

Building up the body of Christ

By Bill Johnson



On Friday, July 27, over 200 people gathered at First Baptist of Fremont for ADA's summer conference which featured AFA Founder the Rev. Donald E. Wildmon and Curtis Bowers the producer of the award winning documentary "Agenda: Grinding America Down."

Curtis Bowers began the conference with a stirring 40 minute presentation that evoked a standing ovation for his sobering presentation.

When Curtis was a college student at the University of Colorado as a business major at the age of 25, an older friend who had been studying communism for many years, asked him to fly to the University of California at Berkley for a "Committees of Correspondence" gathering.

The elderly friend, and a life-long researcher of communism, had been under the assumption that communism was dead, and not wanting to be recognized, he asked Curtis to go in his place.

Bowers' own account was that he did this for his friend - not because he was personally intent upon discovering what they were all about. Those whom he was checking in upon were committed socialists - intent upon infiltrating and undermining the United States of America. This "committee" was made up of serious persons with destructive purposes. The year was 1992.

He remembered coming out of that meeting and reflecting that the desires of this group of people aged in their 50s, 60s and 70s would certainly not be realized in his lifetime. Their ideas were way too radical and America appeared not to be so easily penetrated and misled. Years later as Curtis saw the rapid erosion of American principles, he began to reflect back and recall that particular gathering of radical liberals.

He became burdened only recently (2008) as he began to study some of the 45 goals designed to undermine America.



Curtis Bowers speaking at American Decency Association's summer Conference on July 27, 2012

Bowers presentation struck a responsive chord within the hearts of the audience. In this crazy day and age where people are so acclimated to warm, fuzzy verbiage, I was so proud of our listening audience to see their great response to this young man who sincerely, graciously, and boldly told the people the truth about the situation in which we find ourselves and the need of our day to

understand the times and do what we can in our own circles.

[Here are some resources that you may want to consider:](#)

Conference DVD - includes both Curtis Bowers and Donald E. Wildmon presentations. \$10.00.

Conference audio CD - includes both Curtis Bowers and Donald E. Wildmon presentations. \$5.00.

Curtis Bowers - audio CD - Question and Answer session on Saturday night, July 28. Bowers fielded questions from a variety of angles regarding the politics and spiritual issues of our day. 74 minutes in duration. \$5.00.

"Agenda: Grinding America Down" - DVD - 93 minutes - \$10.00. Curtis Bowers award winning documentary.

If you haven't seen the DVD "Agenda" and you are a person attentive to the variety of liberal assaults upon our great country, you need to see it and then pass it on to others.

To order the above resources, call us at 1-888-733-2326 or go online at <https://secure4.afo.net/ada/store2/>.



From the desk of Bill Johnson

A momentous opportunity to express gratitude to a faith hero!

When it was all said and done as wonderful as the evening was with Curtis Bowers and his beautiful family leading the way with their ministry of music, the evening belonged to Donald E. Wildmon, tireless defender of Biblical values and American children and families.



Curtis Bowers and his precious family led us with three beautiful songs

Perhaps it is only fair to say, that it was also my night. Why? Because Don Wildmon has been my mentor since 1985. Yes. It has been from a distance mostly, but I have watched him, listened to him, and served as his first named state director of the American Family Association - before it was the AFA. It was first the NFD - the National Federation for Decency - until 1988 when it became the American Family Association.

Anyone who has been around Donald E. Wildmon knows that he comes across as a very strong leader: bold, focused, committed, serious, sincere, intense, not ashamed of the Gospel, willing to take on the liberal media, not a small talker, not a waster of time, not trivial or trite.

His own son Tim Wildmon when discussing the day when he would take over leadership from his dad stated it this way, "How would you like to take over from Bo Schembechler? Michigan football



Donald E. Wildmon - a man God has used mightily for over thirty years - impacting communities, households, a nation with the Gospel and its principles of righteousness!

fans will understand this. Bo Schembechler was one of the most masculine, hard-nosed, leaders of college football players in college football history.

