

The End of a Dynasty?

By Chris Johnson



Let me make this clear from the outset, Christians' reaction to A&E's suspension of the Duck Dynasty star may have been the loudest bullhorn for Biblical values that Christians have been given in our lifetime.

Duck Dynasty is the most watched cable television show. **Ever.**

Intrinsic to its popularity have been the values expressed by the cast of the show, and especially Phil Robertson. Phil has used the Duck Dynasty platform to encourage abstinence before marriage, faithfulness to your spouse, and prayer in the name of Jesus Christ. Outside of the show he has used his speaking ministry to call our nation back to God and condemned abortion and gay marriage.

But the inevitable finally happened. People finally stopped just laughing at Phil Robertson and started actually listening to him.

In case you haven't heard, cable network A&E put a pistol to the head of their cash cow, Duck Dynasty, after seeing the Robertson patriarch's comments on homosexuality in an interview with GQ. Here are the offending remarks:

Interviewer: "What, in your mind, is sinful?"

Robertson: "Start with homosexual behavior and just morph out from there. Bestiality, sleeping around with this woman and that woman and that woman and those men. Don't be deceived. Neither the adulterers,

the idolaters, the male prostitutes, the homosexual offenders, the greedy, the drunkards, the slanderers, the swindlers—they won't inherit the kingdom of God. Don't deceive yourself. It's not right.'

He also said this, "It seems like, to me, a vagina – as a man – would be more desirable than a man's anus. That's just me."

Apparently, expressing these beliefs is intolerable and thus the network suspended Phil Robertson from future episodes.

Anyone who has seen Phil Robertson's preaching on YouTube had to see this day coming, because Robertson has been standing firm and using the popularity God has given Him to declare the precepts of the Lord. Indeed, you may notice that part of the "offensive" remarks are a quote from 1 Corinthians.

The thing that stands out about the GQ article is that the interviewer is blown away by how gracious Phil is and yet how he "thumps the Bible." Phil has been doing nothing more than what every Christian should be doing and he has received the reaction that every Christian should expect.

Phil gave the following statement on Megyn Kelly's show after hearing the news of his suspension:

"I myself am a product of the 60s; I centered my life around sex, drugs and rock and roll until I hit rock bottom and accepted Jesus as my Savior. My mission today is to go forth and tell people about why I follow Christ and also what the Bible teaches, and part of that teaching is that women and men are meant to be together.

"However, I would never treat anyone with disrespect just because they are different from me. We are all created by the Almighty and like Him, I love all of humanity. We would all be better off if we loved God and loved each other."

At a time where the Supreme Court's decision on homosexual marriage is just starting to realize its every day applications such as forcing people to bake cakes or take pictures for homosexual weddings, the star of the foremost cable television program stood up and made the argument for traditional marriage that many of us would like to make, albeit probably not in the words he used. Phil Robertson's speaking truth with power brought all the wrath of the politically correct police down on his head. Thankfully, however, he didn't have to stand alone.

Millions of fans, free speech advocates, and fellow believers let A&E know through petitions, Facebook, or even mailing rubber duckies that bigotry towards Christians is just as unacceptable as bigotry towards gays. (As a result, A&E reversed Phil's suspension.)

Not only A&E, but the whole entertainment industry has now had to face the fact that there are millions of us who believe that homosexuality goes against the Word of God and we don't appreciate it when our beliefs are censored.

And the whole world should see Phil's statement lived out in the lives of every Christian. After all, to paraphrase the artist Propaganda, there is as much of Jesus' blood on our hands as there is on theirs.

I pray that ultimately what people hear from Phil and from Christians is not that they're condemned for their sins, but they can receive forgiveness for them just as we've been forgiven for ours.

God forbid that anyone ever hears the message that we're awesome because we're straight and we're Christians, and they aren't because they're gay and non-believers. The Christian message ought to be that we're just as sinful as anyone else, but that we rest in God's grace and goodness.



