



Materials Especially For Ladies

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What We Believe

Click on the Bible for a detailed article concerning what we believe



Lifting Up The STANDARD

"When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the LORD shall lift up a standard against him" (Isaiah 59:19).



Challenging And Encouraging God's Remnant To Remain Faithful

Issue # 15 - April 14, 2014

"Better Is Little With The Fear of The Lord"

A survey released by the Barna Research Group of Venture Calif., showed that the average church attendance in the USA five years ago was ninety people. Fundamental churches averaged seventy five people. In spite of this fact the focus is always on large churches, although large congregations represent only **one percent** of the people who will be in church next Sunday. If the survey is accurate, it means as God looks down on our world next Sunday, He will see ninety-nine percent of the people attending a church service will be in a small church. Sincere people who must sacrifice to pay their pastor's salary and keep the church going because they do not have the financial resources larger churches have. Most members in small churches return for the evening service and the prayer meetings.

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Ten Things I Wish I Had Done Differently in My Teenage Years

I didn't do it all right. In fact, I did so many things wrong. I wish I could go back and do better; but God in His mercy, has allowed me to learn from my mistakes. Being a teenager is hard, being a teenager in this generation is harder; and being a teenager that is trying to serve God is hardest. There is an endless list of things I wish I had done differently, but there's quite a few things that I didn't always do. Due to the frequent absence of these things, I didn't do it all right.



Chynna Carpenter

1. **Reading God's Word**, at least twice a day. In my early teenage years, a missionary once preached a message about the importance of reading Gods Word. He explained that we need to start our day in the Bible, so we have guidance throughout the day. We also need to finish our day in the Bible, in order to see what we've done wrong. If I had read my Bible every day, twice a day, I wouldn't have wandered from Jesus so many times.

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God does not consider these churches to be failures. Smaller churches have less available leadership to help and therefore have a much more difficult time attracting people, however, according to the Barna Group report, small or mid-sized churches have the largest number of “*born again believers*.”

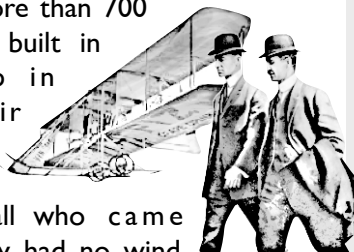
A Church that has hundreds, or even thousands of people sitting in a building getting their weekly fix of religion while remaining spiritual pygmies is not a successful church in God’s eyes. The one church of the seven listed in the Book of Revelation that received no rebuke from the Saviour, was the church at Philadelphia. The Lord highly recommended them. He said in Revelation 3:8, “*I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name.*”



Buddy Smith

It Flew at Huffman's Prairie

Wilbur and Orville Wright's names are not much heard in our day. A hundred and ten years ago they invented the Wright Flyer, the first airplane to fly under its own power. Prior to that powered flight at Kill Devil Hill in North Carolina, they made more than 700 flights in gliders they built in their bicycle shop in Dayton, Ohio. Their research into the secret of flight opened the way for all who came after them. At first they had no wind tunnel, so they attached a bracket to the handlebars of a bicycle, and tested the airfoil shapes as they pedaled down the road.



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2. **Prayer.** We don't realize its power, nor do we realize the privilege. It's hard being a teenager, and being a Christian; but, we can go to God in prayer with everything. Every struggle, every burden, every heart ache. I remember always feeling like I had “no one” to talk to, or had “no one” that understood. God understands, He will always listen, and He will always answer. That is an awesome privilege, that God would let me talk to Him about everything. He created the world, you think He would be too busy to hear me; but He never has, and I know He never will be.
3. **Obedience to Authority.** Being a teenager is a hard transition; you're becoming an adult, making your own choices in life. But you also have so many authorities; parents, teachers, pastors, etc. Sometimes, it seems like there so many people telling you what to do. Disobedience to godly authority was the beginning of almost every unwise decision I made. Most sins weren't out of ignorance, they were out of disobedience. If we are blessed to have godly authority in our lives, it's best to listen and obey because they've likely been in the same situation before. “But he that knew not, and did commit things worthy of stripes, shall be beaten with few stripes. For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required: and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more.” Luke 12:48
4. **Respect & Submission to Authority.** We won't always agree with our authorities. Even as adults, there will be times when a godly authority (parent, pastor, elder, etc.) will give advice, and we may not agree. God wants us to respect and submit to our authorities. God respects positions, and so must we. If we differ on something with our pastor, we are ordered to respect Him, regardless if we agree or not.
5. **Surrounded by Good Influences.** “*You become like whom you run with,*” my Pastor said to me all the time. I wish I had just listened. I never wanted to believe it. I wanted one foot in the world, and one foot in the church; the best of both worlds. It's not possible, the world will sway you and you