Yet, behind all of this is another side of Don Wildmon. Some of us realized this long ago, but it still didn't make it any easier to approach him as one would most anyone else.

We saw Don as a man who loves children, loves his wife (his wonderful, sweet wife Lynda), stood with his staff and gave people a second chance when and if they screwed up, and put his money where his mouth was. Don was frugal and an awesome steward of the financial gifts extended to the ministry that he led over so many years.

We also saw a man not only of great Christian character but a man who is a great judge of character and has put together an outstanding staff of humble Christians committed to the Lord and to His service!

God has blessed this ministry, the American Family Association, because its founder has been a man singularly committed to serving the Lord obediently, faithfully, and, I might add, humbly.

I remember Don Wildmon saying at a summer conference one year in Tupelo, MS, "the older I get the more I realize that I'm not a very good Christian." I didn't understand it then, but I do get it now. The closer we get to the cross the more we realize that we fall

short of His glory and holiness this side of heaven. We see our sin more clearly as we understand more and more fully the perfection of our Creator, the Lord Jesus Christ.

We were also privileged to have with us at our summer conference Don's right hand man for many years, Buddy Smith (also a pastor from earlier years). Buddy now serves as second in command at AFA - Executive Vice President. Buddy came at an invitation to be with us to sing one song. As if he wasn't busy enough, he consented getting up at 2:00 A.M. Friday morning to be with us Friday evening then returning early Saturday to sing in a group in Mississippi Saturday night and to serve as pulpit supply - to preach Sunday morning!

Buddy exemplifies the kind of team Don Wildmon put together at AFA. His son Tim is following very well in his footsteps.



Buddy Smith accompanied by another saint of God, Robert Azkoul from Grand Rapids, MI

We were so blessed Friday evening by the excitement and encouragement of so many of you. In addition, an anonymous donor extended a match challenge to match the first \$500 of any gift of \$500 or more. We had nine people meet this challenge for a total just from the match grant of \$9,000!

Jan and I and our staff want to thank those of you who in some cases came from hours away to be with us. We also want to thank the many of you who gave so generously that evening to give us a great financial and spiritual boost for the work that lies ahead.

A special thanks, too, to the Bowers and their wonderful family, and especially a mighty thanks to our precious friends Don and Lynda Wildmon! You delighted us all!

Google: Making our morals their business

by Chris Johnson



With their new “Legalize Love” campaign, Google has become the latest – and likely the largest – corporation to make our morals their business. Google’s new initiative is to home in on nations and cultures which have not accepted homosexuality as the new normal. The massive company seeks to “eliminate homophobia around the world.”

While the social stands of companies like Nabisco and General Mills are concerning enough when they seek to rewrite their customers’ consciences, Count Chocula and all his cereal cohorts combined could not compare to the kind of influence enjoyed by the gay culture’s new Goliath.

In many ways, Google is modern technology. After all, the words, “Google it,” is a phrase almost universally recognized and understood (at least in America), whereas a decade ago, it would have simply been gibberish. YouTube is the primary source for all your silly cat video needs. Gmail is arguably the only respected free email provider. Android based phones are the highest selling smart phones in the world. Google Maps is the most efficient way to get lost while being totally convinced that you know where you’re going.

While Google has its competitors in each of its many facets, none of them fill as many technological niches and, unfortunately, most of its competitors simply don’t do the same tasks as well.

“Here’s the dilemma,” according to the Guardian.co.uk’s Emer O’Toole who, while obviously coming from the opposite

viewpoint as ADA’s, manages to highlight the problem with these companies trying to imprint their values on their customers, “I’m shouting ‘Google rocks!’ from the rooftops because the company is using its power to initiate change that I believe to be humanistic, tolerant and ethical. But what if it wasn’t? What if an equally powerful company tried to lobby governments to curtail gay rights for the benefit of its anti-homosexual employees, or to limit maternity rights based on libertarian principles, or to suppress affirmative action programmes based on the totally excellent ‘it’s discrimination against rich whites’ argument? If this were the case, I’d have to seriously consider ways in which to change my consumer behaviour. I’d have to take a long, hard think about the powers corporations have, the powers they should have, and about the logic of democracy.”

