisdom and strength to persevere in your holy task of bringing up your offspring to know and love Him, to His honor and everlasting glory.



Pregnancy Resource Center prays for Pearls

Dear Precious Pearl Family;

I just wanted to take a moment to thank you for all you do. I am the Executive Director of our local Pregnancy Resource Centers. We use your materials all the time. It is so refreshing to find materials that I don’t have to use a black marker on (this is what we do with material that is not appropriate)! As part of our ministry, we teach child training and we have been using your books. Just recently we were loaned one of your videos, and our clients responded amazingly! I think to some of the moms the books seemed harsh. But when they were able to see with their own eyes the love of the Lord in child training it really opened their hearts. All of them want to be a Pearl! We tell each of our clients “See how much he loves his children? See the Love? He is only a man. God is so much greater, imagine how God loves you. Imagine your Father’s heart leaping as you strive to please Him each day.” What a testimony!

Our ministry prays for yours every day. I have just recently ordered Holy Sex and the Wives Only video for our married clients. We hope to be able to order all of your materials soon! I know that these will be a blessing also.

Lori Thornburg



Homeschooler heads up the Mission School in Bangkok, Thailand

My name is Joshua Steele. I am the oldest of the six children, and for the past two and a half years, I have served as a full time missionary in the country of Ukraine. There, by the grace of God, I have had the privilege of engaging in many different forms of ministry with the goal of turning Ukrainians to Christ.

By Joshua Steele

I began by studying the language. I now speak Ukrainian fluently and am gaining proficiency in Russian. As soon as I was able to get around with the language, I began to minister publicly in cooperation with two other missionaries from the States, and together we distributed gospel literature, preached on the streets, organized and taught Bible studies, ministered in schools and eventually planted an indigenous church in the city of L'viv. Many people have asked me how I came to such a

calling in life. They ask what I did to prepare, how I knew God wanted me in Ukraine, how I got support for such a work, and what I plan to do in the future. My purpose in writing this article is to answer those questions.

I was raised in a Christian home and had, I think, the most wonderful parents a child could ask for. They were strong believers long before my siblings or I came on the scene, and thus we heard about Jesus from the very beginning. I began to ask questions about the gospel when I was five, and at a young age trusted Christ as my Savior.

I remember that even in my early childhood, I knew our family was different

than most. It seemed that everything we did had the word “home” in front of it. Home schooling, for example, was a way of life for us from day one. My parents provided us not only with textbooks, but an environment where we learned the academics along with practical skills needed to succeed in life.

As I grew older, my parents enrolled our family in the ATI program. Through this program as well as other venues, I was given many “apprenticeship” opportunities, which included ministry training as well as experience with occupational skills.

When I was about ten years old, my father and four other men began a home church, which is still going on today with about four to six families, and from which I was sent out as a minister of the gospel. Though I do not oppose the concept of a more organized fellowship that meets in a building, I certainly saw some advantages in the home church model.

Many people watching all of this from the outside, questioned the wisdom of the course my parents had laid out, and some even accused them of “raising their kids in a bubble.” I remember one instance when my mom was discussing this issue with a certain well-meaning individual who disagreed with their perspective. He expressed concern that if my parents continued to raise us like this, always emphasizing the home, God, the Bible, good music, morality, etc., and sheltering us from certain evils, then we would not be able to “fit in to the real world” later on. I will never forget the answer she gave. She simply said, “We are not raising our children to ‘fit in’ with the world; we are raising them to change the

world.”

As a twelve-year-old, I met the Pearl family when they came to our church for Mike to teach a Bible study on Genesis and Romans. As the years went by, I listened to several of Mike’s tapes on Romans, Hebrews, Matthew, etc., and God used these in my life to open my eyes to His Word in a way that I had not known before. I had been exposed to many, many Bible teachers, pastors, and miscellaneous Christian speakers, but Mike seemed to have something that the others lacked. He was loyal to the Bible. He didn’t change it, add to it, correct it, or make me feel like I had to know Greek before I could hear from God. I can remember that as I listened to him teach I was impressed by his simplicity. In fact, as I would listen, I would often ask myself why I didn’t see those things on my own. After all, it was printed right in front of me in black and white.

