

Lessons from the Heart

Normal?

By Pastor Jeff Tomson

When I was a freshman at college, I met Craig. Like me, he was a freshman that just wanted to fit in with his

new community. While he told us that he was diabetic he really did not let it keep him from doing the same things that we did. Most of us would agree that 19-year-

old college men/boys in a dorm do not live the healthiest lifestyle. Yes, we were all working on clogging our arteries and adding the freshman 15 (or more), the difference was that for Craig this behavior was life threatening. The guys that we ran around with did not know anything about diabetes, so we were not really to blame when Craig went into a near diabetic coma one night.

The point of me telling you this story is not to bash Craig or educate you about health risks associated with diabetes. The point is, whether we recognize it or not, there are things that we do that are not good for us. Craig had an immediate health issue associated with eating greasy deep dish pizza, ice cream, and hot wings with lots of



Tomson

sauce, but we really did not have any business sitting there eating all that stuff in our dorm room that evening either. Craig just wanted to be "normal," but the way that we had defined "normal" was unhealthy.

The same is true today for the world at large. "Normal" may not, and in most cases is not, healthy for us. It might be "normal" to be divorced, have addiction issues, carry a lot of credit card debt, and the list goes on and on; but are these things healthy for us?

In my line of work, unhealthy life styles are an issue to be discussed and dealt with, but even more important to me is the spiritual issue of "sin."

There are all kinds of "sin" in the world and many of them are perceived as "normal." Lying, cheating on taxes, cheating on a test, robbing time or resources from your employer, and again the list goes on and on. These things may be "nor-

mal" in your corner of the world, but that "normal" is not healthy for your soul. The good thing is that if you recognize these issues as "sin" and you want to do something about them then there is a great physician to heal you, in Jesus Christ. That is what Christmas, Good Friday, Easter, and

Pentecost are about.

If you are ready to start turning your back on "normal" and ready to start getting healthy, then He is ready to heal. The trick is, you have to accept Him into your life.

Jeff Tomson is pastor at Living Faith Church of the Brethren.

Camden First Baptist celebrates 175 years

Camden First Baptist Church invites everyone to help celebrate the church's 175th year of spreading the Word of God, beginning with church services this Sunday at 9:30 a.m.

Guest speaker will be Dr. Larry Mason, executive minister of American Baptist Churches of Indiana and Kentucky.

The church will be honoring its former pastors and members with 50-plus years of service and membership.

Following church services

and Sunday school, a noon meal for all will be provided by the church.

Following the meal, all are invited to view historical pictures and presentations from the last 175 years.

At 3 p.m., there will be special entertainment by the Cowboy Church Band.

"A Legacy of Faith, A Future of Hope" is the theme of the year-long 175th anniversary celebration.

The church is located at Armstrong and Main streets.

DIRECTORY OF AREA CHURCHES

SS=Sunday School

SW=Sunday Worship

AMERICUS UNION NON-DENOMINATIONAL: Larry Williams, 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. Dwight Monical, 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: SS: 10:50 a.m., SW 9:30 a.m.

BURNETTSTVILLE FIRST BAPTIST: Second & Main, Burnettsville. SW: 10:00 a.m., SS: 11:15 a.m.

BURNETTSTVILLE CHRISTIAN: Sixth & Washington, Burnettsville. John Wright, pastor. SW: 9:30 a.m., SS: 10:30 a.m.

BURNETTSTVILLE CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN: First & Main, Burnettsville. SW: 9:30 a.m., SS: 10:30 a.m.

BURROWS PRESBYTERIAN: SS: 11:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m.

CALVARY CHAPEL CARROLL COUNTY: Wabash & Erie Canal Interpretive Center, Delphi. Eric Haley, pastor. SW: 10 a.m.

CAMDEN UNITED METHODIST: Dan Gottschalk, pastor. SS: 9 - 9:45 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.

COLBURN ROAD BAPTIST: Bill Cadle, pastor. SS: 10 a.m., SW: 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.

COLBURN UNITED METHODIST: Kasey Schnepf, 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.

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: Jeff Brown and Ann Bingaman, lay pastors. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m.

DEER CREEK UNITED PRESBYTERIAN: Highway 29 in Deer Creek. Dave Herron, pastor. Adult SS 9 a.m. SW: 10 a.m. with Children SS

DELPHI CHRISTIAN CHURCH: 315 E. Main St, Delphi. Rev. Andrew Paris, minister. SW: 9:30 a.m., SS: 10:45 a.m. Wed. Bible study: 7 p.m.

DELPHI CHURCH OF CHRIST: 405 Cottage Street, Delphi. Sunday Bible study: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 & 5 p.m., Wed. Night 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. Thurs. night Bible Study: 7:30p.m., SS: 12:45 p.m., SW: 2 p.m.