From the desk of Bill Johnson

Laments and Projections

On behalf of the ADA staff and board and our families, I want to wish you a blessed New Year and to thank you for standing beside us in our work via prayer, financial support and hands on ministry.

I have seen many changes down through these years of ministry service between 1985-2013. What concerns particularly stand out?

The darkness in earlier times was not as dark as it is today. We were living in a simpler day. Yet, in retrospect, one can see clearly that the stage had already been set for what we are experiencing today: vast evidences of moral/spiritual decline.

From the very beginning (1985) the division between what was then the pornographers and the advocates of “family values” was sharply in contrast. The pornographers (owners, dancers, XXX-video peddlers, adult night club patrons) were few in number and hesitant to advocate against anti-pornography laws. Now we see that the pro-pornography side and the advocates for homosexuality and same-sex marriage are emboldened and energized, and they are going for the jugular of Christians.

Francis Schaeffer already was saying back in 1984, that America was no longer a Christian nation and hadn’t been for many years. He looked upon America with passion and insight at the age of 84. What he was seeing and saying in the last days of his life has become a reality: As America turns its back upon God, the natural consequences of godlessness is assaulting us with a vengeance.

Schaeffer wrote: *“Having turned away from the knowledge given by God, the Christian influence on the whole culture has been lost. In Europe, including England, it took many years - in the United States only a few decades. ... we have seen a complete shift. Ours is a post-Christian world in which Christianity, not only in the numbers of Christians but in cultural emphasis and cultural result, is no longer the consensus or ethos of our society.*

Do not take this lightly! It is a horrible thing for a man like myself to look back and see my country and my culture go down the drain in my lifetime. ...

There is only one perspective we can have of the post-Christian world of our generation: an understanding that our culture and our country deserves to be under the wrath of God. It will not do to say the United States is God’s country in some special way. It will not do to cover up the difference between the consensus today and the Christian consensus that prevailed sixty years ago. The last few generations have trampled upon the truth of the Bible and all that those truths have brought forth.

Sadly, Schaeffer saw our culture for what it had become - largely godless - having a form of godliness but denying the power thereof. He spoke and wrote about the consequences that a godless people ultimately are confronted with and cites Romans 1:24, 28-32 as God’s expression of those very consequences:

Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonouring of their bodies among themselves,

And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done. They were filled with all manner of unrighteousness, evil, covetousness, malice. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, maliciousness. They are gossips, slanderers, haters of God, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, foolish, faithless, heartless, ruthless. Though they know God’s decree that those who practise such things deserve to die, they not only do them but give approval to those who practise them.

Schaeffer’s high profile warnings have stood the test of time.

I have occasionally been reminded, as darkness has increasingly marked our beloved America, that Schaeffer was extraordinarily gifted at seeing what lies ahead as a result of turning our back upon God.

I recognize now however, at age 67, that I have an increasing bank of experience that I can draw from. I see where things were 40, 30, 20, 15, 10 and 5 years ago.

I concur with Schaeffer as he states the following: *Finally, we must not forget the world is on fire. We are not only losing the church, but our entire culture as well. We live in the post-Christian world which is under the judgment of God.*

[All quotes taken from The Great Evangelical Disaster, written by Francis A. Schaeffer]

We are long past the day of easy solutions.

Here are several of my own projections as we begin a new year.

Christians will increasingly be under attack. Tactics as we see on the front page will be made to shut up any of us who proclaim God’s truth.

America is under the judgment of God. As Schaeffer writes, we have lost our culture.

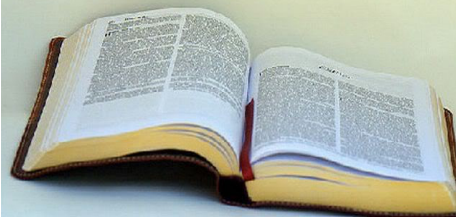
Those who acknowledge their need for Him, increasingly will be emboldened by His Word and Holy Spirit to live lives dedicated to proclaiming the Gospel, living righteous lives in Jesus and hungry to make disciples - beginning in our own households, in our churches, community and as God leads. Various forms of sufferings will be part of being a true follower of Christ.