When I was fourteen, Mike and a man from our church named Bill Bell, who is now a board member of No Greater Joy, took me out for the first time to pass out gospel tracts. We went to a park with several stacks of Chick tracts, and, after overcoming my initial fear, I saw that even I could lead someone to Christ.

Then, when I was sixteen years old, something happened that change my life forever. I was invited to go on a six-month missions trip to Hong Kong. As a teenager, distributing tracts in Hong Kong, God gave me a vision for lost people beyond the borders of America. Many would turn to Christ and be saved if only someone would go and give them the message.

Not long after returning to the States, the man who had lead

our team in Hong Kong, Jessie Beal, organized another short-term project in Kyiv, Ukraine. Jessie recruited seven or eight young people, including myself, and in 1997 we spent five months there studying Russian, street preaching, passing out tracts, assisting local missionaries, and learning what it means to be effective on the foreign field. During my time in Ukraine, I saw many open doors to the gospel and purposed that if God willed, I would someday come back as a full time missionary.

After returning to the States once again, I began to work and even took some college classes. Because of my childhood training, I had many skills and knew that I could be quite successful in business. As an eighteen-year-old, God gave me a job in computers, making more money than I thought possible for a person of my age. However, as my success in business grew, so did my desire to reach the lost, for which I had very little time, working 40 hours a week. So, after about a year in the technology industry, I quit my job to go back into full time ministry. At one point, I can remember calling Mike Pearl and asking for some practical advice on how to reach the lost in my area. He advised me to try preaching on the street and in homeless shelters. He also mailed me a tape called “Hell’s Best Kept Secret” by Ray Comfort (www.raycomfort.com). Soon, I was taking groups of young people from our church every Saturday to

a park in downtown Fort Worth where we passed out tracts and preached open-air. Bill Bell’s wife, Kristy, is an excellent chalk artist and she would draw pictures in the park to attract crowds. Then either Bill or I would preach the gospel for about ten to fifteen minutes. This was an awesome experience,

which I would recommend to any young man who has a desire to do something to reach lost people. If you can’t do this in the States, you can be sure it will never happen on the foreign field.

Finally the day came when I saw that it was time to head back to Ukraine. Jessie Beal was there already,

and had offered to help me get into the country and get started. As for support, I believe that God is able to provide financial backing for ministry through prayer alone. I read a book the first time I was in Ukraine called *Hudson Taylor’s Spiritual Secret*, and this really impacted my thinking in regards to trusting God for your finances. After finishing it, I made a commitment to the Lord that I would never ask other people for money to support the work God had called me to do. I would either earn it, or pray it down.

With that in mind, I made preparation for my departure. My plan was to earn enough money to stay in Ukraine for six months. I felt that if the Lord wanted me there for longer than that, He could bring in the

continued on pg. 20



Homeschooler, Joshua Steele, will be serving as the new administrator for the Missions School.

BOOKLETS - \$1.00



Justification and the book of James

James clearly teaches that works justifies a man; while Paul teaches that a man is not justified by works. Are they contradicting each other? Which one is correct? This study resolves the issue once and for all. Subject to volume discount.

26pg. Booklet
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Pornography - Road to Hell

Michael Pearl addresses the issue of pornography head-on, calling sinners to repentance. This item is subject to volume discounts.

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Baptism in Jesus' Name

There are those who insist that New Testament water baptism is not valid unless the one doing the baptism vocally utters the words "in Jesus' name." It is the conclusion of this study that the verbal utterance is never an issue in Scripture. It is erroneous to insist on any certain phrase being pronounced over the bap-

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To Betroth or not to Betroth

The dangers of the betrothal system are exposed with the light of Biblical truth, bringing objectivity back to an often-misunderstood subject. This item is subject to volume discounts.

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1 John 1:9 the promise of forgiveness

A core belief held by most conservative Christians is that Christians who have unconfessed sins in their life are in need of forgiveness, are out of fellowship with God, and are walking in darkness. The underlying assumption is that God forgives only sins that are confessed. What does the Bible teach? Does God withhold forgiveness until sin is confessed? Not on your life.

23pg. Booklet
4650-10 \$1.00



In Defense of Chastisement

Michael brings clear understanding back into the confusing and often misunderstood subject of corporal chastisement. This item is subject to volume discounts.

