

On the road testing the spiritual waters for salt and light impact Johnson and Scarborough visit fourteen sites in five day tour

By Bill Johnson

I know many of you have been praying for me as I was on the road with Rick Scarborough in recent weeks to mobilize pastors to do the following:

- (1) To register all in their congregations to vote.
- (2) To get into the people's hands sound, non-partisan voter's guides.
- (3) To get out the vote. To do their utmost to get each and every member of their congregation to vote.
- (4) To preach at least one sermon along the way regarding the responsibility of the Christian as a citizen.

We targeted Michigan pastors with snail mail letters, emails (including emails from our friends at AFA to Michigan pastors) and follow up phone calls.

We spent several weeks sending out special invitations to pastors and then provided a web link for them to register for a breakfast, lunch or dinner at a location near them.

For your information the website is:
www.michiganfaithworks.org

First though, we were graced by two pastors that scheduled Pastor Rick Scarborough to preach at their local churches.

Pastor Scarborough preached to a congregation of more than 400 in Traverse City. Later in the day he preached at Grant Reformed (Grant, MI). Reports from those in attendance were very positive.

On Monday (October 10), Rick and I began our travels throughout the state.

After completing our tour across the state (with an alarmingly low response), I was blessed with a phone conversation with an individual that I have the highest



regard for and whose knowledge, experience, and insight as to the state of Michigan is unparalleled. This individual was calling me to see how things went.

I shared our results and then gave my take on the entire state. My observations, based upon 26 years of ministry, were affirmed by this individual from one location to the next.

Michigan is a blue state. It shows its heavy union influence. Even in locations where you would think the church is strong, its influence and presence is not what you might think. I say this with great sadness.

Holland, though heavily churched, has shown weakening in recent years as exemplified by only one pastor opposing gay rights before the Holland City Commission - week after week during the summer months. ONE PASTOR in Holland.

Grand Rapids - similar observations were made regarding lethargy. Flint, Bay City, Saginaw - heavy liberal union influence. Detroit - we all recognize that this is not a stronghold for the Christian faith. Ann Arbor - is a liberal stronghold. This comes as no surprise to anyone. Northern Michigan - not a lot of churches and, fewer strong ones.

That being said, these comments about the state of the Church in different regions of Michigan are very broad generalities. I do recognize that there are numbers of faithful churches in each of these cities who stand boldly and faithfully for Christ and I am thankful for their influence. We need to continue our work to identify those pastors and encourage and enable them.

The call I received from this individual came at a key time. It was out of the blue; I had not initiated the call. Not that I needed confirmation but I sure got it today.

Why is this a big deal? Because it gives clear credence as to what we are up against!! I ask you to redouble your prayers.

[Here are the turnout results:](#)

Holland - 11 in attendance
Kalamazoo - 2 in attendance
Grand Rapids - 11 in attendance

Cadillac - 4 pastors
Traverse City - 2 pastors
Mackinac City - 0

Houghton Lake - 2
Birch Run - 0
Novi - 2

Roseville - 1
Ann Arbor - 1
Dundee - 0
Hillsdale - 1
Battle Creek - 1

You may recall that included in last month's newsletter was a letter addressed to pastors. We had encouraged our readers to take this to your pastor and urge them to register for a presentation near them. We are grateful to those who did that and we are grateful to and for those pastors who did turn out. We were blessed by their sincerity and commitment.

What's next? We continue on!



From the desk of Bill Johnson

Lose the Pastors, Lose the War

God has equipped each one of us according to His will. We can sit back and let life pass us by. We can moan and complain about the unfairnesses. We can lament our position and/or our condition. All of this is very human, isn't it?

Personally I am referencing the report that I filed on the front page. The response to our efforts was not as good as I had hoped.

One pastor stated it this way: "... As our culture seems to be slowly sliding down that slippery cultural slope of materialism, immorality, and self centeredness, and, as it seems too many in the Church struggle with the same influences, pastors are like that guy whose initial goal was to drain the swamp, but soon found himself surrounded by alligators and his priorities had to change.

As I said in an earlier letter, my own schedule is filled - last week was 92 hours; my average week is now 82 hours, mostly 7 days a week (last full day off was August 7). Not that my Board is asking me to work this diligently, it is entirely a heart issue - there is such NEED and emptiness in the culture and for the past two years my pastor's heart has been trying to address those needs.

So, while I will certainly encourage/remind folks to be active Christian Constituents in the election process - I just cannot add anything more to my plate.