Stockpiling Weapons Through Bible Memorization

by: Bryan DeWire - Desiring God

*I will delight myself in thy statutes:
I will not forget thy word.*

Psalm 119:16



Besides the Bible, *When I Don't Desire God* is the most life-changing book I've read. I use "life-changing" carefully and intentionally. It has changed the way I go about my day-to-day life more than any other book written by men.

As I read this book, I desperately wanted my life to radiate with joy in God. And as Jesus told his disciples, "*These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full*" (John 15:11). So, the joy of Jesus comes into our lives and gives us fullness of joy through his word, "these things I have spoken to you."

Gather Extended Portions

Therefore, Piper highlights "The Worth of God's Word in the Fight for Joy" (chapter 7) and then teaches "How to Wield the Word in the Fight for Joy" (chapter 8). In the latter chapter, he spends extended time encouraging his readers to memorize God's word. Here he says,

How shall we use the word of God to fight for joy? The first answer I have given is to read it with a plan and regularity. The next answer I give is to memorize verses and paragraphs and chapters and even whole books of the Bible. (p. 119)

You might think, "Are you serious? You think I can memorize whole books of the Bible?" For the sake of your deep, lasting, satisfying joy in God, yes! As Joshua 1:8 says, "This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it." God's words — the "Book of the Law" —

was to remain on the lips of this revered old-covenant leader.

But keep in mind that hiding God's word in your heart is a process. As Piper advises, *If you are not a memorizer at all, shift up to memorizing a Bible verse a week. If you only memorize single verses, shift up to memorizing some paragraphs or chapters (like Psalm 1 or Psalm 23 or Romans 8). And if you have ventured to memorize chapters, shift up to memorize a whole book or part of a book. Few things have a greater effect on the way we see God and the world than to memorize extended portions of Scripture.* (p. 121)

Joy Direct and Indirect

Knowing that this call might seem too high and lofty for some, Piper addresses the questions: Why would I spend so much time and effort on memorizing such long passages? How can I do so? His first answer:

When you memorize the Word of God, it's there directly giving joy to you and (if you speak it) to others, and it's there indirectly serving your joy by transforming your mind. How shall we obey the command, "Be transformed by the renewal of your mind" (Romans 12:2) if we neglect to saturate our minds with the thoughts of God? Ask yourself: Of all the spiritually minded people you have known — those who seem to walk most consistently with God and are in tune with God's Spirit — do they not all overflow with Scripture? (p. 120)

Hopefully our hearts burn when we read these words, and we're spurred on to pursue God with large investments of time and energy, and say to God, "You are worth it all! O, how I want to know you!"

Remembering His Word

We encourage you to make the small investment to read Piper's section "A Radical Call to Major Memorization" on pages 121–122, which includes parts of Andrew Davis's, "An Approach to Extended Memorization of Scripture". And

consider reading all of chapter 8 of *When I Don't Desire God*.

Let us join the psalmist in crying out to God, "I will delight in your statutes; I will not forget your word" (Psalm 119:16).

A Personal Note from Bill Johnson

In my early years of teaching in the public schools, I had a 30 minute drive to and from school. I began to memorize three passages per week as I traveled. I had never memorized scriptures before but had heard that many who took it to heart found it to be spiritually strengthening. I gave myself to it faithfully, learning new verses and reviewing those previously learned.

After several years, I discovered that God had used Scripture memorization to develop a basis for His calling on my life: encouraging people to "pursue holiness without which no man shall see the Lord." Romans 12:1,2 became a bedrock of my life and ministry calling:

To this day, I find myself drawing from God's word while in the car, talking with others, and in public speaking. I continue to stand amazed at the recall I have for particular verses. I have surprised myself how readily I could launch into a passage that I hadn't recited for months or even years.

God used memorizing scripture far beyond what I could have ever imagined. Those scriptures have helped to convict, counsel, and encourage me personally and to communicate my intention of being a man who desires to abide in and be led by the very word of God.