Even some of those who would disagree vehemently with us traditional-marriage-supporting Bible thumpers have to admit that a company which seeks to reeducate its clientele in matters of right and wrong is overreaching.

Google is “proud to be recognized as a leader in LGBT inclusion efforts, but there is still a long way to go to achieve full equality.” But why? Isn’t it enough to be proud to provide the best search engine, email, phones, etc. for their users no matter their “sexual orientation?”

As we say in the following sample letter, what gives Google, a technology company, the right to tell people what’s right and wrong?

We urge you to express your concern to Google. You are welcome to copy the sample letter we’ve provided. We also encourage you to share this concern with others, urging them to be salt and light.



Google Inc.

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1600 Amphitheatre Parkway

Mountain View, CA 94043

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Eric Schmidt - Executive Chairman

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Below is a sample letter:

Your company recently announced your new "Legalize Love" campaign. You stated that Google is "proud to be recognized as a leader in LGBT inclusion efforts."

Why? Google is a company that has excelled at what it has set out to accomplish. You have made many successful products that do not discriminate against any colors, creeds, or "sexual orientations."

Why does a successful internet company like yours - which has nothing to do with cultural standards - suddenly feel the need to impose your values on your customers who may not agree with you on such a controversial issue as homosexuality? For that matter, what gives you, a technology company, the right to tell people what's right and wrong?

Please, just make your product and stay out of the culture war.

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Regarding indecency at the checkout counters

by Bill Johnson



Several things that I have learned along the way about indecency at the checkout counters.

(1) Stores place the magazines at the checkout counters because magazine vendors pay a pretty good fee to have their magazines in such high profile places.

(2) It is possible to impact your local store(s) on this concern. However, it does take speaking up to the manager and not to the checkout clerk. It often also takes persistence.

(3) If the manager isn't showing much concern, it can be helpful to show him receipts from your recent shopping ventures.

(4) Be firm but gracious. If need be, too, you can have another friend or two accompany you sharing your concerns together.

(5) When you have success, understand that managers sometimes come and go and so the battle never ceases. You may get good cooperation for a season and the decision maker(s) forgets or new decision makers come.

(6) As we give up on fronts like this, it will only get worse. People that care and care enough to speak up are few and far between. So if not you, who? If not now, when?

(7) It truly is disgusting to read the titles and see the images that are in so many of the magazines that line the checkout counters. It shouldn't even have to be a subject that

we have to contend with. Why should we have filthy titles and indecent/pornographic images foisted before our eyes and the eyes of those we love?

(8) Speaking up and standing up and being a voice, though difficult, is very good for us, for it gives us iron in our backbone that we wouldn't otherwise have. As you express concern, you are strengthened for further challenges that lie ahead. Pray as you go into these situations that God will give you the words and give you strength.

Response #1:

Hello Mr. Johnson,

Greetings in Jesus' Name! Thank you for your ministry.

Yes, our family is very concerned about the magazines at the check-out lines and have taught our children to look away and guard their eyes. However, this is still very difficult. We have spoken to managers of stores, but this doesn't help much. We have found that at Walmart, we go to the lawn and garden check-out where there are no magazines. At other stores you may find aisles that do not have magazines, or, we just have our children quickly walk through the aisle and wait on the other side.

Thank you for working so hard for decency in America! Guyton, GA

Response #2:

My friends and I as teens, would turn those magazines around so people couldn't see the covers. I still do that if my son is with me.

-C.J.

Response #3:

I care! Whenever I see what I consider an offensive magazine cover, I notify management. They just about always agree with me and pull the magazine. They just need people to speak up!

A.L.

