

# FOCUS ON THE FAMILY

By Dr. James Dobson

## Certain Childhood Behaviors Are Nothing To Be Ashamed About

**QUESTION:** My four-year-old has recently "discovered" his penis and seems rather pre-occupied with it. Do you think it's unusual or sinful for him to fondle himself so much?



Dr. Dobson

**DR. DOBSON:** The answer to both of your questions is an emphatic no! Unintentional (or even intentional) self-arousal in young children, specifically boys, is neither unusual nor sinful. Your little guy is simply showing that he is "properly wired." There are no long-term consequences to this kind of innocent childish behavior and it will soon resolve itself.

are impolite. Just as you wouldn't urinate in front of other people, you should not be touching yourself when others can see you. If she continues to fondle herself, other people will think she is strange and some may laugh at her — something you're sure she wouldn't like. Your purpose in speaking this way is to sensitize her to the social implications involved in what she's doing. Show yourself to be firm and confident, not shocked or embarrassed.

The key to your approach is the avoidance of any suggestion that her body is dirty or "wrong" or evil. Such an implication might raise a whole host of other problems for your child that could carry over into adolescence and even adulthood.

**QUESTION:** My son is an outstanding gymnast. His high school coach says he has more natural ability than anyone he's ever seen. Yet, when he is being judged in a competitive meet, he does terribly! Why does he fail during the most important moments?

**DR. DOBSON:** If your son thinks of himself as a failure, his performance will probably match his low

self-image when the chips are down. In the same way, there are many excellent golfers on the PGA Tour who make a satisfactory living in tournament play, but they never win. They may even place as high as second, third, sixth, or tenth. Whenever it looks like they might come in first, however, they "choke" at the last minute, and someone else wins. It is not that they want to fail; rather, they can't conceive of themselves as winners, and their performance merely reflects this image.

I once spoke with a concert pianist of outstanding talent who has resolved never to play in public again. She knows she is blessed with remarkable talent but believes she is a loser in every other regard. Consequently, when she plays the piano on stage, her mistakes and errors creep into her performance. Each time this mortifying experience has occurred, she has become more convinced of her own unworthiness in every area. She has now withdrawn into the secluded, quiet, talentless world of have-nots.

A person's self-concept is instrumental in determining those who are "winners" and those who see themselves as "losers." Professional tennis players call this characteristic "tournament toughness," but it is really nothing more than confidence in action.

Dr. Dobson is founder and Chairman Emeritus of the nonprofit organization Focus on the Family, Colorado Springs, Colo. 80995 (www.focusonthefamily.org). Questions and answers are excerpted from "Complete Marriage and Family Home Reference Guide" and "Bringing Up Boys," both published by Tyndale House.

## Pray for our nation to seek God

...always and for everything giving thanks in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God the Father. Ephesians 5:20 Pd. Adv.

# 1st Assembly to host evangelist



Nathan Grubb

Delphi First Assembly of God will host Evangelist Nathan Grubb July 12 at 9:30 a.m.

Grubb served as a youth pastor for four years and understands the need for a well-rounded ministry. He has a passion not only to lead people to salvation but to start them down a road of discipleship for a life-long walk with Christ. Grubb can capture the listener's attention with his

genuine speaking style. He is passionate for teens but relates to audiences of all ages and backgrounds. Like every teenager he had a choice to make. As a teen he embraced the life of alcohol, addictions, abuse and crime. At the age of 19 while facing ten years in prison he transformed his life. Now his message speaks of hope and divine purpose. Everyone is welcome to attend.

# Lessons from the Heart

## Where the path leads

By Pastor Alan Wyant

Thirty years ago this summer, a troubled young man of 17 was searching in all too many places for answers and finding mostly trouble. After running from the truth for several years and rebelling against family, God and friends the moment came when once again the faithfulness of a loving God would confront this wayward youth.

It was a hot August Sunday night at the Carroll County Fair and during the intermission of the 4-H Queen competition a group of young people were sharing their faith in song and testimony. This group was known as "His Reflection". As one of the young men shared his story of finding out about the loving relationship with the Savior, Jesus Christ and how it was not about a formal traditional religion, there was in the back of the crowd an old friend. Hiding in the shadows, this troubled teen

was listening to every word. Memories of the truth of the gospel message taught to him in Sunday School raced through his heart and mind.

Knowing that he had been confronted again by the compassion of God, this young man made a life changing decision on the way home that night. Shortly thereafter he joined that singing group and went on to preach the gospel from that point until today. Yes, as you may have guessed that young man is me and now I find myself about to return to the scene of the un-crime.