May some reading this pick up the challenge of "stockpiling weapons through Bible memorization."

Victoria's Secret: selling more than lingerie

By Lisa Van Houten



It's not a new phenomenon. Sex sells – at least to a certain segment of the population. And no company has used that adage more than Victoria's Secret. That's obvious from their in-your-face, store window displays that bombard families when shopping in the mall. Or there are the Victoria's Secret TV commercials that are more like a soft-core porn flicks than ads for merchandise.

However, Victoria's Secret “crowning achievement” in their quest to foist flesh upon the public is their yearly “Victoria's Secret Fashion Show” televised on CBS each December. However, it's not “fashion” being sold – it's not even lingerie so much, (for what woman would actually buy, let alone wear, the ostentatious underwear modeled - bedecked with everything from feathers and jewels to “angels” wings?).

What Victoria's Secret is selling is an image. An image to girls and young women that being sensuous and sexy should be their ultimate goal. Like proud peacocks the women strut down the runway as the camera focuses on their body parts. Isaiah 3:16 could very well be describing the Victoria's Secret “fashion” show: “the daughters of Zion are haughty and walk with outstretched necks, glancing wantonly with their eyes, mincing along as they go, tinkling with their feet ...”

It seems Victoria's Secret “fashion” show has two target audiences – and ironically neither is adult women. The first target group is obvious evidenced by the camera shots of the audience – row upon row of ogling, cheering men. If you look close enough you can almost see the drool dripping from their chins. Young men and

old. The rich, the famous, and the not-so-famous - with the front row reserved for male celebrities.

Victoria's Secret is hoping every ordinary man will rush to Victoria's Secret to buy lingerie for his wife or “significant other,” fantasizing about the image Victoria's Secret has planted in their minds.

The other target is teen girls. Victoria's Secret attempts to nab them young, knowing that young consumers tend to stick with the brand of products they buy for decades. If we bought Colgate toothpaste in our youth, statistics show that 20 years later we're probably still buying Colgate.

As we reported last spring, Victoria's Secret has announced it is now marketing to an even younger group - middle school-aged girls also referred to as “tweens.”

Interspersed with women's push-up bras and erotic lingerie, Victoria's Secret is selling sexy lingerie to sixth graders.

Chief Financial Officer Stuart Burgdoerfer of Limited Brands, of which Victoria's Secret is a subsidiary, announced the company's new marketing demographic, claiming about young girls: *“They want to be older, and they want to be cool like the girl in college, and that's part of the magic of what we do at Pink.”*

That is also what Victoria's Secret is doing with their “fashion” show. For the last three years the headline performer at their televised lingerie parade has been a teen singer whose fans are mainly middle school girls. Three years ago it was singer Katy Perry, followed last year by teen heart-throb Justin Bieber, and singer/teenage sensation Taylor Swift this year.

Sadly, Taylor Swift, who for the most part has maintained a wholesome and scandal-free image, has now seemingly bought the lie of Victoria's Secret herself. As she performed at the Victoria's Secret “fashion” show, she engaged in the same sexualized posing and antics as the models. Her erotic displays had the feel of showing the world

that she was no longer a girl. However, it will be the young girls who idolize her who will receive the destructive message she sent that equates femininity with being sexy.

It is no surprise when we hear of very young teens (and even younger) involved in sexual activity – not when the entertainment and retail industries bombard them with such sexualized messages. Children at younger and younger ages becoming concerned about body image. Little girls dressing and acting provocatively. Young boys involved in pornography. Children victimized by a culture that sees their worth only in dollars - robbing them of their innocence. To put it bluntly – a culture teaching little girls to act like sluts and teaching little boys to treat them as such.

There will always be a market for sex in advertising and entertainment. It is the nature of unredeemed man to gravitate toward sin rather than purity. The ratings for the Victoria's Secret “Fashion Show” attest to that. Victoria's Secret won the ratings war for the hour it aired – gaining the highest ratings for its timeslot against the other networks.