So, we keep praying that the will of God will be to turn this nation around as churches across the nation seek to be filled with the Holy Spirit, ready to do whatever God is calling them to do."

Other responses could be shared, such as the pastor who told me that the word in his corner in the greater Detroit region is that there are Jihadists in Hamtramack spreading seeds for Islamofascism and nothing is being said or done to counter it.

Indeed, we face many challenges. Rick Scarborough, President and Founder of Vision America, told me as we traveled to Cadillac of two national ministry leaders whom we admire greatly. Rick commented, "They both came to the conclusion that it was an utter waste of time to try to engage pastors in the fight for Biblical values in the ongoing culture wars."

In contrast, in Pastor Scarborough's opinion if we don't have American pastors engaged we lose the battle for truth and righteousness.

Why is engaging the church to register Christian voters so important? I have selected several quotes from the pen of one of America's Founding Fathers.

We have no government armed with power capable of contending with human passions unbridled by morality and religion. Avarice, ambition, revenge, or gallantry, would break the strongest cords of our Constitution as a whale goes through a net. Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other.

John Adams, Address to the Military, October 11, 1798

I Pray Heaven to Bestow THE BEST OF BLESSINGS ON THIS HOUSE, and on All that shall hereafter Inhabit it, May none but Honest and Wise Men ever rule under This Roof!

John Adams, letter to Abigail Adams, November 2, 1800 referencing the White House. This prayer was later engraved upon the mantel in the state dining room.

But a Constitution of Government once changed from Freedom, can never be restored. Liberty, once lost, is lost forever.

John Adams, letter to Abigail Adams, July 17, 1775

Lines of demarcation between the right and left



Things that concern me greatly for those coming after:

- Increasing discord between the right and the left. During each election season the angst only increases and divisions deepen and widen. There seems to be so much at stake because the agendas are now so different between the left and the right that the party not in office grows increasingly restless and concerned as they have to live under the leadership and the policies of the party leadership they oppose.
- An increasing decline in the influence of Christ and His Word as the Word is diminished from our pulpits and obedience rooted in love continues to wane.
- Authority is being undercut at the highest levels. Those of us over 60 remember well when God's Word was held as authoritative. The attack upon God's Word has been relentless over the years but never more aggressive and effective as in recent years.
- Along with this is the relentless attack upon the U.S. Constitution. We see this exemplified most dramatically and vividly whenever a U.S. Supreme Court Justice steps down and a President is in a position to replace that particular judge. So much hangs in the balance as our highest court is also so splintered. Strict constructionist vs. a living, breathing constitution - change according to personal agenda.

It seems increasingly clear that without God's divine intervention resulting in repentance and healing, we are doomed.

NBC Cancels Playboy Club

by: Lisa Van Houten



We thank God for a victory! With advertisers dropping and ratings that went from dismal to downright abysmal, NBC has cancelled *The Playboy Club* after only three episodes!

We thank you, too, for your salt and light activism. The response by so many of you, our readers, contacting the sponsors of *The Playboy Club* was overwhelming! In addition, more of our daily email alert readers used our "take action" links to contact *Playboy Club* advertisers than ever before!

These expressions of concern and outrage at the promotion and legitimization of pornography on network television got the attention of advertisers. Sponsors were dropping after just one episode.

In addition to the loss of advertisers, American viewers wanted nothing to do with a show that portrayed women as sexual playthings and glamorized the porn industry. After the paltry ratings of the first episode, the ratings went down even further with the second and third episodes. The third episode had only 1.2 million viewers in the favored demographic of adults aged 18-49. In the world of network television, such ratings are horrendous!

In a day when it seems as if pornography has ensnared so many, it's encouraging to see TV viewers not being pulled in by the seduction offered by NBC with the name of Playboy.

On the first broadcast of this disgusting show, we discovered that one of the advertisers - though a local advertiser - was a Christian university (Cornerstone) in Grand Rapids.

We have received two telephone calls from a representative of the school, expressing regret. He made it clear that the ad was a ROS (run of the station) advertisement

that was placed by an advertising agency. Clearly, Cornerstone did not knowingly place this advertisement on this show.

Dr. Joseph Stowell and the university do not want to have their name affiliated with such disgusting programming.

To contact the university to express your appreciation for their expressions of concern, contact:

Bob Sack, Executive Director of
Marketing and Communications at
Cornerstone University at:
bob.sack@cornerstone.edu

Thank you again for standing with us. Your actions DO make a difference!

