

Lessons from the Heart

What will you choose?



By Pastor Pamela Ditson-McCall

We have so many choices today. From the moment we wake, until we go to sleep, our day is filled with choices.

When I was young, there were only three or possibly four television channels to watch...and even harder for young people today to believe is that at midnight all of those channels went off the air!

Today, most homes have at least 20 or more channels. Amazingly, even with 60 channels, I can seldom find but one or two programs in an evening worth watching.

We all have so many decisions to

make each day, but I worry about our young ones. The children today are expected to make so many choices on a daily basis. Even something as simple as what to wear is difficult with a closet full of clothing or each morning what cereal to eat.

To add to the dilemma, advertisers are always doing their best to lure us toward their products. New and improved...well if not the product the packaging. Each aisle in the grocery store has product after product which are essentially the same; we only have to choose which one to purchase. Do I base my decision on price, or brand name...maybe the packaging or the promises the manufacturer makes? Is it any wonder we live in a world most describe as stressed out and over extended?

Sometime back, a mother of three shared with me that meal time in their home was taking it's toll on her. She shared that often times she prepared several different items in order for everyone to get what they liked. It was easy for me to jump in with my words of wisdom which also, I must confess, had a tone of judgment. That, however, was not going to help her situation. She needed comforted, not criticized. Her goal was like that of all mothers, to provide for her family. Unfortunately, her family thought their kitchen was a

restaurant, complete with an extensive menu.

As Christians we feel we have chosen to follow Jesus. John 15:16 tells us differently. Jesus says, "You did not choose me, but I chose you."

I don't know about you, but I am relieved. Even though I "choose" to follow Jesus by confession of faith and baptism, Jesus had already chosen me! Alleluia! One less decision to make! When looking at the whole of the 15th Chapter of John...Jesus has one simple request: love one another, as I have loved you. And when we choose to live our lives, grounded in the knowledge that Jesus loves us, chooses us...when we grow in the freedom of knowing we are loved and treasured, we then also grow in strength and wisdom. Then, our choices become not about what is best for me...but what is best for others.

What will you choose?

Pamela Ditson-McCall is pastor of the Flora First Christian Church.

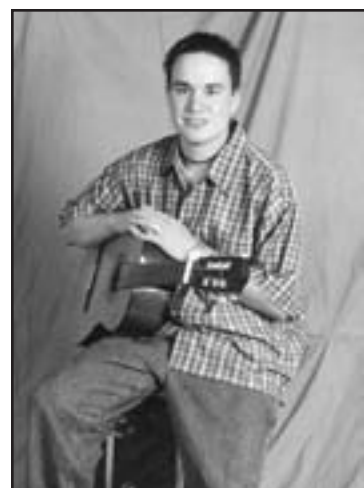
Pray for our nation to seek God

And he said to them, "How is it that you sought me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house? Luke 2:49 Pd. Adv.

Jaggers to perform at DPL on May 20

Malachi Jaggers will return to Delphi Public Library's Coffee Beat, bringing with him a truly great performance of inspirational music, Christian contemporary, original and even some folk and Beatles tunes. Over the past five years Jaggers has become a Coffee Beat staple with his easy going personality and his professional musical style.

He will perform from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Coffee and music are free and desserts are available. Guests should enter through the Indiana Street entrance. For more information call (765) 564-2929.



Malachi Jaggers

Announcement

MATT MCCOY AND EPIC will perform at 6:30 p.m. Sunday at Hickory Grove Church, located in northern Carroll County at 9714 N. 700 W. The concert is free.

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS
Meet at 7:30 p.m. every Tuesday at Delphi United Methodist Church
(765) 564-6350
(574) 967-3332

Channel 2

Programming for May 21-24 is listed below:

Sun., May 21 - 9 a.m., Live worship service from Flora United Methodist Church.

Mon., May 22 - 7 p.m., Worship service from Delphi Wesleyan Church (if available, taped 5/21), followed by memory tape of past events.

Wed., May 24 - 7 p.m., Delphi City Council meeting (taped).



FOCUS ON THE FAMILY

By Dr. James Dobson

Overcoming common 'Marriage Killers' is serious work

QUESTION: Would you identify some of the major "marriage killers" that are most responsible for the high divorce rate that plagues today's families?



Dr. Dobson

DR. DOBSON: Any one of the following "dragons" can rip a relationship to shreds if given an opportunity to do so:

OVERCOMMITMENT AND PHYSICAL EXHAUSTION: This condition is especially insidious for young couples who are trying to get started in a profession or in school. Do not try to go to college, work full-time, have a baby, manage a toddler, fix up a house and start a business at the same time. It sounds ridiculous, but many young couples do just that - and are then surprised when their marriages fall apart. The only time they see each other is when they are worn out!

EXCESSIVE CREDIT AND CONFLICT OVER HOW MONEY WILL BE SPENT: Pay cash for consumable items or don't buy. Don't spend more on a house or a car than you can afford, leaving too little income for dating, short trips, baby sitters, etc. Allocate your funds with wisdom.

SELFISHNESS: There are two kinds of people in the world: the givers and the takers. A marriage between two givers can be a beautiful thing. Friction is inevitable for a giver and a taker. But two takers can claw each other to pieces within a period of weeks.

UNHEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS WITH IN-LAWS: If either the husband or wife has not been fully emancipated from the parents, it is best not to live near them. Autonomy is difficult for some mothers and fathers to grant.

UNREALISTIC EXPECTATIONS: Some couples come into marriage anticipating rose-covered cottages, walks down primrose lanes and unmitigated joy. There is no way a marriage between two imperfect human beings can deliver on that expectation. The late counselor Jean Lush believed, and I agree, that this romantic illusion is particularly characteristic of American women who expect more from their husbands than they are capable of providing.

SPACE INVADERS: My concern is for those who violate the "breathing room" needed by their partners, quickly suffocating them and destroying the attraction between them. Jealousy is one way the phenomenon manifests itself. Another is a poor self-concept, which leads the insecure spouse to build a cage around the other. It often suffocates the relationship. Love must be free and it must be confident.

SEXUAL FRUSTRATION AND ITS PARTNER, THE GREENER GRASS OF INFIDELITY: It is a deadly combination!

BUSINESS COLLAPSE: Failure in work does bad things, to men especially. Their agitation over financial reverses sometimes sublimates to anger within the family.

BUSINESS SUCCESS: It is almost as risky to succeed wildly as it is to fail miserably in business. King Solomon wrote: "Give me neither poverty nor riches, but give me only my daily bread" (Proverbs 30:8).

GETTING MARRIED TOO YOUNG: Girls who marry between 14 and 17 years of age are more than twice as likely to divorce as those who marry at 18 or 19 years of age. Those who marry at 18 or 19 are 1 1/2 times more likely to divorce as those who marry in their 20s. The pressures of adolescence and the stresses of early married life do not mix well. Finish the first before taking on the second.

ALCOHOL AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE: These are notorious killers, not only of marriages but also of the people who indulge excessively. It has been said that upward of a third of all Americans and Canadians are close family members of an alcoholic.

PORNOGRAPHY, GAMBLING AND OTHER ADDICTIONS: It should be obvious to everyone that the human personality is flawed. During an introductory stage, people think they can tamper with various enticements, such as pornography, gambling, hard drugs, etc., without being hurt. Indeed, many do walk away unaffected. For some, however, there is a weakness and vulnerability that is unknown until too late. Such people then become addicted to something that tears at the fabric of the family. This warning may seem foolish and even prudish to my readers, but I've made a 20-year study of those who wreck their lives. Their problems often begin in experimentation with a known vice and ultimately end in death ... or the death of a marriage.

These are a few of the common marriage killers. But in truth, the list is virtually limitless. If you are going to beat the odds and maintain an intimate, long-term marriage, you must take the task seriously.

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.