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How I Wish the Homosexuality Debate Would Go

by Trevin Wax from The Gospel Coalition



Just once, I'd like to see a TV interview go more like this:

Host: You are a Christian pastor, and you say you believe the Bible, which means you are supposed to love all people.

Pastor: That's right.

Host: But it appears to me that you and your church take a rather unloving position when it comes to gay people. Are homosexuals welcome to come to your church?

Pastor: Of course. We believe that the gospel is a message relevant for every person on the planet, and we want everyone to hear the gospel and find salvation in Jesus Christ. So at our church, our arms are outstretched to people from every background, every race, every ethnicity and culture. We're a place for all kinds of sinners and people with all kinds of problems.

Host: But you said there, "We're a place for sinners." So you do believe that homosexuality is sinful, right?

Pastor: Yes, I do.

Host: So how do you reconcile the command to love all people with a position on homosexuality that some would say is radically intolerant?

Pastor: (smiling) If you think my position on homosexuality is radical, just wait until you hear what else I believe! I believe that a teenage guy and girl who have sex in the backseat of a pick-up are sinning. The unmarried heterosexual couple living down the street from me is sinning. In fact, any sexual activity that takes place outside of the marriage covenant between a husband and wife is sinful. What's more, Jesus takes

this sexual ethic a step further and goes to the heart of the matter. That means that any time I even lust after someone else, I am sinning. Jesus' radical view of sexuality shows all of us up as sexual sinners, and that's why He came to die. Jesus died to save lustful, homo- and heterosexual sinners and transform our hearts and minds and behavior. Because He died for me, I owe Him my all. And as a follower of Jesus, I'm bound to what He says about sex and morality.

Host: But Jesus didn't condemn homosexuality outright, did He?

Pastor: He didn't have to. He went to the heart issue and intensified the commands against immoral behavior in the Old Testament. So Jesus doesn't just condemn adultery, for example, as does one of the Ten Commandments. Jesus condemns even the lust that leads to adultery, all with the purpose of offering us transformed hearts that begin beating in step with His radical demands.

Host: You say he condemned adultery, but he chose not to condemn the woman caught in adultery.

Pastor: That's right, but He did tell her to "go and sin no more."

Host: But who are you to condemn someone who doesn't line up with your personal beliefs about sexuality?

Pastor: Who am I? No one. It's not all that important what I think about these things. This conversation about homosexuality isn't really about my personal beliefs. They're about Jesus and what He says. I have no right to condemn or judge the world. That right belongs to Jesus. My hope is to follow Him faithfully. That means that whatever He says in regard to sexual practices is what I believe to be true, loving, and ultimately best for human flourishing – even when it seems out of step with the whims of contemporary culture.

Host: But you are judging. You are telling

all the gay people watching this broadcast that they are sinners.

Pastor: I'm not singling out gay people. I'm pointing to Jesus as the answer to all sexual sinfulness.

Host: But you are referring to gay people. Why are you so focused on homosexuality?

Pastor: (smiling) With all due respect, you are the one who brought up this subject.

Host: Are you saying that you can't be gay and Christian?

Pastor: No. I'm saying that you can't be a genuine Christian without repentance. Everyone – including me – is guilty of sin, but Christianity hinges on repentance. We agree with God about our sin, and we turn from it and turn toward Jesus. When it comes to Christianity, this debate is not about homosexuality versus other sins. It's about whether or not repentance is integral to the Christian life.

Host: But do you see why a homosexual watching this might think you are attacking them personally? You're saying that something is wrong with them.

Pastor: I think Jesus' teaching on sexuality shows us that there is something wrong with all of us – something that can only be fixed by what Jesus did for us on the cross and in His resurrection. That said, I understand why people might think I am attacking them personally. Most people with same-sex desires believe they were born with these tendencies. That's why they often see their attraction as going to the very core of who they are, and so they identify themselves with the "gay" label. So whenever someone questions their behavior or desires, they take it as an attack on the very core of their being. That's usually not the intent of the person who disagrees with homosexual behavior. But that's the way it is perceived. I understand that.