On July 12 "His Reflection" will be 'in concert' at the Carroll county Fair once again, thirty years later!!

What was then considered to be contemporary Christian music is now called "oldies" and I guess so are we too, some! But that does not change the incredibly significant event and chain of events that took place that night

so long ago.

I often find myself saying that if "hind sight is 20-20" then foresight is blind. That has become a life lesson for me and many who follow Christ.

The Psalmist records in the 23rd Psalm, "He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name sake." If we were to know in advance where that path would lead ten, twenty or thirty years down the road many of us would simply laugh out loud or possibly say, "No Way!" However, that is why God does not show us the end from the beginning otherwise what would we need faith for. He promises to never leave us nor forsake us even when that path is often through some kind of trial or trouble.

So on July 12 come out to the fair at 3:30 p.m. and be a part of the blessing of a reunion to see how the wonderful plan of God has turned out.

Alan Wyant is the pastor at the Sharon Baptist Church.

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# DIRECTORY OF AREA CHURCHES

SW = Sunday Worship	SS = Sunday School
<b>AMERICUS UNION NON-DENOMINATIONAL:</b> Larry Williams, pastor. SW: 10 a.m.	<b>FLORA FIRST BRETHREN:</b> 115 N. Washington Street, Flora. Dan Herendeen, pastor. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m.
<b>BRINGHURST UNITED METHODIST:</b> Rex Charles, pastor. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m.	<b>FLORA FIRST CHRISTIAN (Disciples of Christ) S. Center Street, Flora.</b> Sam Davenport, interim pastor. SW: 9:30 a.m., SS: 10:30 a.m.
<b>BROOKSTON CHURCH OF CHRIST:</b> 206 N. Prairie Street, Brookston. Ron Guzman, minister. SS: 9 a.m., SW: 10 a.m. & 6 p.m.	<b>FLORA GRACE BRETHREN:</b> 103 S. Willow St., Flora. James Franklin, pastor. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m., Wed. Prayer Service: 7 p.m.
<b>BUCK CREEK UNITED METHODIST:</b> 4915 Ferret St., Buck Creek. Dwight Monical, pastor. SS: 9 a.m., SW: 10:15 a.m.	<b>FLORA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH:</b> 211 S. Center St., Flora. Charles Compton, pastor. SW: 9:30 a.m.
<b>BURLINGTON FIRST BRETHREN:</b> 205 W. 8th St., Rev. Dr. Peter Roussakis, pastor. SW: 10 a.m., SS: 9 a.m.	<b>FLORA UNITED METHODIST:</b> 107 E. Main Street, Flora. Rex Charles, pastor. SW: 9 a.m., SS: 10:15 a.m.
<b>BURLINGTON CHURCH OF CHRIST:</b> Dave Osborne, pastor. SW: 9:30 a.m., Bible Study (Thur): 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., SS: 10:30 a.m.	<b>FLORA VALLEY VIEW SOUTHERN BAPTIST:</b> Route 2, Flora. Bill Godbey, pastor. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m. & 6 p.m.
<b>BURLINGTON UNITED METHODIST:</b> Bonnie Shoaf, pastor. SS: 11:00 a.m., SW 9:30 a.m.	<b>GRACE MISSIONARY BAPTIST:</b> 1101 Dreifers Ave., Delphi. Mark Ramey, pastor. SS: 10 a.m. SW: 11 a.m.
<b>BURNETTSTOWN FIRST BAPTIST:</b> Second & Main, Burnettsville. SW: 10:00 a.m., SS: 11:15 a.m.	<b>HICKORY GROVE CHURCH:</b> CR 700 W., Jefferson Township, Ken Smith, pastor. SS: 9 a.m., SW: 10 a.m.
<b>BURNETTSTOWN CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN:</b> First & Main, Burnettsville. SW: 9:30 a.m., SS: 10:30 a.m.	<b>HILLSIDE MISSIONARY BAPTIST:</b> Hwy. 22, 2 miles E. of Burlington. Doyle Buckner, pastor. SS: 10 a.m., SW: 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.
<b>BURROWS PRESBYTERIAN:</b> SS: 11:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m.	<b>IDAVILLE CHURCH OF GOD:</b> 11073 E 50 N, Idaville. Chris Murphy, pastor. SW: 8:30 & 10:30 a.m., SS: 9:30 a.m.
<b>CALVARY CHAPEL CARROLL COUNTY:</b> Wabash & Erie Canal Interpretive Center, Delphi. Eric Haley, pastor. SW: 10 a.m.	<b>JUBILEE FELLOWSHIP:</b> CR 50 N, Flora. Scott Gamel, pastor. SS: 9 a.m., SW: 10:00 a.m.