Response #4:

In your last Email newsletter about Indecency at checkout lines, you mentioned how maybe that email would give those of us who DO care encouragement. I wanted to reply and say that your E-mail did in fact lift my spirits. It was encouraging! I loved reading about your wife, Jan standing up to places like Wal-Mart and speaking up. That was a major encouragement for me because I do the same thing. I have been on Wal-Mart's case for over a year. I had an E-mail just last year from them telling me to rest assured that they will have those covers over explicit magazines at the checkout—a lie because it never happened. I'm from Georgia, Trenton to be exact. So our closest Wal-Mart is in Chattanooga and they have never put covers over the trashy magazines. My grandmother works at our other Wal-Mart in Chattanooga and she once said that they had so many complaints about the vulgar magazines that the manager finally done away with the ones like Maxim. That was a big inspiration for me too because it often feels so hopeless. I'm 22

[editor's note: This was such a powerful email. Thank you dear friend!]

Response #5:

I have to say that the area I am in now (we moved) is very liberal, not family friendly. I have had a hard time getting much accomplished. One manager lied to me saying he would remove them but they were back up the next week, I checked. It was the Sports Illustrated swimsuit magazine. I confronted him and asked why they were back up. He blamed the owner. I said well, it seems I was lied to, and I reiterated my position if they carried it I would boycott them for a year. I said that just lost you far more than carrying the magazine profited you. I will boycott your store for 1 year. That was 2 years ago and I rarely do [shop] there now. Maybe I am not really trying hard enough. Not PRAYING enough about it lately. I have as of late just not looked, trying to shield my own eyes. Who will be the David and protect the others? We cannot just turn a blind eye. If we do not voice our concern how will they know? Thank you for the reminder of being ever diligent in this area. T.H.

Does God really care what I wear?

by Lisa Van Houten

Modesty

It's nothing to be ashamed of

As the summer heat is upon us, it seems hemlines often rise along with the temperature.

Immodest dress – even in the church – becomes increasingly evident. While immodesty in general can be a touchy subject, the concern of immodesty within the church can be even more difficult to discuss. However, immodesty within the church is a troubling concern.

Why is this concerning?

1. Since men are particularly visual, immodesty in church can trigger lustful thoughts.

We are at church to worship a holy, loving God who came to set us free from the bondages of sin. To come to church and have women dressed immodestly is an insult to a holy God and thwarts the feeding of His people.

2. Immodesty establishes an ungodly example. “If Christians dress that way, it must be okay. I’m going to dress that way too.”

3. For godly mothers, the task of parenting is made that much harder because their daughters may want to wear “what everyone else is wearing.”

4. And obviously the most important reason immodesty in the church should be of concern is the fact that God commands women: “likewise also that women should adorn themselves in respectable apparel, with modesty and self-control ...” (I Timothy 2:9)

The issue of immodesty within the church is widespread. The following are a few comments from our readers across the country who have weighed in on this issue:

One person wrote, “... *The reality is that the majority of women will not dress that way IF their husbands did not approve. ...*”

Another offered this word, “*Sometimes young women don’t know that men are visual. They need to be taught by mothers, fathers.*”

Another person commented, “... *Our Youth Leader is directed to not only admonish the young people to dress modestly in church, but be an example every place. ...*”

Still another wrote, “...*Pastors need to speak up...Many women and girls no longer realize that it is offensive and sinful... We are all so bombarded with immodesty everywhere we go...it is easy to be lulled into it.....*”

Another stated, “... *The heart needs to change first! ...*”

One person shared this powerful and sad account, “*Thanks so much for your teaching about modesty! My men’s Bible study group talks frequently about controlling our lust, thoughts, and eyes. Yes, the problem and responsibility are ours, but is it really reasonable for the women of the church to make it THIS difficult for us? The only place that I go on a regular basis where I am so overwhelmed by half-clothed women is CHURCH! How backward is that???* I

want to run up to the microphone and yell “Yes, you’re beautiful, now go home and put on some clothes!”

Another person wrote us, stating: “... *We all know men are visual and we all know how the Lord made men. The Bible says we are not to be stumbling blocks to another person’s spiritual walk. Wearing a clingy blouse or a short skirt might be contemporary to the styles of the times, but it is not appropriate to wear to church! Fellowship should be a safe haven for our brothers in Christ. A place where they can feel safe to come in and enjoy friendships with members of both sexes without having to avert their gaze so as to avoid lusting after a sister in Christ. ...*”

I Corinthians 6:19-20 tells us: “...*do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.*”

Highly regarded Christian speaker and author Nancy Leigh DeMoss offers this counsel to Christian women, stating that their clothing choices can either help men succeed morally or can put temptation in their path. That means both men and women are responsible for moral purity!