DIRECTORY OF AREA CHURCHES

- SS=Sunday School SW=Sunday Worship**
- AMERICAN UNION NON-DENOMINATIONAL:** Vernon Stingley, pastor. SW: 10 a.m.
- BRINGHURST UNITED METHODIST:** Larry DeVos, pastor. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 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.
- BUCK CREEK UNITED METHODIST:** 4915 Ferret St., Buck Creek. Joe Hornick, pastor. SS: 9 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.
- 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.
- BURLINGTON UNITED METHODIST:** Rev. Chuck Rocky, pastor. SS: 10:50 a.m., SW 9:30 a.m.
- BURNETTVILLE FIRST BAPTIST:** Second & Main, Burnettville. SW: 10:00 a.m., SS: 11:15 a.m.
- BURNETTVILLE CHRISTIAN:** Sixth & Washington, Burnettville. John Wright, pastor. SW: 9:30 a.m., SS: 10:30 a.m.
- BURNETTVILLE CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN:** First & Main, Burnettville. SW: 9:30 a.m., SS: 10:30 a.m.
- BURROWS PRESBYTERIAN:** SS: 10:30 a.m., SW: 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!
- CAMDEN UNITED METHODIST:** Dan Gottschalk, pastor. SS: 9 - 9:45 a.m., SW: 10 a.m. Sun. Nite Praise 6:02 p.m.
- CLYMERS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH:** 4003 W 400S. Clymers Kevin Drane, pastor. SW: 10:30 a.m. SS: Same as worship.
- COLBURN ROAD BAPTIST:** Bill Cadle, pastor. SS: 10 a.m., SW: 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.
- COLBURN UNITED METHODIST:** Michael Ermil, pastor, SW: 9 a.m., SS: 10:20 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.
- 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.
- CROSSROADS COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN:** 3570 E 200S, Bringhurst, 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.
- CUTLER PRESBYTERIAN:** Pastor Jim Long SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.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.
- 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.
- 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.
- DELPHI PENTECOSTAL:** Hwy. 25 East, Delphi. Tim Stewart, pastor. SS: 9:45 a.m., SW: 6 p.m.
- DELPHI UNITED METHODIST:** Union & Monroe Streets, Delphi. SW: 8:45 & 11 a.m., SS: 10 a.m., Todd Ladd, pastor; Sheila Wilimitis, youth pastor.
- DELPHI WESLEYAN:** North Union Street, Delphi. Rich & Carol Schenck, pastor. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m. & 6 p.m.
- EASTLAWN UNITED METHODIST:** SR 24 & Logan Street, Idaville. Ernie D. Elder, Jr., Pastor. SW: 10 a.m., SS: 9 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.
- FAITH LUTHERAN:** CR 800 N, west of Hwy. 29. Thomas J. McShannock & Sandy Hutchens, pastor. SS: 9 a.m., SW: 10:10 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.
- FIRST APOSTOLIC CHURCH:** U.S. 421 North, Tippecanoe Township. Gilbert R. Ingram, pastor. SW: 10 a.m. & 6 p.m.
- FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD:** US 421N., Pittsburg. Brent Oliver, pastor. SW: 9:30 am, Wed. Family Night: 7pm
- 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.
- FIRST BAPTIST:** Indiana & Franklin Streets, Delphi. William Glenn, pastor. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m. & 6 p.m.
- FIRST PRESBYTERIAN:** Main & Indiana Streets, Delphi. Rev. Louis Sandos. SW: 9:30 a.m., SS: 10:30 a.m.
- FLORA FIRST BAPTIST:** 115 W. Columbia Street, Flora. Interim pastors. SW: 9 a.m., SS: 10 a.m.
- FLORA FIRST BRETHREN:** 115 N. Washington Street, Flora. Dan Herendeen, 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.
- 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.
- FLORA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH:** 211 S. Center St., Flora. Charles Compton, pastor. SS: 9:15 a.m., SW: 10:15 a.m.
- FLORA UNITED METHODIST:** 107 E. Main Street, Flora. Larry DeVos, pastor. SW: 9 a.m., SS: 10:15 a.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.
- GRACE MISSIONARY BAPTIST:** 1101 Dreifers Ave., Delphi. Danny Jewell, pastor. SS: 10 a.m. SW: 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.
- HICKORY GROVE CHURCH:** CR 700 W., Jefferson Township, Ken Smith, pastor. SS: 9 a.m., SW: 10 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.
- HISPANIC CHRISTIAN CENTER:** 108 W. Main, Delphi. Dimas Palacio, pastor. SS: 10 a.m., SW 12noon, Tue. & Wed. 7 p.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.
- JUBILEE FELLOWSHIP:** CR 50 N, Flora. Scott Gamel, pastor. SS: 9:00 a.m., SW: 10:00 a.m.
- LIVING FAITH CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN:** 310N 250W. Jeff Tomson, interim pastor. SS: 9 a.m., SW: 10 a.m.
- LIVING STONE CHURCH:** Meets at the Freedom Center in Delphi. SS: 11 a.m., SW: 9:30 a.m. contact (765) 589-3507
- LOCKPORT NON-DENOMINATIONAL CHURCH:** East of Patton. Nord Zoolman, pastor. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m. Sun. Bible Study: 6:30 p.m.
- LOWER DEER CREEK CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN** CR 300 N, SE of Camden. SW 10:15 a.m., SS: 9:00 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.
- OAK GROVE CHRISTIAN:** 11810 N & 900 W, Monticello. Interim pastor, Don Artburn. SW: 10 a.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.
- PITTSBURG MISSIONARY BAPTIST:** John Wagner, pastor. SS: 10 a.m.; SW: 11 a.m. & 6 p.m. Bible Study: Thurs. 6:30 p.m
- PLEASANT HILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH:** 5490 North SR 39, Frankfort. Donna Enerson, pastor. SS: 9:45 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m. Everyone welcome.
- PYRMONT CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN:** Pastor. Howard Hendrickson SS: 9 a.m., SW: 10:15 a.m.
- RADNOR CHURCH:** Ed Selvidge, pastor. SW: 9 a.m., SS: 10 a.m.
- ROCKFIELD CHRISTIAN:** Bob Cree, pastor. SW: 9 a.m., SS: 10 a.m.
- ROCKFIELD PRESBYTERIAN:** SW: 9:30 a.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.
- ROSSVILLE CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN:** 109 N. Plank Street, Rossville. Pastor, Bob Pfeifer. SS: 9 a.m., SW: 10 a.m.
- ROSSVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH:** 5434 W State Rd 26, Rossville, IN. Rev. Gretchen Schneider SW: 9 a.m., SS: 10:20 a.m.
- ROSSVILLE UNITED METHODIST:** Main & Gaddis Streets, Rossville. Rick Jones, pastor. SS: 9:15 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m.
- SHARON AMERICAN BAPTIST:** St. Rd. 29, Carrollton Township. James Lund, pastor. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m.
- ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC:** 207 N. Washington Street, Delphi. Peter Vanderkolk, pastor. SW: 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
- ST. MATTHEW'S LUTHERAN CHURCH:** 1301 S. Washington St., Delphi. Dale Larson, pastor. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.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.
- WHIRLWIND MINISTRIES:** meet at Burrows Fire Department, Greg & Michelle Britt, pastors. SW: 9 a.m.
- FLORA FIRST BAPTIST:** 115 W. Columbia Street, Flora. Interim pastors. SW: 9 a.m., SS: 10 a.m.

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