

October 18, 2015

Insight...

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

Philippians 4:8

- **Perhaps you heard about the first time Pastor Dan** was asked to speak to a group of prisoners at the local jail. He was a bit nervous but had prepared well. He had been anxiously awaiting this opportunity to bring the light of Christ to bear on the lives of this group of men who had been segregated from society. After the men had assembled Dan strode to the small podium and said, *“Good morning. It’s good to see you all here.”*

- **A New Normal** – According to the Family Research Council’s Fifth Annual Index of Family Belonging and Rejection, released in February, more than half (54%) of American teens 15-17 years old do not live in a home with their married mother and father. The benefits to children of being raised by their married parents are significant, including higher educational attainment levels, better emotional health, and better self-esteem. Conversely, the risks to teens of not living with a father in the home are notable. Teenage boys are more likely to engage in delinquent behavior, and girls are 7 to 8 times more likely to experience a teen pregnancy. [Source: <http://daily.signal.com/2015/02/21/many-kids-grow-married-mom-dad>]

- **Focus on Millennials** (Americans born between 1980 and 2000) – a generation that, to a large degree, has chosen to *“do what seems right in their own eyes”* with seeming indifference to the Word of God. Why? When asked they indicated...
 - The lack of integrity of many Christian leaders – including parents, church leaders, denominational authorities, and others – seems to be a primary cause of the exodus of young people from the organized church.
 - In August of 2009, the LifeWay team conducted a study of 1,200 American millennials, finding that about two-thirds called themselves Christian, 14% said they were atheist or agnostic, another 14% listed no religious preference, and 8% claimed affiliation with a religion other than Christianity. But even among those claiming a religious identity, religious involvement was fairly infrequent; for example, 31% said they prayed daily, but 20% never pray. Similarly, only small minorities read sacred texts even once a month (34%), attend worship services weekly (25%), or participate in scripture-study groups (20%). Only 26% trust Jesus Christ as Savior.[From an article entitled, Youth Retreat by Carmen Fowler Laberge, Salvo, Summer 2015]

- **Trivia Question:** Whoever robs his father or his mother and says, "That is no transgression," is _____.
- A. Worse than an unbeliever.
 - B. A blinded fool.
 - C. A deceived fowler.
 - D. A companion to a man who destroys.

For Prayer...

- ...Tom (Barb) had back surgery this past week and is recovering. Two metal brackets were implanted along his spine. We pray for the Lord's healing and success for upcoming physical therapy in hopes that the surgery will pave the way for Tom to walk again.
- ...Dave - continues a hard and rigorous regimen of chemo treatments. Thank you for your prayers for healing and strength physically and spiritually.
- ...Karen's sister, Lynn's cancer has returned. She started chemo again last week. Please pray for strength of faith in her loneliness and fear.
- ...Cheryl (Deane) who had surgery at Mayo this past Wednesday in hopes that neurological pain could be relieved. Thank you for your continued prayers.
- ...Nathan niece, Hope (33), had a debilitation stroke this past week. Prayer for oneness of mind for doctors and the Lord's healing blessings. Hope and her husband have 3 young children.
- ...Youth Director Position and Committee.
- ...Sale of Homes
- ...Couples who are fighting serious physical illness together.
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|----------------|------------|------------|
| Christy (Mike) | Sue (John) | Tom (Barb) |
| Cheryl (Deane) | Ken & Judy | |
- ...Our Expectant Mothers
- | | | |
|-------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Coty (Steve) | Amber (Keenan) | Johanna (Joshua) |
| Kim (Eddy) | Lindsay (Evo) | Jill (Dale) |
| Elizabeth (Brent) | Angela (Ryan) | Rebekah (Adam) |
| Lindsey (Jeremy) | | |

O for eyes that see...

*Miracles are a retelling in small
letters of the very same story
which is written across the whole
world in letters too large for
some of us to see.*

C. S. Lewis

Trivia Answer: D. "a companion to a man who destroys."