

Times are tough, but God is faithful!

Dear Friend:

Over these number of years many of you have been faithful and generous to this ministry. Without that kind of sacrifice we would not be in existence. Thankfully, we do have life and breath as a ministry because of heartfelt, caring and prayerful support!!

We have done some good over the years. Indeed, there have been some big victories along the way. There have also been many defeats, yet we have continued on with faithfulness and perseverance.

In very recent years, God showed His great hand of blessing upon this ministry by giving us a vision for purchasing a classic church building on Main Street in Fremont, Michigan. He gave us a vision and a burden for it, and we sensed that we were to share that vision with you. Many of you believed that God was in it and you gave sacrificially. The rest is history. We were able to purchase the building debt free with \$28,000 left over that also helped us take care of repair issues facing us. By His grace, this building was wonderfully restored.

Why would God bring us this far just to leave us? We don't believe that for a minute. He blessed our obedience and faithfulness to the calling that He has given us. That's what we believe!

However, He never promised a rose garden. Times are tough and will probably only get tougher: not only financially but culturally. Time and space will not permit me here to count the ways.

I'm writing this letter on the front page of this newsletter because of urgencies we face going into the summer months which always bring a significant downturn in giving. We are already struggling – just barely paying our bills and staff at this writing.

In recent months I sent out an appeal letter to a small core of people asking for giving over and above their regular giving. I was seeking 200 people to give \$100. A number of people responded generously to that request. If not for that response, we wouldn't have made payroll these last two times.

However, because we started the year \$20 - \$25 thousand less than usual, our struggle still continues and is becoming increasingly pronounced.

I was listening to a radio ministry state the other day that they needed to raise \$350,000 in the month of May or face significant cuts. I know many ministries and many local churches are struggling. And, then, there is the matter of many of you struggling as well.

Let me complete my appeal by communicating the following to you our friends: (1) If you are in a situation where you just simply don't have the means to help, we understand. Don't do anything that will jeopardize your own financial situation - which in some cases is really not good. (2) However, if you are able, would you please prayerfully consider helping us with as generous a gift as possible? Not to overwork this concept, but 200 people giving over and above gifts of \$100 would go a long way toward helping us through June and into July. (3) Please do consider joining us on the evening of July 30 for our 25th anniversary dinner. It promises to be an evening of incredible spiritual challenge, music, gratitude, and without a doubt it will be uplifting. In addition, to be very clear with you, we will take the opportunity to ask you to stand with us financially, hopefully strengthening us to get through the remainder of the summer months without having to reduce our small but good and faithful staff. (4) In addition, please consider staying overnight and attending our Saturday morning time of ministry update with our staff and board. (5) Lastly, please continue to pray for us! I quite regularly hear from people who say, "I pray for you and ADA every day." That means so much to us!

Well, that's it for now. I would make this last challenge. There may be someone receiving this who is in a position to make a very large donation that would help get our legs solidly underneath us again. My son-in-law reported that a person gave a gift of \$40,000 that helped their church overcome a number of months of reduced giving. We are frugal people. We are thankful for any and all gifts! We appreciate you and we appreciate whatever you can do to help us, dear friend! God bless you and I truly hope to see you soon.



**From the desk of
Bill Johnson,
president**



**“We give thanks for
25 years of ministry.”**

You are coming to our July 30 dinner, aren't you? This is a once-in-a-lifetime event celebrating 25 years of God's hand and leading upon ADA's ministry service!

If you haven't sensed it, I really want you to be with us.

Let me give you a little more information regarding our dinner.

Have you heard of Pam Stenzel? Just being there to hear Pam will be worth every bit of the \$15.00 that we have set for the cost of the dinner. I believe everyone attending will be blessed!

We also will be hosting a ministry briefing for those able to attend on Saturday morning, July 31 at our headquarters from 9:00 - 12:00 pm.

Fremont is kind of an out-of-the-way sort of place, but still only an hour north of Grand Rapids.

I believe Friday evening (and Saturday morning, for those who will be able to join us), will be a referendum on whether we have the spiritual, financial and prayer support to continue on into the next year(s) ahead.

This promises to be an inspirational evening featuring our guest speaker, Pam Stenzel! We have also received word that we can expect a video clip message from my dear friend, Don Wildmon and Randall Murphree (editor of AFA Journal) and other friends.

An evening that includes dinner, Pam Stenzel, a video presentation of some of ADA's ministry highlights, messages from a few of our special friends, and a little

southern Gospel music from our dear friend Buddy Smith, AFA's second-in-command, promises that our time together will be a marvelous evening of fellowship and encouragement!

