



West Side Window

Volume 30 Issue 2

January 9, 2022

Why Believe A Lie?

Religious confusion and its assorted contradictory doctrines prove that the devil and his servants are effective deceivers (John 8:44). Since God is not the author of confusion (1 Corinthians 14:33), the many false doctrines taught in various denominations today do not come from God. It is no surprise that the same evil one who has been perverting and denying the words of God since the Garden of Eden is still sowing seeds of deception. He even finds pastors ready to serve as his accomplices in preying upon weak little lambs (Acts 20:28-30). But why would anyone allow himself to be deceived? Paul offers an explanation of the motives for believing lies in 2 Thessalonians 2:9-12. The people deceived by Satan's craftiness "did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved." It is not sufficient to know the truth. We must love the truth. There are many people who study the Bible for curiosity, or vanity, or for academic reasons, but who do not approach the Scriptures with the humility necessary to allow the Lord to change them and mold their character. They don't love the truth, and are thus easy prey for the devil. Paul mentions one other factor: they "had pleasure in unrighteousness." When a person wants to find an excuse to justify sin in his life, he will not study the Bible with the honest and open heart necessary to understand it. You can often hear this attitude in the comments of those who want to defend their sinful practices: "Where in the Bible does it say that I cannot ..." The proper attitude is not defensive of evil, but asks: "What does the Lord want me to do?" People who are determined to justify their sins will not understand the truth. Their minds are carnal and incapable of discerning the spiritual richness of God's message (1 Corinthians 2:14). Why would anyone believe a lie? Because the truth often demands painful transformations that most people are unwilling to make. The way of the Lord is difficult and lonely, but it leads to eternal life (Matthew 7:13-14).

by Dennis Allan

What is Happening at West Side?

- Tuesday, January 11th, Men's Class at 6
- Wednesday Bible Study at 7p each week
- West Side is honored to host the 5th Sunday Singing on January 30th at 6:00p.



'Hard work spotlights the character of people: some turn up their sleeves, some turn up their noses, and some don't turn up at all.'

If you are visiting with us today, we welcome you and hope you have been enriched by what you have heard and seen here. If you wish to wear a mask, please do so. You will find masks, communion packets and contribution baskets at each double door. Visitor cards can be found on each aisle. If you have questions or concerns, the Elders would be glad to meet with you.



Services

**Sunday Morning
Class, 9:30a**

**Worship: 10:30a
(Also
livestreamed)**

**No Sunday
Evening Service**

**Wednesday Bible
Study, 7p**

Preacher

Michael Gors

Elders

Michael Gors

Gary Reynolds

Todd Stults

Deacons

Don Allison
Fellowship

Jim Clark
Visitation

Lowell Huffman
Media



Love. Grow. Serve.

7 Techniques for Breaking Sinful Habits

Are there sinful habits you'd like to break? Here are seven Bible-based techniques for breaking sinful habits: **Technique #1: Pray.** Don't overlook the power of prayer. James tells us that the "effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much" (Jas 5:16). The word "effectual" comes from the word "energeo" from which we get the word "energy." James is telling us to pray actively and with energy. The first and perhaps most potent technique for overcoming sinful habits is to ask God for help. **Technique #2: Overcome Evil with Good.** Paul says in Romans 12:21 to "overcome evil with good. "When you feel the urge to give in to an evil habit, do something good instead. Write a letter of hope to a friend, call and encourage a brother, or visit someone who is sick. In other words, replace your sinful habit with a good work. **Technique #3: Surround Yourself with Good People.** We're told "bad company corrupts good morals" (1 Cor. 15:33). The opposite is also true: "good company corrects bad morals. If you have a sinful habit you're trying to break, then seek out the company of good people. Let their "goodness" rub off on you. **Technique #4: Confess Your Faults.** James 5:15 says "confess your sins to one another." Admittedly, confessing your faults and sinful habits will be difficult. You may be embarrassed by the prospect of others "finding out" about your weakness. But when you confess your failings to others, then they can help look out for you. They can counsel and comfort you as you work to overcome your bad habit. **Technique #5: Make Habits Impossible.** You may fall back into your sinful habit simply because sin is so accessible! Overcome sinful habits by eliminating or reducing your access to sin. Matthew 18:9 says, "And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee..." If you've got a bad habit, make it harder to feed the habit! Look for ways to make sinning inconvenient rather than easy. **Technique #6: Think Good Thoughts.** The urge to feed a bad habit starts in the mind. Fill your mind with righteous thoughts and you'll reduce the chance that evil thoughts will blossom into sin. Follow Paul's advice: "whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things" (Phil. 4:8). **Technique #7: Take One Day at a Time.** It takes only two weeks to develop a habit, but it takes months to break one. Don't despair! Rather than thinking how long it will take and how hard it will be to break the habit, learn to take one day at a time. Don't worry about tomorrow. Work to stop your bad habit today for "each day has enough trouble of its own" (Matt. 6:34).

