

Lessons from the Heart

Young people and faith

By Matt Stump

"I can't think of a more urgent need than enabling young people to understand their faith and preparing them to defend it against the onslaught of secular thought they encounter in their schools and in popular culture." - Chuck W. Colson

This quote taken from Mr. Colson's forward in the book, "Battle Cry for a Generation," sums up a call that has been given

to parents, youth ministers, and pastors alike. Some of our youth and adults from our county have had the opportunity to attend conferences this past year such as "Run to the Battle" in Muncie, and "Battle Cry" in Detroit (and others not mentioned here) These events allow our youth to experience somewhat of a mountain-top feeling in their faith. They encourage youth to become excited about knowing Jesus Christ and teach

them to tell others about His grace. The difficulty in these situations is that the excitement that these events generate, fizzles out rather quickly.

In our community, as well as most others, we have lost the excitement about many things. Not just our faith, but in other things such as gatherings, neighborhood get-togethers, community events, and so forth. Instead we have replaced these institutions with youth-based activities.

The pressures that are put on our youth today are far greater than in any previous generation. The expectations for them to perform at an outrageous level at an even more rigorous pace, have caused a lapse in child rearing, as well as their spiritual development. The moment a youth returns from an event such as these spiritual conferences, their world is thrust right into their face again. The "do this, play here, go there, win at all cost," attitude in which they face, causes them to neglect what should really be important, an in-depth holy attitude. The busier they get and the more they are pushed for worldly accomplishments, the more they lose Jesus.

So what is the solution? Author Mark Buchanan writes in his book, "Your God Is Too Safe," that "solitude's other gift is that it takes us outside the rush and crush of time, and in doing so reorients us to eternity." It is this that can reorient not only youth, but all of us to God.

Take time to spend with God, not just a quick family prayer before meals, but hours of scripture reading and prayer. Encourage your youth and family to seek God and church attendance as a priority. The great thing is that the youth are still experiencing a spark, even if it is for a day or so at these events. God is still present in this world. It is up to us to build upon that, and give our youth an opportunity to win a raging battle for their lives.

Matt Stump is youth minister at Flora-Bringham United Methodist churches.

Pray for our nation to seek God

After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions... Luke 2:46 Pd. Adv.

World Day of Prayer is being observed May 4

Comet staff report

As American troops fight for democracy and freedom around the globe and battle the war of terror, citizens of the United States are preparing to celebrate their freedom to gather, worship and pray. Millions will answer the call to prayer on May 4, the 55th annual National Day of Prayer, by flocking to observances held in public places to pray for the nation, governmental leaders, media, churches, families and schools.

This year's theme is "America, Honor God" and is based on 1 Samuel 2:30 NIV - "Those who

honor me, I will honor." This event provides everyone with an opportunity to humble themselves before the Almighty and to seek redeeming and preserving grace.

The National Day of Prayer tradition predates the founding of the United States of America when the Continental Congress issued a proclamation setting aside a day of prayer in 1775. In 1952, Congress established an annual day of prayer and, in 1988, that law was amended, designating the National Day of Prayer as the first Thursday in May.

Does the Bible Lie About Jesus?

The Da Vinci Code: Fact or Fiction?
A four part series beginning Wed., May 10th at 7 pm at Jubilee Fellowship

687 E 50 N, Flora
574-967-3018 for more information.



According to the best-selling book and new movie, *The Da Vinci Code*, Christianity is based on conspiracies and cover-ups. Is this a frontal attack on the faith or just fast-moving fiction? Join us as we navigate the waters between fact and fiction, crack the code, and give you answers to the questions you've been asking.

- Was Jesus married?
- Did men "make up" the Bible?
- Is "the truth" hidden in ancient art, architecture and writings?

FOCUS ON THE FAMILY

By Dr. James Dobson

Sibling rivalry can get ugly where beauty is concerned

QUESTION: I'm concerned about sibling rivalry between my two daughters. What are the areas of potential conflict that should be handled with care?

DR. DOBSON: There are three areas that are most delicate. First, children are extremely sensitive about the matter of physical attractiveness and body characteristics. It is highly inflammatory to commend one child at the expense of the other.

Suppose, for example, that Sharon is permitted to hear the casual remark about her sister, "Betty is sure going to be a gorgeous girl." The very fact that Sharon was not mentioned will probably establish the two girls as rivals. If there is a significant difference in beauty between the two, you can be assured that Sharon has already concluded, "Yeah, I'm the ugly one." When her fears are then confirmed by her parents, resentment and jealousy are generated.

Second, the matter of intelligence is another sensitive nerve. It is not uncommon to hear parents say in front of their children, "I think the younger boy is actually brighter than his brother." Even when the comments are unplanned and are spoken routinely, they convey how a child is "seen" within his family. We are all vulnerable to that bit of evidence.