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Later, they built a wind tunnel and tested each wing, as well as the design for the propellers for their powered Flyer. Amazing innovators, they were! They designed and built their own engine, a 12 horsepower horizontal four cylinder, and made a primitive carburetor for it. One of the mechanics put it together and tinkered with it until it ran reliably. They solved the problem of low speed stalls by attaching pulleys and cables to a movable cradle the pilot lay in so he could warp the wings and bank the Flyer in a turn. They built a catapult to launch the Flyer, and it flew! They flew that rattling, clattering, vibrating contraption of spruce and cloth and wire, and motor and sprockets and bicycle chains and handmade propellers, they flew it over a hundred feet that day in 1903. Almost the length of a modern airliner's wingspan.

The Wright brothers were impressive characters. The sons of a Congregational minister, they held some surprisingly strong beliefs. No matter what stage of testing they were at, they dressed up in suits and ties and refused to do any work on Sundays. Photos abound of them setting aside the Lord's day, no matter where they were or what they were doing. They were also brilliant aeronautical engineers before the title even existed. They often disagreed, and would debate for hours the complexities of their flimsy fledgling aircraft. They were so persuasive that they even convinced each other and traded viewpoints and started the debate all over again.

Many interesting historical highlights of those primitive flights are written down. Years ago, someone built an exact replica of the Flyer, I mean, an exact copy. And they couldn't get it to fly, at all. Someone else built one and got it into the air, only to find that it was terribly unstable and came very close to crashing every time they flew it.

There is one incident, or series of incidents, that deserves special mention. You see, once they'd flown the Wright Flyer off Kill Devil Hill a few times and gained a tiny bit of experience, they disassembled it, packed it up and sent it back to Dayton.

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become more influenced every day. Every time I fell away from the Lord was because I was influenced by someone to do so. Sometimes, the devil even uses "Christians" to do it. Just because someone says they are a Christian, doesn't always mean we should fellowship with them. Again, I wish I had listened to all the godly counsel I had, and cut ties with the "friends" they warned me against. I also fell into the trap of spending too much time with non-Christians by trying to be a witness and testimony. If I wasn't influencing that person, they were influencing me.

6. **No media.** It's everywhere, and it's so hard to avoid. Every single piece of media out there often influenced me for bad. Television slowly influenced my thinking without me even noticing. Computers took over my life, and suddenly Facebook was getting more attention from me than my Bible was. Facebook seemed so innocent at first, I was just catching up with Christian friends that lived so far away. But slowly, I was in contact with people who hated God. Ungodly ads and profane language was on my computer screen without me even meaning for it to be there. The devil just kept sneaking it in whenever he could. Magazines kept taunting me with the newest trendy, immodest fashions. The "perfect" looking models on the covers made me constantly want to change the way I looked to be what the world thinks is "beautiful". Music had its way of pushing me farther into the world than I wanted. First, it was contemporary "Christian" music. I thought it was fine because the lyrics were about God. Shortly after, I was listening to songs on the radio that weren't even about God, they were about worldly things. But they sounded just like the "Christian" music I was listening to last month, I barely even noticed my slip in music. If it was one thing I should have avoided all together, it was media as a whole. If I had no contact with any media, I would have made less mistakes and I would have been so much closer to God.

7. **Servant's Heart.** Growing up, I had so much time to serve. I look back at all the wasted time pleasing myself, I could have been doing so much for Christ! Whenever I would do things to serve myself, it only made me unhappier and more selfish. I look back on all the wasted years and wish I used them to serve.