29pg. Booklet
4530-10 \$1.00

60¢ for 25 or more of any one of the above



Revelation Poster and Handbook

This poster is a print of an original painting done by Michael Pearl which shows the events of Revelation in chronological order. It is 40" X 19" on heavy, glossy paper. The handbook which accompanies it is filled with Old Testament references and commentary to the events in Revelation.

8130-10 \$12.00

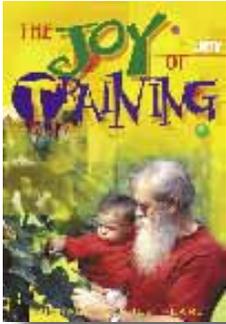


Romans Chapter 1-8 Commentary

This commentary contains a careful word-for-word examination of every phrase, and addresses all the hard theological issues that have been the foundation of the Christian faith down through the centuries. By Michael Pearl.

222pg. Book
8140-10 \$8.00

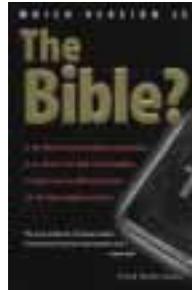
OTHER PRODUCTS



The Joy of Training

Michael and Debi Pearl tell how they successfully trained up their five children with love, humor, the rod, and a King James Bible. This two DVD set contains the same high quality, digitally filmed content as the video set and hundreds of snapshots and video clips of family and children, illustrating the things being taught.

2 DVDs 4910-75 \$26.00
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Which version is the Bible?

The King James Bible remains the only Word of God to the English-speaking people. Read this 281 page scholarly book by Floyd Nolen Jones and find out why. Be ready to lose your innocence concerning the trustworthiness of institutionalized Christianity.

262pg. Book
9510-10 \$10.00



EE-Taow! The Next Chapter

If you read EE-Taow, you will love the Next Chapter. It is a book that will help you understand the Bible and the Word of God. It is a book that will help you understand the Bible and the Word of God. It is a book that will help you understand the Bible and the Word of God.

Me? Obey him?

A must for every wife. Debi Pearl says, "When I was a young bride, I read *Me? Obey Him?* by Mrs. Elizabeth Rice Hanford. I can still remember the surprise and joy I experienced in "trying out" what I had read.

95pg. Book 6050-10 \$3.00



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Wives

your wife and cleanse her of spots, the fullness of all that God intended her to be.

Wives, learn the freedom of honoring and ministering to your man. You can help him become all that God intended him to be.

2 VHS
4140-70 \$18.00



We need your help!

Your best homeschooling ideas!

"Thanks!" to everyone who sent in their homeschooling ideas for the new book we are working on. For you who missed it last time, Beka wrote: "I know that there are hundreds of families out there with original and creative homeschooling ideas. If you are like me, you would love to have a whole book of those great ideas." Send us your best homeschooling ideas and a list of your children's favorite books with age or reading level indicated.

Note: Please send you ideas in a separate envelope.

continued from pg. 17
support. And He did just that. There were other people who had heard of my plans, and of their own initiative supported my ministry financially.

I am twenty-four years old and have been on the foreign field since I was twenty-one. In all that time I have never once lacked for anything that I needed, and I could fill many pages with stories about how God provided for the ministry as a result of nothing more than prayer.

Now, after nearly two and a half years in Ukraine, God has again called me to a new chapter in the ministry. Last May, I got a call from Michael Pearl and he invited me to come and serve as the administrator of a new missions school in Bangkok, Thailand. My first reaction was

a definite 'no,' since I was quite involved in the work in Ukraine. However, the more I prayed about it, the more I saw that this was a chance to make a great impact for the Kingdom of God.

The plan is simple: train young men to win the lost on foreign fields. Unlike other schools, these young men will not spend all their time in the classroom, but will be on the street, speaking with locals, and facing the real issues that hit missionaries the moment they step off the plane. Our first group of 12 students is gathering now in Bangkok and we are set to begin classes on September 15th. I cannot say exactly what the future holds, but I know that God is in this and that these young men (and two not so young

married men with children) have the potential to change the world. They will be the ones going out as Christ commanded, preaching the gospel to the lost, learning languages, planting churches, and turning sinners to repentance.