<b>CAMDEN UNITED METHODIST:</b> Dan Gottschalk, pastor. SS: 9 - 9:45 a.m., SW: 10 a.m.	<b>LIVING FAITH CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN:</b> 310N 250W. Jeff Tomson, pastor. SS: 9 a.m., SW: 10 a.m.
<b>CLYMERS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH:</b> 4003 W 400S. Clymers Kevin Drane, pastor. SW: 10:30 a.m. SS: Same as worship.	<b>LIVING STONE CHURCH:</b> 54 Main St., Rossville. SS: 9 a.m., Fellowship: 9:45 a.m., SW: 10:15 a.m. Children's church available
<b>COLBURN ROAD BAPTIST:</b> Bill Cadle, pastor. SS: 10 a.m., SW: 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.	<b>LOCKPORT NON-DENOMINATIONAL CHURCH:</b> East of Patton. Nord Zootman, pastor. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m. Sun. Bible Study: 6:30 p.m.
<b>COLBURN UNITED METHODIST:</b> Kasey Schnepf, pastor, SW: 9 a.m., SS: 10:20 a.m.	<b>LOWER DEER CREEK CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN:</b> CR 300 N, SE of Camden. Guy Studebaker, pastor. SW: 10:15 a.m., SS: 9:00 a.m.
<b>CROSSROADS COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN:</b> 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.	<b>OAK GROVE CHRISTIAN:</b> 11810 N 900 W, Monticello. Interim pastor, Rev. Ashli Cartwright-Peak. SW: 10 a.m.
<b>CUTLER PRESBYTERIAN:</b> Jeff Brown and Ann Bingaman, lay pastors. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m.	<b>PINE GROVE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH:</b> Crooked Road, 1 mile E of Delphi. Justin Wagner, pastor. SS: 10 a.m., SW: 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.
	<b>PITTSBURG MISSIONARY BAPTIST:</b> John Wagner, pastor. SS: 10:30 a.m.; SW: 11 a.m.
	<b>PLEASANT HILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH:</b> 5490 North SR 39, Frankfort. Donna Enerson, pastor. SS: 9:45 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m.
	<b>PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF DELPHI:</b> Main & Indiana Streets, Delphi. Rev. Bill McLean. SW: 9:30 a.m., SS: 10:30 a.m.
	<b>PYRMONT CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN:</b> SS: 9 a.m., SW: 10:15 a.m.
	<b>RADNOR CHURCH:</b> Ed Selvidge, pastor. SW: 9 a.m., SS: 10 a.m.
	<b>ROCKFIELD CHRISTIAN:</b> Bob Cree, pastor. SW: 9 a.m., SS: 10 a.m.
	<b>ROCKFIELD PRESBYTERIAN:</b> SW: 9:30 a.m.
	<b>ROSSVILLE BIBLE FELLOWSHIP:</b> 16 Cason St., Judd Dickey, pastor. Sunday Corporate Prayer: 9:00 a.m.; Fellowship 9:30 a.m.; SW 10:00 a.m.
	<b>ROSSVILLE CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN:</b> 109 N. Plank Street, Rossville. Floyd Smith, pastor. SS: 9 a.m., SW: 10 a.m.
	<b>ROSSVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH:</b> 5434 W State Rd 26, Rossville, IN. John Everett, pastor. SS: 9 a.m., Fellowship: 9:45 a.m. SW: 10:15 a.m.
	<b>ROSSVILLE UNITED METHODIST:</b> Main & Gaddis Streets, Rossville. Rick Jones, pastor. SS: 9:15 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m.
	<b>SHARON AMERICAN BAPTIST:</b> St. Rd. 29, Carrollton Township. Alan Wyant, pastor. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:15 a.m. Wed. Bible Study 1st & 3rd Wed. 7 p.m.
	<b>ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC:</b> 207 N. Washington Street, Delphi. Peter Vanderkolk, pastor. SW: 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
	<b>ST. MATTHEW'S LUTHERAN CHURCH:</b> 1301 S. Washington St., Delphi. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m.
	<b>ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN:</b> Church & Cumberland Sts., Camden, 2 blocks West & 1 block North of SR218 and SR75. SW: 8:30 a.m. SS: Same as worship.
	<b>WHIRLWIND MINISTRIES:</b> 869 N. 90 E., Burrows, Greg Britt, pastor. SW: 10 a.m. (574) 652-2280
	<b>YEOMAN UNITED METHODIST:</b> Carl Davis, pastor. SS: 9:30 a.m., SW: 10:30 a.m.

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