By Mark Hennecke

Immaturity

King Ahab had a palace in Jezreel. Next to it was a vineyard owned by Naboth. Ahab wanted that vineyard and offered to buy it, either with cash or in exchange for another vineyard. But Naboth did not want to sell. "So Ahab came into his house sullen and vexed . . . and he lay down on his bed and turned away his face and ate no food" (1 Kings 21:4). Poor Ahab! He did not get what he wanted so he pouted like a spoiled child. We read this account and think how silly for a grown man, a king, to act this way. But before we are too quick to condemn Ahab's childishness, let us take a look at our own. Have you ever known of brethren who got upset because someone else was called on to do something they wanted to do? Or who placed membership at another church because some little something did not suit? Or who stayed home because the preacher or elders did not come to visit often enough, or perhaps because of some misunderstanding with another Christian? Paul said when he became a man he put away childish things (1 Corinthians 13:11). Let us do the same. -Frank Himmel

Leaders in Worship

January 9, 2022

Announcements: Lowell Huffman

Song Leader: Don Allison

Opening Prayer: Jimmy Clark

Scripture: Steve Gors, *Matt. 6: 19-24*

Lord's Table: Gary Reynolds

Sermon: Mike Gors,
"Mastering the Material World"

Closing Prayer: Rick Cox

Sound Room: Case Reynolds

Bible Study, January 12th

Song Leader: Jimmy Clark

Devo: Gary Reynolds

Prayer: Bill Winemiller

Happy Birthday

Rick Cox--Jan 11

Debbie Perry--Jan 11

Charlene Huffman--Jan 14

Andy Daunhauer--Jan 16

Joe Odle--Jan 27

Pat Lee--Jan 30

Jack Qualkenbush--Jan 31



In Need of Prayer

Alex Odle & his fiancée

April Stinson, Cancer. Friend of Genny

Cliff Nicks, Recuperating from heart surgery

Damon Summers

David Sharp, Stage four cancer, Betty Kellow's brother.

Estes & Betty Gregory, Betty had to be hospitalized this past week for a flare-up of heart and blood pressure issues. She was scheduled for a heart catheter this past Friday and subsequently was found to have a blockage with placement of one stint. Estes is holding his own and still at his daughter, Renee's, home.

Kay Walls, Broken Hip. Residing at Morrison Woods in Muncie for Rehab

Kendall Clark, Blood clot in leg

Lisa Harmon, Terminal breast Cancer. Wife of Brian's friend

Norma Haffner, some better. Recuperating from broken hip and now residing at Bethel Point. Prognosis is hopeful that she will return home

The New Year by D.M. Craig

Who comes dancing over the snow?
His soft little feet all bare and rosy?
Open the door, though the wild winds blow
Take the child in and make him cozy.
Take him in and hold him dear
He is the wonderful, glad new year.