Please pray for this group and our school here in Thailand. This is a unique opportunity and I am very grateful that God has allowed me to play a part in training these men. They are the missionaries of tomorrow. Pray for them, because through them God can strike a powerful blow to the kingdoms of darkness, and many who would have spent eternity in the flames of hell will repent towards God as a result of what is done here in Bangkok, Thailand. ❖

Note from Michael Pearl:

Dewyane Noel, formerly a missionary to Papua New Guinea, and T.J. Slayman, formerly a missionary to Laos, both members of the church at Cane Creek, are the primary teachers in our mission school. They will be looking to Joshua to keep them organized and to handle the business end as well as be a dorm "mother" to the young men. Joshua will also be leading the men in street, prison, and campus ministries.

This is our first year and a big project for such a little church. At first we had a clumsy time trying to get

this organized, but finally it came together. We have seen the hand of God as he has made this dream a reality. If you are interested in being a part of this training next year, contact us now and we will put you in touch with the school right now. You can begin to correspond with the ministry in Thailand by email or letter. Some of our students took a big step of faith. They too are trusting God for their finances. The whole ministry is operating on a shoestring, but the string is in God's shoe.

SLEEPOVERS

Dear Pearls,

One of the things that I had read in your books about not letting children spend the night and have sleepovers has greatly paid off. We recently had a situation in our church that took a lot of families by surprise. I am glad we took your advice on sleepovers. Our Church had a family that well over 20 families had allowed their children stay at their house. This was a good family, the father was a deacon, and we could see their children growing in the Lord, and making professions of faith, and professions of full time ministry with the Lord. Well, no one realized the evil that was going on in this home behind closed doors.

The father is now in jail for several counts of sexual abuse. There has been so much surprise and sadness; there have been over 25 kids questioned, and many families affected. At one point, we had one of these families in our church get upset with my husband and I for not allowing our daughter to stay at their house for a slumber party after the birthday party. I kindly told them that I would bring her over for the birthday party, and take her home after the party was over. At the time they were upset with our strictness. It is so sad; their children are involved in this crisis at our church. I just wanted to say "thank you, for all you do."

Signed,
A Thankful Heart



Father forsakes his family duties

Michael Answers:

You serve the Lord when you serve someone that he would serve if he were here. Jesus said, “Inasmuch as ye have done *it* unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done *it* unto me” (*Mat 25:34-40*). If religious service has as its end the mutual blessing of those involved, it is selfish and vain, for Jesus said, “For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? do not even the publicans the same? And if ye salute your brethren only, what do ye more than others? do not even the publicans so?” (*Matthew 5:46-47*). Any “church work” that diminishes the family is an evil, for Paul warned the young minister, Timothy, “But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel” (*1 Timothy 5:8*). There is much more to “providing” for one’s house than paying the rent and buying the groceries. Family always comes before church. If one’s life is properly ordered, and if the church is properly

Dear Pearls,

My family is facing something that I see happening to many families. I wish you would help us address it. My husband works very long hours. He is a good, faithful, hard-working man. He is also a deacon, church handyman, treasurer, and Sunday School teacher. Due to the hours spent at his regular job and all the hours he has to put in at church, we as a family only have about 4 meals a week together. There are some days that the children never see Daddy because he is required to be at church right after work. Is my husband serving the Lord, or an institution or club? Would the Lord take a man away from his children so that he sees them only a few hours a week?

DP

organized, there will never be a conflict between the ministry of the church and a man’s ministry to his family. One should ask himself, “Is there eternal value in what I am asked to do, or is it an organization promoting itself?” My suggestion would be that a married man should find a ministry that involves the wife and children and so enhances their spiritual growth and the fellowship of the family. A married man does not have the option of caring for the things of God aside from his family, for Paul was quite clear on this: “But I would have you without carefulness. He that is unmarried careth for the things

that belong to the Lord, how he may please the Lord: But he that is married careth for the things that are of the world, how he may please his wife” (*1 Corinthians 7: 32-33*). There you have it, perfectly translated from the original tongues and given by inspiration of the Holy Spirit! It is a married man’s duty to please his wife and minister to his family first. He sins if he does otherwise.