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They were offered an empty cow pasture on the edge of town for the first flying field in the world. It was called Huffman's Prairie. It lacked several advantages the windy, sea level beach at Kill Devil Hill had. The higher elevation made the air pressure lower so the lift of the wings was less, and the little engine's power dropped as well. At Kill Devil Hill, the wind blew at more than 40 miles per hour; here the wind was almost non-existent, so they lost airspeed for takeoff. The summer air was much hotter and thinner, so the catapult rails had to be lengthened to increase the takeoff speed. But it just wouldn't fly. Local newspaper reporters came out to see it fly, and it didn't, and they laughed and went home.

Orville and Wilbur went back to the bicycle shop and to the wind tunnel they'd made, and they argued it out, until they solved the problems, one after the other. The design was good. The airfoil was tweaked, and the wings and tail lengthened. Having the horizontal tail in front to prevent stalls was a good idea, and the wing warping concept was sound. The propeller design was optimal (as computer studies would prove, years later). The center of gravity was right. The catapult was improved, but the Flyer just wouldn't fly. The major problem was the little motor. More power was needed to push the Flyer along fast enough to take off.

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8. **Time with my Parents.** I remember all the disrespectful things I said to my parents, and the attitude I gave them when I was reprimanded. Not only do I regret it, but I regret not enjoying the years I lived with them. I love being with my parents now, but I wish I would've enjoyed every family meal a little more. They have so much wisdom and advice to give, but I didn't want it back then. I want to go back and do more housework to help my mom, and spend more time with my dad. I lived with them for almost 19 years, and if I could go back, I would soak up every minute of it.
9. **Memorize Scripture.** The devil likes to strike when we are at our weakest. The only sure way to make him flee is to quote scripture. If I had memorized more scripture and hid it in my heart, I would've recalled it when I was tempted to sin.
10. **Preparing for God's Will.** I really *did* want to prepare for God's will. I was just so blinded by my own will to realize the obvious things I could have prepared for. I could've done more to prepare to be a wife and mother. I also didn't realize that God had a plan for me then too; but I wanted to prepare for the future. But I could've prepared for the future, by always serving in the present. God just wants us to serve Him *now*. No matter what age we are, we can do so much to serve Him. We are doing God's will by having a relationship with Him and doing everything we can to serve Him.

As I write this and look at all the things that influenced me and led me away from Christ as a teenager, I could write this list again a year from now about the things that influence me now. The devil has so many vices and tactics to lead us astray, and we have to be constantly on guard to keep from falling. It's a hard fight, but it will be worth it all when we see Jesus.

Chynna



Daily Internet Fifteen Minute Broadcast

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It Flew - Continued From Page Four

Twelve horsepower was just barely enough to fly in the conditions at Kill Devil Hill, but not in those at Huffman's Prairie.

They designed a new, more powerful engine, and the Flyer flew. Soon, they were flying, sitting upright, and even carrying a passenger. And flying five hours at a time, non-stop.

It flew at Huffman's Prairie

The last fifty years have seen some strange designs come and go. Most of them won't fly at Huffman's Prairie.

No, I don't mean aircraft designs. I mean church designs. In the 50's we saw "bus-churches" springing up everywhere. In the 60's it was "contest-churches" and "southern-gospel-music-churches", in the 70's we had "big-name-preacher-churches", (and they are still with us today), in the 80's and 90's there appeared the "seeker-sensitive-megachurches", and over the past ten years or so the "emergent/emerging-churches" have spread all over the world. Each of these designs seems to fly impressively for a little while, as long as the winds of culture are blowing just right, and the temperature of society is just right, and the peer pressure is high enough. Some of them need blue collared converts in order to get off the ground, others need cashed up yuppies to take off. Some can only flourish in the sun belt or the deep south, or near Hollywood or Nashville or Disneyland. Large cities are required for some designs to fly, and it seems that they all need Hillsong and YouTube. Most of them would crash and burn without a website, a rockband, and televised church services.

That's the difference between megachurches and the biblical churches the apostles planted. Peter and Paul did no market research or surveys of lost men's preferences in order to start an enculturated church. They did not seek a favourable environment for an anemic message. They didn't test the wind, or sample the market. They preached the Word of God and followed the leading of the Spirit of God. They preached the gospel of Christ in the most hostile cultures imaginable. The synagogues erupted, and the silversmiths chanted their threats, and Nero schemed, and lions devoured them. And those little apostolic churches overcame the gravitational pull of the world, and rose above the crosswinds of pagan religions. When all the world was against them, they flew. You know, that is the real test of a preacher or a church. Does it only survive if it is planted in a favourable cultural climate? Will it only fly if society smiles upon it? Or will it fly at Huffman's Prairie?