Third, children (especially boys) are extremely competitive with regard to athletic abilities. Those who are slower, weaker and less coordinated than their brothers are rarely able to accept "second best" with grace and dignity. Consider, for example, the following note given to me by the mother of two boys. It was written by her 9-year-old son to his 8-year-old brother, the evening after the younger child had beaten him in a race.

"Dear Jim:
"I am the greatest and your the badest. And I can beat everybody in a race and you can't beat anybody in a race. I'm the smartest and your the dumbest. I'm the best sport player and your the badest sport player. And your also a hog. I can beat anybody up. And that's the truth. And that's the end of this story.

"Yours truly,
"Richard"
This note is humorous to me because Richard's motive was so poorly disguised. He had been badly stung by his humiliation on the field of honor, so he came home and raised the battle flags.



Dr. Dobson

Such is the nature of humankind.

QUESTION: Sometimes my husband and I disagree on our discipline and argue in front of our children about what is best. Do you think this is damaging?

DR. DOBSON: Yes, I do. You and your husband should present a united front, especially when children are watching. If you disagree on an issue, it can be discussed later in private. Unless the two of you can come to a consensus, your children's perception of right and wrong will begin to appear arbitrary. They will also make an "end run" around the tougher parent to get the answers they want.

There are even more serious consequences for boys and girls when parents are radically different in their approach. Some of the most hostile, aggressive teenagers I've seen have come from family constellations where the parents have moved in opposite directions in their discipline. Suppose the father is unloving and uninterested in the welfare of his kids. His approach is harsh and physical. He comes home tired and may knock them around if they get in his way.

The mother is permissive by nature. She worries every day about the lack of love in the father-child relationship. Eventually she sets out to compensate for it. When Dad sends their son to bed without his dinner, Mom slips him milk and cookies. When he says "no" to a particular request, she finds a way to say "yes." She lets the kids get away with murder because it is not in her spirit to confront them.

What happens under these circumstances is that the authority figures in the family contradict and cancel out each other. Consequently, the child is caught in the middle and often grows up hating both. It doesn't always work that way, but the probability for trouble is high. The "middle ground" between extremes of love and control must be sought if we are to produce healthy, responsible children.

Send your questions to Dr. Dobson, c/o Focus on the Family, PO Box 444, Colorado Springs, CO 80903; or to his Web site at www.focus.org. These questions and answers are excerpted from books authored by Dr. James Dobson and published by Tyndale House Publishers. Dr. Dobson is the founder and chairman of the board of Focus on the Family, a nonprofit organization dedicated to the preservation of the home and Judeo-Christian values. Copyright 1997 James Dobson, Inc. All rights reserved. International copy secured.

Announcements

Join the Second Baptist Church Family for a community **YOUTH EXPLOSION**. The fun begins Saturday at 11 a.m., and is free and open to the public. The Youth Explosion will be held at 2925 South 18th Street in Lafayette. Everyone is welcome! The event will be held indoors in case of bad weather. For more

information, call (765) 477-7259.

HICKORY GROVE CHURCH, Delphi, Holy Soldiers Sunday School Class is hosting a Soup/Salad Luncheon and Dessert Auction to benefit the Emmaus Mission in Logansport following Sunday services.