With all of the ministries that exist large and small, are we worthy of your support? Is God's anointing still upon us? We believe this July 30 event will help answer those questions. Our finances are getting tighter, but we are hungry to serve. We desire to be light in a dark world, but only as we have a clear sense of God's continued favor and that of His people!

It would mean a lot to see you and to hear from you on this evening of celebration and also of prayer regarding our future.

May God move on many of you to come.

Dinner details:

When: July 30, 2010

Time: 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Place: All Saints Church reception hall, 500 Iroquois, Fremont, MI 49412 (Fremont is one hour north of Grand Rapids and three hours northwest of Detroit, MI)

Occasion: American Decency Association 25th anniversary dinner

Ticket price: \$15.00 per person

Contact ADA to make your reservation at:

ADA
P.O. Box 202
Fremont, MI 49412
Phone: 888-733-2326

Email:
kimberly@americandecency.org

**Conference
accommodations**



The Shack is a very popular location for family vacations, conferences, overnights for visitors throughout Michigan. There are still a few rooms available overnight for Friday and Saturday night. Located 7 miles northeast of Fremont. See their website at: <http://www.theshackbandb.com/> or call: 231-924-6683



The Gerber Guest House boasts a large terrace and deck overlooking a beautiful garden and fountain. The 7 spacious, second floor bedrooms, each with it's own bath, are inviting. All guests will appreciate the privacy the Inn provides. See their website at: <http://www.gerberguesthouse.com/> or call: 888-924-7005. Make sure you let the receptionist know you are reserving for the ADA dinner to get the special rate.

The Gerber House is adjacent to ADA headquarters.



The Harrington Inn is another very nice overnight option just minutes west of ADA headquarters and our dinner location.

A warm, friendly, clean environment offering swimming pool, wireless and other amenities. See their website at: <http://harringtoninn.net/> or call: (800) 233-5653. Ask for ADA reservation.

Don't Be Silent

"... concerning reports regard sexual abuse of children ..."

by Chris Johnson



One question that gets thrown around when there is a political or cultural change is, "how will it affect the next generation?" Some of the latest headlines from local papers across the country bump legislation to second place on my list of concerns.

I started doing some research when one of our supporters called to draw our attention to a story in Detroit. Here's the headline: "Cops: Detroit Strip Club, All Star, Employed 14 Year-Old Girl." The girl seems to have been employed at the strip club for several months, working several days a week and bringing home about \$350 dollars a night. According to Police Chief Warren Evans, "It's clear to us the club knew she was underage, or should have known she was underage." More importantly the "customers" should have known she was under-aged!

This made me wonder if there were things like this happening around the country or just in shady neighborhoods like Detroit's 8 Mile Rd. Here are some more stories I found (via Pornharms.com).

Lakeland, Fl. – Fla. Sheriffs Arrest 50 in Year Long Child Porn Bust – "In the largest operation of its kind in Florida's history, the Polk County Sheriff's Office has arrested and charged 50 people with varying degrees of child pornography possession and distribution."

In Bellevue, WA. – Police: Rapist, Others Forced Teen to Sell Sex at Bellevue Hotels – "Bellevue and Seattle police are investigating a 20-year-old man currently

behind bars on suspicion of forcing one teen into prostitution while possessing nude photos of another girl... Police suspect the man, a convicted rapist living in Mukilteo, helped two juveniles force an 18-year-old to work as a prostitute at two Bellevue hotels."

Investigators Worry that Child Porn Suspects are Getting Younger – "We have a suspect right now who's 15 who has some of the worst child porn I've ever seen, involving infants and dead children," said San Jose police detective Kendra Nunes, who is part of the department's child exploitation unit. "It's scary."

El Cajon, CA – Warrants Suggest Calif Killer Followed 11 Year-Old – "An 11-year-old girl told police a man followed her home from school the day before registered sex offender John Albert Gardner III raped and murdered a 17-year-old girl in a nearby park, according to search warrants unsealed Monday."

These stories are obviously sickening on so many different levels, and they raise a lot of questions. In the case of the 14 year-old topless dancer, how do minors even get these ideas and why do they think they're ok? Why are so many adults ready to pay for various kinds of sexual stimulation by children? How does the middle man sleep at night knowing what he's doing to these kids? Why isn't this a priority to the Department of Justice?