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How I Wish the Homosexuality Debate Would Go



(Continued from Page 5)

Host: If it's true that a person is born with one sexual orientation or another, then how can it possibly be loving to condemn one person's orientation?

Pastor: Well, we really don't know for certain about sexual attraction being innate and set from birth. All we have is the testimony of people who say that they've experienced same-sex desires since childhood. Christianity teaches that all people are born with a bent toward sin. It's possible that some people will have a propensity toward alcohol abuse or angry outbursts, while others may have a propensity toward other sins. Regardless, Christians believe people are more than their sexual urges. We believe that human dignity is diminished whenever we define ourselves by sexual urges and behaviors. Consider this: married men are sometimes attracted to multiple women who are not their wives. Does this mean they should self-identify as polygamists? Not at all. And surely you wouldn't consider it hateful for Christians to encourage married men not to act on their desires in an effort to remain faithful to their spouses. It is the Christian way, after all.

Host: No, but it still seems like you are telling people not to be true to who they are.

Pastor: It only seems that way because you believe sexual desire reflects the core of one's identity. It would help if you and others who agree with you would understand that in your putting pressure on me to accept homosexual behavior as normal and virtuous, you are going to the very core of my identity as a follower of Jesus. The label most important to me is "Christian."

My identity – in Christ – is central to who I am. So I could say the same thing and call you intolerant, bigoted, and hateful for trying to change a conviction that goes to the core of who I am as a Christian. I don't say that because I don't believe that's your intention. But neither should you think it's my intention to attack a homosexual person or cause them harm merely because I disagree.

Host: But the problem is, your position fosters hate and encourages bullying.

Pastor: I recognize that some people have mistreated homosexuals in the past. It's a shame that anyone anywhere would mock, taunt, or bully another human being made in God's image. That said, I think we need to make one thing clear in regard to civil discourse: To differ is not to hate. I hope we can still have a real conversation in this country about different points of view without casting one another in the worst possible light. The idea that disagreeing with homosexual behavior necessarily results in harm to gay people is designed to shut down conversation and immediately rule one point of view (in this case, the Christian one) out of bounds. As a Christian, I am to love my neighbor and seek his good, even when I don't see eye to eye with my neighbor. Furthermore, the picture of Christ on the cross dying for His enemies necessarily affects the way I think about this and other issues.

[<http://thegospelcoalition.org/blogs/trevinwax/2011/10/18/how-i-wish-the-homosexuality-debate-would-go/>]

Victoria's Secret: selling more than lingerie

(Continued from Page 4)

However, there will also always be a remnant of God's people (and others who respond to God's law written on their hearts) who will speak up against the degrading of innocence and the display of eroticism within our culture. We ask you to be one of those speaking up.

Each year we target the advertisers sponsoring the Victoria's Secret lingerie show. As a result of you standing with us in holding sponsors accountable, each year we see fewer and fewer mainstream corporations associating with the Victoria's Secret "fashion" show. We were pleased to see that this year there were very few national companies sponsoring the Victoria's Secret "fashion" show. However, there was one major company which aired six ads during the program – Procter and Gamble. We urge you to express your concern by mailing the enclosed postcard to P&G.

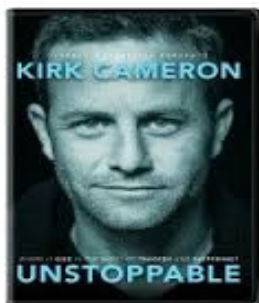
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ADA to host showing of Kirk Cameron's "Unstoppable" Friday, January 24, 2014: 1:00 PM & 7:00 PM



Originally presented to an audience of 10,000 people at Liberty University, Cameron explores the traditional question of theodicy (the attempt to answer the question of why God permits the manifestation of evil): "If God is sovereign, why does He allow bad things to happen to good people?"

This is certainly an issue which some have struggled with down through the ages. Why does God allow horrible things to happen to 'good' people?