DELPHI UNITED METHODIST: Union & Monroe Streets, Delphi. SW: 8:45 & 11 a.m., SS: 10 a.m., Todd Ladd, pastor; Micah Hudson, youth pastor.

DELPHI WESLEYAN: North Union Street, Delphi. Dan Fisher, 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: 6:30pm, Adult & Youth Services Sun. Evenings 6pm.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF CAMDEN: Paul Marcellino, interim pastor. Tue. 9:30 a.m. Women's study, Wed. 6:30 p.m. VWW, 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. Bill McLean. 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 Herenden, pastor. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m.

FLORA FIRST CHRISTIAN (Disciples of Christ) S. Center Street, Flora. Sam Davenport, interim 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. 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. Joe Whitehead, 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.

IDAVILLE CHURCH OF GOD: 11073 E 50 N, Idaville. Chris Murphy, 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, pastor. SS: 9 a.m., SW: 10 a.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.

LOWER DEER CREEK CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN: CR 300 N, SE of Camden. Guy Studebaker, pastor. 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, Rev. Ashli Cartwright-Peak. 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., Judd Dickey, pastor. Sunday Corporate Prayer: 9:00 a.m.; Fellowship 9:30 a.m.; SW 10:00 a.m.

ROSSVILLE CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN: 109 N. Plank Street, Rossville. Floyd Smith, pastor. SS: 9 a.m., SW: 10 a.m.

ROSSVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH: 5434 W State Rd 26, Rossville, IN. Bob McAulay, interim pastor. 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. 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. SW: 8:30 a.m., SS: Same as Worship.

WHIRLWIND MINISTRIES: 869 N. 90 E., Burrows, Greg Britt, pastor. SW: 10 a.m. (574) 652-2280

YEOMAN UNITED METHODIST: Carl Davis, pastor. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m.

FOCUS ON THE FAMILY

By Dr. James Dobson

Be honest, yet gentle with daughter about family situation

QUESTION: *At age twenty-one, I became pregnant and had a baby girl. The father and I never married. My daughter is almost three years old now, and I know she will soon be asking questions about her daddy. How should I explain this situation to her and when should that explanation be given?*

DR. DOBSON: Eventually, you will want to tell your daughter the whole story about her father and describe your relationship with him, but now is not the time to do that. She must be mature and emotionally ready to deal with those details. On the other hand, you don't want to treat the subject as a dark secret that haunts the two of you. Neither do you want to be untruthful and tell yarns that will later have to be admitted.

At this early stage, I'd suggest that you respond confidently and lovingly to the inevitable questions about "Daddy." When the appropriate occasions surface, begin giving her vague explanations that are based in truth but are short of the whole story. You may wish to say something like this, "Your daddy went away before you

were born. He didn't want to live with me. I'm not sure why. Maybe he had some problems that made it hard to be a husband. I don't know. I'm sure if he had ever met you, he'd have loved you very much. But he left before you were born. Maybe a new daddy will come to live with us. Would you like that?"

I recognize there are potential problems with a reply of this nature, and that it may not be entirely appropriate for every case. It simply attempts to lay the foundation for the more in-depth discussions to follow. Just as important, it likely will defuse the situation early on while conveying a sense of affirmation, security, and mutual reliance upon the Lord. And once you've achieved that, take a deep breath and let it rest for awhile! If you're at peace, your daughter will be, too — and there will be ample time to add detail to the picture as God directs.

QUESTION: *The children who play with my kids in the neighborhood are familiar with terrible programs on television and cable TV.*

I can't believe that their parents let them watch such violent and sexualized stuff. What is the long-term consequence of this programming on children?

DR. DOBSON: It is sad and very difficult to understand why so many parents fail to supervise what their kids watch. To those who let them watch anything they wish, I would pose this proposition: Suppose a complete stranger came to your door and said, "You look tired. Why don't you let me take care of your children for a day or two?" I doubt if many of you would say, "Great idea. Come on in."

That's a story Peggy Charren, President of Action for Children's Television, likes to tell. Her point is well taken. When we sit our children in front of the television set, we're giving control over them to complete strangers; and more and

more, that's a risky thing to do. An increasing number of studies have found that violence on television frequently leads to later aggressive behavior by children and teenagers.

One of the most conclusive studies was conducted by Dr. Leonard D. Aaron. He examined a group of children at age eight and then again at nineteen and finally at thirty. Children in the United States, Australia, Finland, Israel and Poland were studied. The outcome was the same; the more frequently the participants watched violent television at age eight, the more likely they were to be convicted of crimes by age thirty, and the more aggressive was their behavior when drinking.

It's time for parents to control the amount and the content of television that their children are watching. The consequences of not doing so can be catastrophic.

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.

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