In a report on a government commissioned investigation of the link between the sexualization of young girls and violence against women, Dr. Linda Papadopolous gives an answer to at least a few of these questions. "Children and young people are not only being exposed to an increasing number of hyper-sexualized images; they are also being sold the idea that girls should look 'hot,' regardless of their age. As such, they are facing pressures that children in the past simply didn't have to face."

Chris Cloke, head of child protection awareness at The National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children says that

"The danger is that in this climate girls are being seen simply as sex objects and nothing else. And if they are dressed in what might be interpreted as a provocative way it can allow sex offenders to use this as an excuse when they are accused of sexually assaulting a child."

One thing that Cloke's account doesn't mention is that pornography is often the path that leads the sex offenders to a state of mind where assaulting a child is 'okay.'

J.Hunter reports in the Chicago Sun Times that "One of the men arrested, who allegedly abused his 18-month-old daughter, said he started watching child pornography after getting "burned out" by regular porn. He needed something a little more titillating. Something a little sicker. That's not unusual for people addicted to porn."

In Morality in Media's report on "How Adult Pornography Contributes to Sexual Exploitation of Children," Robert Peters gives many examples of convicted child pornographers who have acknowledged starting with adult pornography and, when they grew desensitized to that, escalated to child porn.

Today in the news, all over the country, there will be reports of sexual abuse and exploitation of children. Internet pornography is a huge catalyst in the vast majority of these cases. One thing that average citizens can do is report obscene material, any obscene material you stumble across on the internet, to Morality in Media (www.obscuritycrimes.org) and obscene material involving children to the Cyber Tipline (www.cybertipline.com or 1-800-843-5678).

As always, pray that the organizations on the front lines fighting internet and child pornography would have God's blessing.

Lastly, don't be silent in your outrage! We could use some righteous indignation in this nation. Your friends need to know the sick things that happen in our culture. A lot of people being passionate on this subject is the only way anything is going to change.

Exposing the treachery of Ashley-Madison

By Bill Johnson

The Ashley Madison Agency EST. 2001



In recent weeks, ADA made the determination to regularly target Ashley-Madison.com. We are doing so to expose the evil message promoted by this website and its founder, Mr. Noel Biderman.

Ashley-Madison refers to itself as 'The World's Premier Discreet Dating Service,' claiming over 5,855,000 anonymous members. However, this is not a typical online dating site for singles looking for love. Ashley-Madison is a site that sets up married individuals seeking to have adulterous affairs.

A few of their promotional slogans epitomize this marriage-destroying website:

- "Life is short. Have an affair."
- "Are you married but looking? Ashley Madison is the place for Married Dating."
- "Join AshleyMadison.com for free and have an affair ... Guaranteed!"

Ashley-Madison encourages married men and women to commit adultery, destroying countless marriages and families.

Sean Hannity of Fox News recently interviewed Ashley-Madison founder Noel Biderman, challenging Biderman on his complicity in the destruction of marriages and families. Here are just a few quotes:

Hannity: ... So the sole purpose is to help facilitate extra-marital affairs. 'Life is short, have an affair' is your motto, right?

Biderman: Absolutely.

Hannity: Do you have any sense of morality, of the impact that your website can have, the devastation it can have on families, children ... Do you not have any responsibility

that you are profiting [from] and facilitating the demise of a marriage? ... I'm not going to dispute that people go through tough times in marriages, but you know what, without sites like yours they may be able to work out their problems. But you're helping to facilitate the end of a marriage with this. And you take no responsibility. ...

Biderman: *Monogamy should be less important than it is, ... Who's the arbiter of the morality? What, the Ten Commandments that omits things like slavery and child abuse, that's the arbiter of all morality? We have to come to redefine it in 2010. ... We don't know what morality equals. It's really not that clear. ... We've been told over and over 'you have to be monogamous, you have to be monogamous.' ... I don't think it [adultery] is wrong. People who need it should have an opportunity to pursue it. It's a better alternative...*

ADA is in the initial stages of launching a new website to shed light on the harm caused by Ashley-Madison and to offer encouragement to vulnerable ones. We have begun to draw some interviews and media attention. Below is one response we received as a result:

"I just watched the feature that Channel 7 Detroit did on that horrid Ashley Madison site and company.

"They mentioned your organization and I immediately went to your online site and was pleasantly surprised to find you are also in Michigan. I recently found out that my now ex boyfriend had joined that site in February. I also found out that he was picking up women on Craigslist under the personal casual encounters, adult services, and adult gigs areas of that site. ...