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DIRECTORY OF AREA CHURCHES

SS=Sunday School	SW=Sunday Worship
AMERICUS UNION NON-DENOMINATIONAL: Vernon Stingley, pastor. SW: 10 a.m.	FLORA FIRST BRETHREN: 115 N. Washington Street, Flora. Dan Herendeen, pastor. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m.
BRINGHURST UNITED METHODIST: Larry DeVos, pastor. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m.	FLORA FIRST CHRISTIAN (Disciples of Christ): S. Center Street, Flora. Pamela Ditson-McCall, pastor. SW: 9:30 a.m., SS: 10:30 a.m.
BROOKSTON CHURCH OF CHRIST: 206 N. Prairie Street, Brookston. Ron Guzman, minister. SS: 9 a.m., SW: 10 a.m. & 6 p.m.	FLORA GRACE BRETHREN: 103 S. Willow St., Flora. James Franklin, pastor. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m., Wed. Prayer Service: 7 p.m.
BUCK CREEK UNITED METHODIST: 4915 Ferret St., Buck Creek. Joe Hornick, pastor. SS: 9 a.m., SW: 10:15 a.m.	FLORA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH: 211 S. Center St., Flora. Charles Compton, pastor. SS: 9:15 a.m., SW: 10:15 a.m.
BURLINGTON FIRST BRETHREN: 205 W. 8th St., Rev. Dr. Peter Roussakis, pastor. SW: 10:00 a.m., SS: 9:00 a.m.	FLORA UNITED METHODIST: 107 E. Main Street, Flora. Larry DeVos, pastor. SW: 9 a.m., SS: 10:15 a.m.
BURLINGTON CHURCH OF CHRIST: Tim Pohlman, pastor. SW: 9:30 a.m. & 6 p.m., Children's Church: 10 a.m., SS: 10:30 a.m., Youth Groups: 6 p.m.	FLORA VALLEY VIEW SOUTHERN BAPTIST: Route 2, Flora. Bill Godbey, pastor. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m. & 6 p.m.
BURLINGTON UNITED METHODIST: Rev. Chuck Rockey, pastor. SS: 10:50 a.m., SW: 9:30 a.m.	GRACE MISSIONARY BAPTIST: 1101 Dreifers Ave., Delphi. Danny Jewell, pastor. SS: 10 a.m. SW: 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.
BURNETTVILLE FIRST BAPTIST: Second & Main, Burnettsville. SW: 10:00 a.m., SS: 11:15 a.m.	HICKORY GROVE CHURCH: CR 700 W., Jefferson Township, Ken Smith, pastor. SS: 9 a.m., SW: 10 a.m.
BURNETTVILLE CHRISTIAN: Sixth & Washington, Burnettsville. John Wright, pastor. SW: 9:30 a.m., SS: 10:30 a.m.	HILLSIDE MISSIONARY BAPTIST: Hwy. 22, 2 miles E. of Burlington. Doyle Buckner, pastor. SS: 10 a.m., SW: 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.
BURNETTVILLE CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN: First & Main, Burnettsville. SW: 9:30 a.m., SS: 10:30 a.m.	HISPANIC CHRISTIAN CENTER: 108 W. Main, Delphi. Dimas Palacio, pastor. SS: 10 a.m., SW 12noon, Tue. & Wed. 7 p.m.
BURROWS PRESBYTERIAN: SS: 10:30 a.m., SW: 9:30 a.m.	IDAVILLE CHURCH OF GOD: 11073 E 50 N, Idaville. Keith Raderstorf, pastor. SW 8:30 & 10:30 a.m., SS: 9:30 a.m.
CALVARY CHAPEL CARROLL COUNTY: Will be meeting at the Delphi Middle School gym on Monroe Street. The worship service begins at 10:30 AM. All are welcome!	JUBILEE FELLOWSHIP: CR 50 N, Flora. Scott Gamel, pastor. SS: 9:00 a.m., SW: 10:00 a.m.
CAMDEN UNITED METHODIST: Dan Gottschalk, pastor. SS: 9 - 9:45 a.m., SW: 10 a.m. Sun. Nite Praise 6:02 p.m.	LIVING FAITH CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN: 310N 250W. Jeff Tomson, interim pastor. SS: 9 a.m., SW: 10 a.m.
CLYMERS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH: 4003 W 400S. Clymers Kevin Drane, pastor. SW: 10:30 a.m. SS: Same as worship.	LIVING STONE CHURCH: Meets at the Freedom Center in Delphi. SS: 11 a.m., SW: 9:30 a.m. contact (765) 589-3507
COLBURN ROAD BAPTIST: Bill Cadle, pastor. SS: 10 a.m., SW: 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.	LOCKPORT NON-DENOMINATIONAL CHURCH: East of Patton. Nord Zootman, pastor. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m. Sun. Bible Study: 6:30 p.m.
COLBURN UNITED METHODIST: Michael Ermil, pastor. SW: 9 a.m., SS: 10:20 a.m.	LOWER DEER CREEK CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN: CR 300 N, SE of Camden. SW 10:15 a.m., SS: 9:00 a.m.
COMMUNITY BIBLE MINISTRIES: 1/2 mile north of SR 22 on CR 1150W. Patrick Kamm, pastor. SS: 9 a.m. SW: 10:15 a.m.	MT. ZION INDEPENDENT BAPTIST: 102 N. Connelly Street, Delphi. Alfred Smith, pastor. SS: 10:15 a.m., SW: 9 a.m., & 6 p.m.
DELPHI CHURCH OF CHRIST: 405 Cottage Street, Delphi. Lowell Kibler, minister. Sunday Bible study: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 & 6 p.m., Wed. Night 7 p.m.	OAK GROVE CHRISTIAN: 11810 N & 900 W, Monticello. Interim pastor, Don Arterburn. SW: 10 a.m.