"Unstoppable" was first shown live at Liberty University on a one night basis, Tuesday, September 24, and was simulcast in select cinemas nationwide. Our staff attended this one night showing in an area movie theater.

This powerful movie presents a big picture view of how we can live victorious lives in the face of adversity, changing our world for good.

Because of the significant message of this powerful movie, ADA continues with its tradition of showing cutting edge films that carry life changing messages with spiritual impact. "Unstoppable" falls within that category.

A Case for Christian Activism

The theme song summarizes the basic thrust of the movie. There is a time to speak and that time is now. Cameron's investigation provides an apologetic for Christian activism. The former "Growing Pains" star is now calling Christians everywhere to grow up. Speak for Christ. Defend Christ. The whole world has become a platform for the Christian vision.

This journey seeks to offer some answers to the broad questions of good and evil. Instead of entering into the philosophical arena, Kirk enters into the narrative of redemptive history. The drama of life is being enacted in this great stage. "Unstoppable" presents a narrative theology that is often unheard of in the evangelical pulpit. This narrative is both compelling and rich. It is a story that starts in the beginning.

Through very rich imagery, Cameron takes us through the formation of man. ...

Man was to have dominion over all things. And the first great test they faced came in the form of a beast. But the compelling drama goes from the safety of the garden into the danger of the forbidden fruit. Adam and Eve's sin plunges humanity into chaos. But in the middle of this cosmic betrayal, God does not betray His creation. He makes a promise (Gen. 3:15). Even after Adam and Eve leave the garden He continues to provide for them.

But the narrative continues in bloody fashion. Humanity experiences its first death: the death of a son, the death of a brother.

At this point, Kirk Cameron explores the persuasiveness of this narrative. This is a narrative, he argues, that would not sell. In Genesis, the Creator of the world destroys His own creation when He sent a great deluge to drown humanity in their sin. ... The story is persuasive because it does not hide the consequences of sin.

... But it is at the cross, argues Cameron, that "Jesus flips death on its head by dying for His enemies." After death came life. Life burst from the grave. In fact, every graveyard is a garden. And one day, "each seed will burst into a new world."

It is in this resurrection theme that Cameron transforms the question of evil into a case for the God who redeems humanity and will bring humanity from the dust of the earth into a new creation. God's purposes are unstoppable.

This is not your typical Bible storytelling. Creation was not left behind by its God. Creation is being redeemed by its Maker. Redeemed humanity united to the Final Adam, Jesus Christ, is now commissioned to disciple the nations and make the glory of God known.

Cameron does not end in lament, but in triumph. The Christian vision is not an escapist one. It is a mission grounded in resurrection joy. And because of this, evil does not have the final word. God cannot be stopped. His purposes will be accomplished in history. His glory will be known from sea to sea.

[<http://www.christianpost.com/news/movie-review-of-kirk-camerons-unstoppable-106032/>]

Following the showing of the 65 minute movie, "Unstoppable," ADA plans to have a couple of individuals present who will speak personally of evidences of God's grace in turning tragedy into good.

For those in driving proximity, we encourage you to join us at our headquarters in Fremont, Michigan on Friday, January 24 for this special presentation of Kirk Cameron's "Unstoppable." No pre-registration is required and the event is free-of-charge, although a free-will offering will be taken to help defray costs. Donations do assist in helping to make this event and upcoming opportunities possible.

When: Friday, January 24, 2014

Time: 1:00 PM and 7: PM

**Where: American Decency
203 E Main Street
Fremont, MI 49412**

Cost: Free Will Offering

Pam Stenzel helps them “to know”

By Bill Johnson



As we closed out 2013, we were privileged to have youth speaker Pam Stenzel present at our facility in October at a matinee and an evening event. If you haven't ordered a DVD of one of those presentations from us, I would highly encourage you to do so.

Today's teens have not been told the whole truth about the consequences of their choices when it comes to sex. The culture hands them a daily dose of sex through music, television, movies, internet, social sites, texts, while never showing the devastation that sex outside of marriage leaves behind.