"Be always at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbors and let each year find you a better man" Ben Franklin

Things You Don't Know About Our Elders (Per Family Testimony)

—Michael Todd Stults:

The whole world knows him as Mike but his family calls him “Toddy”. He’s the eldest of the West Side Elders at the age of 54. He is a native of Muncie and attended Burriss HS where he ran track, played on the golfing team, participated in baseball, cross country, and football. He also belonged to the Burriss Media Club. Todd enlisted in the US Navy while in high school and spent the next four years in active duty in Michigan, San Diego and Norfolk as a metrologist. It is interesting to know that Todd first attended West Side as a youngster when the bus ministry was active. The memory was rekindled when he saw the annex stairs and it all came back to him. His bus-parents were Herb and Betty Smith and, yes, Betty did remember him. As a kid, he appeared on the “Janie” Show but his TV career went no-where. He was a successful “Cookie-Mom” for Emily’s girl Scout group as well as Den Master for Jonah’s troop. Around his house, Todd is called a human calculator for his mathematical skills. He enjoys trivia and has won several trivia contests while on cruises. His pet peeves are being late and being unorganized. Todd worked at Disneyland as a chipmunk and was a cook at Sea World and, in Muncie, he worked as a cook at Butterfields Restaurant while still in high school. He currently works for Nestle. His biggest feat was when he was dared to eat a starfish and he rose to that dare. Needless to say, sick didn’t even describe the outcome. Though he was a seasoned flyer at an early age, once, as a small tyke, he and his sister were flying home alone from Florida to Indy. The plane crew forgot them and they were flown to Chicago instead. After a long lay-over, while the plane crew considered its dilemma, Todd and Rhonda were treated to hot dogs and root beer. And, once back in Indianapolis, they were escorted to Muncie in a limousine.

—Michael Gors:

Michael Joseph was nicknamed “Mikey Joe” by his aunt and is one of three boys in the Gors family. When Mike was little, he was a model for Ball Stores (and a very cute one). Mike knew Bob Ross because his mom worked with Bob at WIPB for years. Seth is fascinated by this fact. As a teenager, Mike was a drummer in a garage band called Avalanche. His favorite job as a young adult was delivering auto parts which is also how he found West Side, since he would drive by and see the Bible verse on the sign as he was delivering to auto shops in the area. He also did landscaping and worked in a factory before going to preaching school in Memphis. It is hard to believe that Mike had a terrible fear of public speaking. Never in a million years did he think he would speak for a living or be a preacher!. He has just celebrated the BIG--50. A native of Muncie, he graduated from Southside High School where he was a champion swimmer. He aspired to follow his Grandfather's example by joining the Marines but at the last minute got cold feet. His family says, “God had other plans for him”. His grandfather was a stalwart example in his life and he vividly remembers his Grandfather’s favorite adage when a kid was facing trouble: “BE ADVISED!” Mike’s pet peeve: slow drivers in the passing lane. His favorite desert: his grandmother’s apple pie. His most endearing and maddening habit: losing his keys.

—Gary Reynolds

Who in the world is Uncle Googie? It is Gary Paul Reynolds. That’s what his nephews, Tyler and Alex called him when he baby sat them. Gary is the youngest of the West Side Elders at 46 but his Mother says he is aging quickly and definitely gaining much wisdom as the father of teenagers, Elayna and Case. He moved with his family to Yorktown and spent his entire high school career there where he played baseball and was very active in music circles. He also played the euphonium. He had real “Star Power” too, by playing the lead in “My Fair Lady”. He is a graduate of BSU with a *Bachelors* Degree. After university, Gary has worked for Frito-Lay and Nestle. One of his interests is travel and using his own skills and expertise in planning jaunts for his family. Sometimes, his Mother tells us, he has more than one trip on the burner at the same time. His other great passion is smoking meats and assorted fare. Gary’s family calls him the “Trivia King” and he is known to be lucky in winning prizes. He says it is in the folding of the papers. His most maddening habit? Checking and re-checking if the garage door is locked. He always asks if he closed the garage and frequently returns to the house to verify that the the garage is really closed. The funniest family story is that his brother, Mark dressed him up early for Halloween and took him to Trick-or-Treat. For all the trouble, Gary only got one candy bar and Mark ate it—every bite of it. Poor Gary! Favorite music group? Pink Floyd. Dream car: Ford Raptor Trunk.

FYI: Euphonium, A brass instrument smaller than but resembling a tuba.