Everywhere we look today, Egochurches and Ecochurches are flapping their wings and staggering off the ground in front of TV cameras. But they can only do it if they are supported by their cultures. Their only hope of flying is if they gain the assistance of the world they love. CEO/pastors study the methods of billionaire businessmen to learn how to point their church into the wind. And of course, the business methods they adopt completely eclipse any truth they ever possessed.

One lesson from history they never learn is that culture changes with the passing of time. The favourable breeze that lifts Joel Osteen's Jumbo church to great altitude this year inevitably becomes a thunderstorm just when he hopes for a gentle landing. They forget Oral Roberts and Ted Haggard and Truman Dollar and Jimmy Swaggart and Jim Bakker.

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Instructions Specifically For Pastors

One Hundred Useless Prophets

Learning How To Love

The High Cost of Discernment

The Great Fundamental Coverup

You Can't Make Them Drink

God's Will For Everyday Decisions

The Difference Between The Church And The Movement

World's Most Influential Apostate

I Will Build My Church These Signs Shall Follow?

What Must I Do To Become Unsaved?

The Prodigal Prophet Dealing With Our Problems

Welcome To The Invisible Church

The BOOK or The Commentaries

What They Don't Know Won't Hurt Them???

What Should Sincere Families Do When The Pastor Compromises?

A Right Attitude

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Woe betide the modern CEO/pastor who is the pilot when the wind shifts or dies. Robert Schuller's Crystal Cathedral is crashing and burning at this moment. Why? Because the economic winds shifted, and his New Age doctrines caught up with him and his church stalled. The Roman Catholics are circling like vultures to pick up the pieces. Within twenty minutes of our church is a church that tried Rick Warren's Purpose Driven design a few years ago. But the ambitious pastor found that the culture here could not and would not support "purposeless drive!" and it crashed and burned. I fear it will never recover.

I keep wanting to ask these pastors, "Will your church fly at Huffman's Prairie? Can you get it off the ground when the cultural winds refuse to blow like you've been told they will? What will you do if there are no yuppies to fork over megabucks to fuel your Juggernaut and pay the crew? What if your town has no rednecks (with longnecks?) to pay for Bill Gaither's visit? Can you plant a church in the jungle village that never heard of GenX, or Y, or Z? How will you ever get an emergent church off the ground there? What if the winds shift? What if you attempt a takeoff in the middle of a societal tornado, or a cultural hailstorm? And when your church won't fly, have you thought about why it won't?"

I know, Rick Warren boasts that he has hundreds of thousands of pastors and churches enlisted in his Saddleback Association. And he tells the attendees at his conferences that fundamentalists are his biggest problem. I also know that Bible believing churches have outlived their pallbearers for almost 2000 years. I predict (without inspiration) that the Megachurch window has begun to close. Its explosive growth depended on cultural influences that are dying. Somebody should write a book titled, "How The GFC Killed The Seeker Sensitive Church."

The same will soon be said of the Emergent/Emerging church, which is the new face of gnosticism. We cannot help noticing how its gurus and their adherents see themselves to be the intelligentsia, the elite. Have they stopped to think that their culture is dying, that the dumbing down of the minds of students all over the world will bring their airspeed to zero? It all points to a simple truth. Churches which are built to soar on the winds of culture will disappear in the first big storm.

There are lots of little churches around the world whose pastors understand that the gospel of Christ is still the power of God unto salvation. They understand that the Holy Spirit is the only "wind" a church needs to be concerned about. I know pastors that coax their tiny congregations off the ground every week and they do it with a tailwind, in a hailstorm, with a cyclone blowing, in heavy rain, and sometimes when the passengers don't want to fly! They do it with the power of gospel preaching and the help of the Spirit of God.

These little churches do God's work week after week, year after year, and never have to rely on a godless culture. They fly from Huffman's Prairie International Airport, with God's help.

By Pastor Buddy Smith, Grace Baptist Church, Malanda, Queensland, Australia <smiletex@bigpond.net.au>



By The Book

A fifteen minute internet broadcast
studying the Scriptures verse by verse.

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Then "By The Book"