Letter from Joseph Stowell:

Thanks for your letter regarding the Cornerstone University ad which appeared during the airing of The Playboy Club on NBC recently. We received a similar letter yesterday which first brought this matter to our attention, and we are grateful for your concern.

Let me assure you at the outset that this was not an intentional decision by us. We contract with a group that bundles ads for us, and the ads normally run during morning and evening news programs. Recently we expanded the ads into some prime-time slots. We have notified our agent of our displeasure with the placement of the ad, and they are pulling it from the program immediately. We are also asking them to advise us of the nature of the other programs where the ad appears in prime-time slots. We are fully supportive of your position that this is not the kind of program that we would want to sponsor or encourage.

Again, thanks again for taking the time to write.

All the best,

Joseph M. Stowell

Mail Bag



I sense the hand of God on your outreach ministry. I am grateful that small numbers fail to diminish your sense of urgency.

*We serve a great God and I am so grateful that your eyes are open to God's truth.
G.H.*

Response from our "Take Action" email alert regarding The Playboy Club:

I normally don't waste people's time responding to emails like this because I feel they don't have the time for measley comments, but I absolutely had to make an exception this time. I just want to say how proud and grateful I am for this! I actually had no idea about all those companies sponsoring that trash! I am so grateful for the knowledge here and I will be pulling my weight in this little fight the whole time. Thanks for all you do in making a difference. There are so few of us who wish not to be forced to see this trash and on a family network!? I have very strong feelings against this sort of thing and I was appalled to see that they claimed to be "empowering for women" WOW! I just want to say, there ARE people out there (like me) who are so proud of what American Decency is doing and we're with you all the way! I would love to see us make a difference in this area. I'm taking action everyday! Keep up the outstanding and very brave work!

K.R.

I thank the Lord for your good work! Thanks to you for the letter to our pastor. I will see he gets it.

L.B.

Please keep up the great work the Lord has called you to do!

R.R.

So pleased and thankful I can support your wonderful ministry.

N.S.

One Nation Under God Event

ONE NATION UNDER GOD

November 12, 2011

We've lost sight of our great heritage as a nation founded on Biblical truth, and the consequences are dire: schools are failing, the divorce rate is climbing, and our society is rife with scandal and corruption. It's time to reclaim our Biblical heritage and bring God back to the center of American life. Where do we start?

It starts with you and me – with each of us. According to the organization United in Purpose, “of the 60 million Christians in the U.S., only 30 million of them vote in any given election or are even registered to vote. Our research has shown that it only takes 5 million votes to decide an election. We believe that if Christian voters will make their voices heard on Election Day, we can bring about positive change in America. Our nation was founded on Biblical principles, but God has been expunged from our culture, and as a consequence, our nation is in an ethical and moral mess.”

As a step to help bring God back to the center of American life, American Decency Association will host a special video event, **ONE NATION UNDER GOD** on Saturday, November 12 presented by United in Purpose. **One Nation Under God**, a national, two-hour premiere event, features top American thinkers and political leaders who will bring the truth about God and America to people gathered in homes and churches across the nation.

This two hour event features a power-packed lineup of speakers and topics, listed below.

David Barton - What were the biblical principles employed by our founding fathers in establishing the United States as a nation and what do they mean for Americans today? Historian David Barton will answer these important questions along with many others in a fast-paced, fact-

packed presentation that will reveal the hearts and minds of our founding fathers and their legacy for today's Americans.

Dr. James Dobson - Renowned and respected as one of the foremost authorities on family in America, Dr. James Dobson will share the pivotal role played by strong, godly families in the life and future of a successful, thriving nation.

Newt Gingrich - Statesman and historian Newt Gingrich will discuss the implications of the basic foundational truth that makes America exceptional among nations: our rights as Americans are given to us not by a king or by a government, but by God, our Creator.

Timothy Johnson - Dr. Timothy Johnson, Chairman of the Frederick Douglass Foundation, will challenge and inspire us to stand firm in our beliefs even when the forces of culture exert influences upon us to do otherwise.

Bob McEwen - Former Congressman Bob McEwen will help us understand that for a nation to prosper and prevail, it must stand on critical core values without compromise.

Reverend Samuel Rodriguez - What does a nation under God really look like? Rev. Rodriguez, President of the National Christian Hispanic Leadership Conference, will answer this question and will discuss what has made America the greatest nation in the world and what actions we must take today to keep America great.

Lila Rose - Founder of Live Action and pro-life advocate Lila Rose will talk about the imperative of protecting life as one of our inalienable rights and, through her personal story, will share the power of one person to make a difference.