DeMoss goes on to write: “*It’s important to remember that modesty is not first an issue of what we wear. It’s essentially a heart issue. If our hearts are right with God, if we’re walking in purity and humility before Him – the inevitable result will be a modest external appearance.*”

“*A heart of modesty affects every aspect of a woman’s life – not just the way she looks, but her attitudes and the way she talks and acts, as well.*”

For a more in depth look at the issue of modesty, we highly recommend the insightful booklet and CD “The Look: Does God Really Care What I Wear?” by Nancy Leigh DeMoss. To order these helpful resources go to our store at: <https://secure4.afo.net/ada/store2/> or call us at 1-888-733-2326.

Mail Bag



Hi, Bill, it isn't just Cosmo that is so offensive anymore, have you noticed? Even the old standard "womens' magazines" like Good Housekeeping, Redbook, etc. have more and more tantalizing "subjects" on the cover. No, not photos but the titles on some shock me! I just hate it when I have my grandchildren with me and we are bombarded with this filth. Yes, I have spoken to managers and some are very nice and make changes but some (many, I am sad to say) tell me they have no control over what is placed at the checkstand "corporate mandated it." I just wonder if that is true but at least I let my voice be heard and that has to count somewhere. I can tell you that many of the cashiers feel the same way as I do! So we are not alone but on some days, it certainly feels that way. I am praying for your ministry and I know you will always stand for truth, honesty and morality. There are way too few "Christian" organizations that do. They say nothing. Sad, isn't it?

In His Love,
S.S. - Brentwood, CA

Just wanted you to know that I appreciate all that you do letting people know about what television networks are constantly putting on TV, and all the things going on in our nation. I check your site out daily, and I repost your information to my blog, so others will be aware, and can take action for causes, and be aware to boycott stores that go against God's laws. Although I cannot financially support your cause right now, maybe by making others aware of your site, others may come to your site, and can help in some way. May God bless you in all your endeavors.

Sincerely,
D.D.

Thank you for all you do. My prayers are with you. ...
M.B.

Thanks for the newsletter and the cards which I sent on their way to Starbucks and Darden restaurant . It's disgusting and disheartening what people call entertainment today!

May God continue to keep you steadfast against such evil. Our prayers are with you as you keep on - keeping on!

In His Name,
A&G P.

Staff - Thanks for all you do. Grateful to God that GCB is done! We always mail the cards.

A&L B.

Thanks to all you at ADA for what you are doing in Christ's Kingdom. Even more, thanks be to God for His unspeakable Gift. Your friends,
I&J K.

Thanks for all you do. Wish we could send more.
G&B E.

Thanks you for keeping us informed. With no internet and only one TV channel we don't see who's advertising what. We appreciate ALL you do!

L.R.

Keep up the good work! Thanks for alerting us to JCP & Fifth Third.

N&W D.

Thanks for your perseverance. We are with you 100%. Good wordings on your postcards.

G.T.

Mail Bag from Summer Conference



The truth can be hard to hear, but Praise the Lord for God's truth bearers. This was a blessed event with some of God's very best!

Thank you for this eye opening conference.
J.P.

I enjoyed the whole program... I learned a lot and will talk to my 45 grand children about their commitment to the Lord and our contry.
E.T.

Do you have/know of "voter guides" that can be distributed in our church?
G.S.

Thank you for providing this. We heard some very disturbing info, but was also very inspiring. We have to do something!
H.K.

Very helpful & inspiring. - C.S.

Thank you for all that you do to draw us into a closer relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ.

Mr. Bowers' presentation was a real eye-opener - a sad one.

God bless Bill Johnson, keep him healthy and strong in fighting for our youth and our country.