"... this topic really upsets me greatly and I want you to know that I agree with you completely and will look forward to hearing your progress on this matter. ... I would be interested in hearing the damage that this man who started this company has caused in so many relationships. I don't know how he can sleep at night. ...

"Keep up the good work."

Your emails do make a difference!



Recently one of our email alerts expressed our ongoing concern regarding the degrading nature of Fox TV's "Family Guy." The short version: the May 2 episode dealt with excrement and the eating of it.

In the email, we included a link to contact each of the sponsors, including the local advertisers of "Family Guy."

That same week I received a phone call from one of the local advertisers, a West Michigan Toyota businessman who had received a solid number of emails. He called acknowledging that in fact there was an advertisement that was paid for by a Toyota regional dealers association. The ad was placed by an ad agency and the local dealers had no knowledge where the ad was placed.

The caller, Mr. David Pronk of Crown Toyota, said that he had contacted the Toyota regional office making it clear that he didn't want their name affiliated with such trash or any other similar programs.

I was once again reminded of the fact by Mr. Pronk that companies like Crown Toyota are very much concerned about a good name! They don't want their corporate name dirtied by being tied to degrading programs. Mr. Pronk asked me to notify you of his great alarm and concern. I urge you to express appreciation to David Pronk for caring and taking right action to remove his company's ad from being affiliated in any way with such offensive programs.

Express appreciation to Crown Toyota and David Pronk at:

Crown Toyota – Local Advertiser

Dave Pronk

11260 Chicago Drive

Holland, MI 49424

Phone: 616-393-0400

Toll-free: 800-473-5953

dpronk@crownmotors.com

Pick Up a Rope and Pull

By Chris Johnson



I wonder if more people would speak out on an issue if they knew that 75% of their fellow citizens agreed with them.

In an interesting poll from Gallup, the vast majority of Americans polled expressed their belief that moral values in our country are getting worse. 76% held this opinion while only 14% disagreed.

Here are some of the ways those polled see society's moral values getting worse.

- Declining moral values, standards
- Parents not instilling values in children/ not spending time with
- Dishonesty among politicians, business leaders
- Moving away from religion/ church/ God
- Breakdown of family/ Unwed mothers
- TV content: cursing, sex, etc.
- Sex/ Promiscuity/ Pornography

Those are just a few from the list of issues given by those polled.

In addition, the subjects polled rated the current moral state of our nation. 45% rated it as "poor" with only 15% rating it as "good" or "excellent."

Here's my question. If 76% of the people in our country believe that our culture is becoming more immoral, how is it that we are afraid to let it be known that we agree with them? The fact that a majority that huge can hold an opinion and still not shape the culture truly astounds me.

Here's what I think the answer is. *Maybe* 3% of our population works in the television/movie industry. Probably 95% of these people are pro-abortion, pro-homosexual, socialist-leaning idealists who have no problem selling sex (theirs or someone else's) to make a buck. However,

99% of the country watches television/ movies. Thus, that 99% gets lied to daily by the 3% about what is normal in our culture. In an understandable attempt to be normal, the impressionable copy what they see on the screen. And what was *perceived* as normal, but was really quite extreme, actually *becomes* normal.

Meanwhile, the less impressionable sit back and say, "holy cow, what's going on?"

Well, what's going on is that people are afraid of sounding like "prudes" because the media says it's bad to be a "prude," so, instead of saying "that's going too far," we sit back and accept the new normal.

On top of that, many churches don't preach about it because they are too preoccupied trying to shake the label that the media stuck to Christians and the church. Too often today's church cares less about edifying its congregation than it does about "playing Kirby" - sucking in everything and anything in an attempt to rectify society. The problem is that while it might be bigger, the only thing it's changed is itself.

I also think that while people recognize that the world around them is growing darker, they don't see that their own daily decisions are a part of that. It's easier to say everyone else is doing something wrong than to ask yourself how you are influencing the world around you and how it is influencing you.

I think that most of us would agree that our culture's morals are being degraded on the fronts the people who participated in the poll indicated. 76% of Americans should be able to change the culture. There is a principle that if you want something to move and you have a lot of people willing to help move it, you still won't get anywhere if you aren't all pulling in the same direction. If that were the problem in our situation, these stats would be less infuriating. Our problem is that we have something we want to move and a lot of people who want it moved, but no one is pulling. So here's my challenge. Pick up a rope. There's a song that says "let there be peace on earth and let it begin with

me." We have the same idea here. If we really want to transform the society we live in, it has to start with each of us.