With Pam's compelling personal story and extensive crisis pregnancy counseling experience, she offers a hard-hitting look at the consequences of sexual activity outside of marriage while challenging young people to embrace God's plan for sexual purity.

For years, Pam was on the “front lines” as Director of an Alpha Women's Center, a crisis pregnancy center. Over and over she heard from young women she counseled, “nobody told me” about God's design for sexuality and the consequences of not following His plan. Her experiences taught her that before teen pregnancy and STD rates could decline, attitudes of teens toward sex first had to change. Desiring to bring about that change, Pam started speaking nationally full-time and is in great demand both in the United States and internationally.

Yet so many people, young and old alike, remain clueless regarding unbiblical sexuality. Stenzel compellingly addresses the physical and emotional costs of sex outside the boundary of marriage which has led to rampant sexually transmitted

diseases within our culture. The long term implications are dire – an epidemic of infertility, broken relationships, cancer, death.

Stenzel deals powerfully and convincingly with this subject on the DVD that we are making available which is entitled “Now I Know.”

Not only is Pam Stenzel burdened over this message but we are, too. For that reason, we have once again scheduled Pam Stenzel to speak in area schools and to a general audience in West Michigan in March. [Additional specifics announced in our February newsletter.]

- Thursday, March 20 (early morning): Pam Stenzel - training at a crisis pregnancy center

- Thursday, March 20 (a.m.): Pam Stenzel presents at a West Michigan high school

- Thursday, March 20 (evening): Pam Stenzel presents to a general audience in a location to be announced

- Friday, March 21 (a.m.) Pam Stenzel presents at a West Michigan high school

Make no mistake! These opportunities with Pam Stenzel are not inexpensive with travel expenses and speaking fees, although Pam works very graciously with us. Youth and people of all ages need to hear Pam's powerful message. How many young people are clueless as to the lifetime implications of sleeping around? People that are in there 60s and beyond are still suffering from choices made in their teens and twenties.

We often have shouldered the bulk of the expenses as we outreach into public schools. I know that many of you reading this share our concern for young people.

To help us continue to reach out into additional schools, please designate your check to the ADA by simply notating that it go to the Pam Stenzel fund.

One young lady attended our Stenzel event here in October and stated “I hope we can bring her to Grand Haven High School.” Please pray and stand with us financially.

A word from Pam Stenzel:

Here is the TRUTH: Abstinence WORKS 100% of the time (okay, really 99.999999% of the time and the one time it didn't work we celebrate CHRISTMAS!), Students deserve to be told about the consequences of ALL of the choices they make! The only SAFE SEX is a SAFE PARTNER! Having sex with multiple partners ALWAYS brings risk and there is no amount latex, pills or vaccines that can eliminate that risk completely! Students WANT to be told the truth and to be given REASONS to make the best choice: if you don't believe that teenagers listen to a strong message about abstinence DONE RIGHT... travel with me for awhile! Listen to these comments from a girl who attended my assembly (in 2010) at Allen Park High School in metro Detroit, MI:

Pam-

Thank you so much for coming to allen park high school this morning. Your talk with us was very inspiring. I, personally decided many years ago, that I was going to remain pure until I was married. I have had many serious boyfriends, I have told them all that I choose to remain a virgin. And most of them were like are you kidding me!?! And, I, being not religious had to explain myself and why I chose to be this way. Having you speak to my school today just really solidified my decision. Thank you so much. It is so good knowing that I am not the only person who believes in saving themselves. I no longer feel like an outsider in my group of nonvirgin friends. I am the only girl who has not had sex, and that always made me feel left out, and almost pressured me to have sex. The things that you taught my high school today are irreplaceable. I went into the assembly thinking that it would be pointless, and if anything we should be having an assembly on safe sex, not abstinence. Especially since a lot of kids have already had sex. But after hearing you talk, my mind was changed. And a lot of my friends have decided to stop having sex and become “recycled virgins”. And it was because of you, and the knowledge you taught us. Thank You