CROSSROADS COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN: 3570 E 200S, Bringham, Dan C. Butcher, pastor. SW: 9:30 a.m. SS: 10:30 a.m. Youth group 6:30 p.m., Bible study Wed. 6:30 p.m.	PINE GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH: Crooked Road, 1 mile E of Delphi. Justin Wagner, pastor. SS: 10 a.m., SW: 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.
CUTLER PRESBYTERIAN: Pastor Jim Long SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m.	PITTSBURG MISSIONARY BAPTIST: John Wagner, pastor. SS: 10 a.m., SW: 11 a.m. & 6 p.m. Bible Study: Thurs. 6:30 p.m.
DEER CREEK UNITED PRESBYTERIAN: Highway 29 in Deer Creek. Rev. Cheryl Montgomery, interim pastor. SW: 10:30 a.m. SS: 9:15 a.m.	PLEASANT HILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH: 5490 North SR 39, Frankfort. Donna Eason, pastor. SS: 9:45 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m. Everyone welcome.
DELPHI CHRISTIAN CHURCH: 315 E. Main St, Delphi. Andrew Paris, minister. SW: 9:30 a.m., SS: 10:45 a.m. Wed. Bible study: 7 p.m.	PYRMONT CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN: Pastor. Howard Hendrickson SS: 9 a.m., SW: 10:15 a.m.
DELPHI COMMUNITY CHURCH OF GOD: 321 W. Main Street, Delphi. Rev. Virgil Moss. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m. & 6 p.m.	RADNOR CHURCH: Ed Selvidge, pastor. SW: 9 a.m., SS: 10 a.m.
DELPHI PENTECOSTAL: Hwy. 25 East, Delphi. Tim Stewart, pastor. SS: 9:45 a.m., SW: 6 p.m.	ROCKFIELD CHRISTIAN: Bob Cree, pastor. SW: 9 a.m., SS: 10 a.m.
DELPHI UNITED METHODIST: Union & Monroe Streets, Delphi. SW: 8:45 & 11 a.m., SS: 10 a.m., Todd Ladd, pastor, Sheila Wilimits, youth pastor.	ROCKFIELD PRESBYTERIAN: SW: 9:30 a.m.
DELPHI WESLEYAN: North Union Street, Delphi. Rich & Carol Scheneck, pastor. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m. & 6 p.m.	ROSSVILLE BIBLE FELLOWSHIP: 16 Cason St., S. Corporate Prayer 9:00 a.m., S. Fellowship 9:30 a.m., SW 10:00 a.m.
EASTLAWN UNITED METHODIST: SR 24 & Logan Street, Idaville. Ernie D. Elder, Jr., Pastor. SW: 10 a.m., SS: 9 a.m.	ROSSVILLE CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN: 109 N. Plank Street, Rossville. Pastor, Bob Pfeifer. SS: 9 a.m., SW: 10 a.m.
FAITH CHURCH OF CHRIST: SR 29, Burlington. Steve Cole, minister. SW: 9:30 a.m. & 6 p.m. a.m., SS: 11 a.m., Wed. Bible study 7 p.m.	ROSSVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH: 5434 W State Rd 26, Rossville, IN. Rev. Gretchen Schneider SW: 9 a.m., SS: 10:20 a.m.
FAITH LUTHERAN: CR 800 N, west of Hwy. 29. Thomas J. McShannock & Sandy Hutchens, pastor. SS: 9 a.m., SW: 10:10 a.m.	ROSSVILLE UNITED METHODIST: Main & Gaddis Streets, Rossville. Rick Jones, pastor. SS: 9:15 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m.
FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH: Hwys. 29 & 26, Middlefork. Jim Anderson, pastor. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m. & 6 p.m.	SHARON AMERICAN BAPTIST: St. Rd. 29, Carrollton Township. James Lund, pastor. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m.
FIRST APOSTOLIC CHURCH: U.S. 421 North, Tippecanoe Township. Gilbert R. Ingram, pastor. SW: 10 a.m. & 6 p.m.	ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC: 207 N. Washington Street, Delphi. Peter Vanderkolk, pastor. SW: 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD: US 421N., Pittsburg. Brent Oliver, pastor. SW: 9:30 a.m., Wed. Family Night: 7pm	ST. MATTHEW'S LUTHERAN CHURCH: 1301 S. Washington St., Delphi. Dale Larson, pastor. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m.
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF CAMDEN: Chad Hoesman, pastor. SW: 9:30 a.m., SS: 10:45 a.m., Sun. Youth Service 5:30 p.m. Sun. Bible study: 7:30 p.m.	ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN: Church & Cumberland Sts., Camden, 2 blocks West & 1 block North of SR218 and SR75. Dale Larson, pastor. SW: 8:30 a.m., SS: Same as Worship.
FIRST BAPTIST: Indiana & Franklin Streets, Delphi. William Glenn, pastor. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m. & 6 p.m.	WHIRLWIND MINISTRIES: meet at Burrows Fire Department, Greg & Michelle Britt, pastors. SW: 9 a.m., (574) 652-2280
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN: Main & Indiana Streets, Delphi. Rev. Louis Sandos. SW: 9:30 a.m., SS: 10:30 a.m.	YEOMAN UNITED METHODIST: Dave Inskip, pastor, SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m.