As an extra inspiration, I'll leave you with my favorite John Adams quote that I've used several times before and will use many times in the future, I'm sure. "*Our constitution was made only for a moral and religious people, it is wholly inadequate for the governing of any other.*"

Letters from our supporters



Dear Friends,

With a little workout in our checkbook, we find we can make a gift of \$200.00 at this time. Praying that your goal may be reached and you will be able to continue your battle against the evil one!

I believe God will touch many to give because he's a God that does Great things for those who trust him.

Your friends,

A.P and G.P.

I can scarcely comprehend the increasing speed with which our society/culture/ world is sinking with such determination and enthusiasm into the quagmire of self-destruction. God bless.

Fr. Jim

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Delighting in the Lord or ...

By Lisa Van Houten



Once in awhile secular research makes a conclusion that to some may seem like a profound or surprising finding, but to those who study God's Word is only common sense.

The headline read: "Children Who Watch R-rated Movies More Likely to Drink Alcohol."

Here is a portion of the article:

Researchers conducted a study of more than 2,400 children, ages 10 to 14-years-old, whose parents allowed them to view R-rated movies frequently. Almost a quarter of the children studied confessed to having tried alcohol behind their parents back.

Inversely, the study showed that only 3 percent of the students in the trial who were forbidden to watch R-rated movies had ever tried a drink.

James Sargent, co-author of the study and a professor at Dartmouth, said the study had a controlled parenting style and still showed that "the movie effect is over-and-above that [parenting] effect." ...

<http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,591507,00.html>

Scripture teaches that we cannot dabble with the evil of the world and not have it shape our thinking, attitudes, behavior. That is why Romans 12:2 warns not to be conformed to this world. I'm sure another study would deduce that young people who watch R-rated movies are also more likely to imitate other behaviors depicted – such as engaging in illicit sexual activity and using foul language. Bluntly stated: garbage in, garbage out.

We have a choice - delight in the Lord or delight in the sinful enticements of the world. We can't have it both ways. Yet, it seems, many Christians seem to think we can.

Looking again at that article, notice there was one group whose parents forbid them from watching R-rated movies. Sadly, I wonder how many families, even within our churches, hold such a line with their teenagers. How many adults guard what they themselves watch?

Some in the Christian community seem to compartmentalize their faith – seeking after personal pleasure instead of what pleases God.

I am part of a weekly Bible study at church that meets on Thursday evenings. We have been winding up a study of the book of Ezra. Ezra led a second group of Israelites back to Jerusalem from Babylon decades after the first pilgrimage. Soon after his arrival, Ezra learned that some of the people of Israel had grievously broken God's law, having not separated themselves from the practices of the idolatrous surrounding nations and had taken pagan women as wives. Read Ezra 9 to see the tremendous grief this caused Ezra. He was appalled that God's people, who knew His law, would disregard it in such a way. Ezra did not take the peoples' sin lightly. He understood what an affront our sin is to the holiness of God.

Then in chapter 10 we see the reaction and repentance of the people. We also learn the names of those guilty of this sin of mixing with the idolatrous peoples – 111 men. Remember there were tens of thousands of Hebrew men who had returned to Jerusalem. Yet this tiny percentage of violators of God's law – a number perhaps seemingly insignificant to many – was of grievous concern not only to Ezra and the people, but, of course, especially to God.

Yet, on how much of a greater scale do



God's people today align themselves with the things of the world, taking on the customs and practices of what goes against His Word?

[Recently, I read a devotional article by R.C. Sproul where he offers this commentary:](#)

"...The great tragedy of the church in the post-1960s revolution is that the face of the church has changed along with the face of the secular culture. In a fatal pursuit of relevance, the church has often become merely an echo of the secular culture in which it lives, having a desperate desire to be "with it" and acceptable to the contemporary world. The church itself has adopted the very relativism it seeks to overcome. What is demanded by times such as ours is a church that addresses the temporal while at the same time remaining tethered to the eternal – a church that speaks, comforts, and heals all things mortal and secular without itself abandoning the eternal and the holy. ... We need churches filled with Christians who are not enslaved by the culture, churches that seek more than anything to please God and His only begotten Son, rather than to attract the applause of dying men and women. Where is that church? That is the church Christ established. That is the church whose mission is to minister redemption to a dying world, and that is the church we are called to be. God help us and our culture if our ears become deaf to that call."