That is the answer to your doctrinal question. However, as the wife, it is not your role to “persuade” your husband to do his God given duty. You may appeal to him in humility and grace—without criticism or nagging—and be willing to accept whatever conclusion he draws. The children will do far better with an absent father than they will with an absent father and bitter mother. Finally, make sure you are giving him reasons to stay home in the evening. Be so cheerful and willing that he feels an emptiness when he leaves. Maybe you can tempt him to “backslide” and spend the evening with his family, as God commands him to.

Sin No More



Dear Pearls,

How do I begin? So much has changed in so many ways. Though we started years ago applying your child training advice, there was still something missing. Then your messages started hitting closer to home - the husband-wife relationship. Ah, yes, things evolved for the better again. But still, something was not all there. (Note I am really leaving out a lot of details that would be a repeat of what you have heard over the years).

Then I read a short story Mike wrote that is found in NGJ Vol III, "My Journey." The Foundation was rather the root of all the other problems. Bingo! We had begun listening to the taped lessons on Galatians and Romans, etc. Floods of insight and answers poured in. Then finally after hearing bits and pieces of the truth, you put out Sin No More. Halleluia! All of it all put together. What hit us both is the truth about character maturity not having anything to do with "sanctification" or sinlessness. The light went on! The fact that a brand new believer is just as able to be sin free as an older one was a revelation. But it all makes sense now. What's more is, now being a loving wife is as natural as breathing. Being a patient mother is old hat. The foundation is right and now the rest is quickly coming together.

Just to add another note, our 16 year-old daughter thanks God for Mike Pearl. She has borne with the brokenness, deeper life stuff for so long. Finally, she has peace because her parents aren't constantly at her with questions like "how is your walk with the Lord?" or "have you taken your spiritual inventory lately?" Groan. I don't know how she put up with it so long! Thanks again,

Cheryl

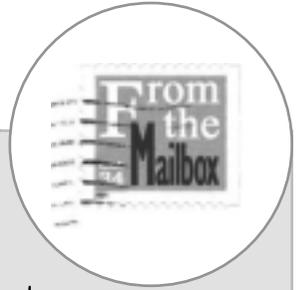
Michael,

Just wanted to tell you how much my wife and I are enjoying your Sin No More series. I must admit...when I heard the title I was offended -- the title is vague. However, the bottom line is that we are so refreshed by the truth of your preaching. Salvation and sanctification are indeed by faith and faith alone. This simple message you preach is powerful...if I have ears to hear. It's sad that the western church at large bypasses the gospel for more complex, spiritual sounding theology that is not based on faith. What may be even more sad than this is that most pastors, seminarians, and church goers love their programs and religious activities, and they truly believe that these things bring them closer to God. This message we preach (by the grace of God, I preach the same gospel) is offensive to many in the church.

Preach it brother! Preach it brother! Preach it brother! God's Word is beautiful and we are touched and refreshed and sharpened by God's grace in your life!

With love in Christ,

Bill



FREE in Christ

Dear Pearls,

My husband would readily agree with me that we are now FREE in Christ due to your way of teaching Romans, Galatians, and Ephesians. The strongholds are GONE! One night of tears of repentance over self-inflicted laws and unacknowledged sin, and victory was mine. My husband is free of the defeated life he lived as a "normal" man, struggling in the flesh. Joy is the pervasive character in our home. Child training is not an issue any more because Mom and Dad are falling in love with each other and the children.

The short version is that God brought Romans 2:1 to me with a new meaning. I saw my "weakness" for what it was - sin! NO different than what men do when gazing upon a woman and dreaming about her. By the time we got to Romans 3, I was ready to see me for who I was - a sinner ready to repent toward God. I thank God for the rest of Romans to proceed to show the way to a truly victorious life.

We thank God that He inspired Paul to write his letter to the Romans and then gave you the gift to open it up to us so many centuries later. Never before have I wanted so much to shout the gospel from the housetops as I do now that I truly understand that we are not only saved from the past sins, but from the power of sin while living here below. Alleluia! I cannot help but share our testimony with brethren but they look at us with quizzical eyes, not understanding the complete gospel themselves. The knowing ones just smile and nod.

Thank you, too, for writing the book Holy Sex. Showers of blessing, grace abounds. I am free to give all of me to my husband. Submission is the key to a truly blessed life. God's ways work!!!

Waking each day with excited anticipation for what He'll do in my life,

C

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