John Stemberger - John Stemberger, attorney and President of the Florida Family Policy Council, will reveal some common misconceptions about the relationship between church and state, along with some surprising facts about the laws that affect Christians.

American Decency invites you and your family and friends to join us for this important event. No registration is required

and there is no cost to attend. We encourage you to join us at our headquarters, 203 E. Main St, in Fremont, MI for this special event.

However, if distance is a factor, you can host a showing of ONE NATION UNDER GOD in your home for your family and friends. Order a One Nation Under God host DVD for a special price of just \$9.95 at the website: <http://onenationundergodevent.com/host.html>

Invite your family, friends and neighbors to gather in your home to watch **One Nation Under God**. Together, you'll learn how to view history and current events in light of God's Word, and how to take action that aligns with His truth. You can make a difference – one person, one household, one neighborhood at a time! Tools, tips, and timelines for a successful party will be provided.

One Nation Under God

When: Saturday, November 12, 2011

Time: 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM

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

Cost: Free Will Offering

**For more information or
to register call: 1-888-733-2326**

Or, to order a One Nation Under God host DVD for a special price of just \$9.95 go to the website: <http://onenationundergodevent.com/host.html>

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Pity party on Wall Street

By Chris Johnson



The news media and liberal politicians are tripping over themselves to provide positive coverage of the Occupy Wall Street protest that has spread to many of the large cities around the country. These protests have been characterized by groups of people taking up residence in city parks near the financial districts to protest “the 1%,” the wealthiest Americans who allegedly make a quarter of the nation’s earnings.

Many have posted their stories on the blog wearethe99percent.tumblr.com/ - some are legitimately pitiable and many are laughably immature, but the one thing that unites them, as occupywallst.org lays it out, is that they will “no longer tolerate the greed and corruption of the 1%.”

By the way, it’s a funny thing that they should make “the 1%” the target of their ire. A New York Times reporter, Catherine Rampell noted in her blog that in 2007 the same top 1% paid more than the lower 95% in federal income taxes. In fact, the top 1%, who allegedly make almost a quarter of the income in the country, paid over 40% of federal income tax. That’s right, 1% of people pay for 40% of the programs that keep the rest of us safe and comfortable.

So while the protesters want the rich to “pay their fair share,” the wealthy 1% already pay more than virtually the rest of the entire country combined. An even more staggering figure comes from the Heritage Foundation which shows that the top 10% of income earners paid 70% of federal income taxes.

But I digress. The “we are the 99%” pity party is simply the public face of the movement. Beneath the puppy-eyed persona lie many motivations that are less - shall we say - marketable.

The New York Post reports that one of

their correspondents was offered pot for \$15 and heroin for \$10. The same article reported on the living conditions and lifestyles in Zucotti Park where the protestors have been camped out.

“Zuccotti Park smelled like an open sewer -- with people urinating and defecating in public.

And some couples have taken advantage of the free condoms distributed by organizers to do the nasty in full view of other protesters.

“It kinda makes me think of what Woodstock must have been like,” said one protester, Sarah, 19 from the Upper West Side.

‘I haven’t hooked up with any guys ... but one of my friends did have sex in a tarp with a guy last night.’

The free chow offered to protesters was boosting the crowd.

‘People say they are here for the cause, but the real reason is the free food,’ quipped Cameron, 26, of Jersey City.

‘On my third day, they had smoked salmon with cream cheese. You know how much smoked salmon is a pound? Sixteen dollars. I eat better here than I do with my parents!’”

That may be true for that particular interviewee in the New York Post article, but journalists for the British news site DailyMail.co.uk detail how many of the hated “rich” kids are joining the “Woodstockesque” Wall Street party dedicated to “no longer tolerating the greed” etc.

In an article entitled *“A very privileged protest: Wearing \$300 jeans and from some of the most exclusive schools, the children of the one per cent out for a good time at Occupy Wall Street”* the Daily Mail exposes ivy league students taking a break from classes to join the protestors and cites one “protestor” who *“admitted she had been sleeping at the protest site with her boyfriend despite living in nearby TriBeCa, a neighbourhood which is home to many of*

New York’s A list celebrities.”

Amidst the legitimate sob stories, the delusional college students, the drug addicted partiers, and the homeless who are there for the free stuff, are the revolutionaries - like one speaker at Occupy L.A. who had this to say, *“So, ultimately, the bourgeoisie won’t go without violent means. Revolution! Yes, revolution that is led by the working class.*

Long live revolution! Long live socialism!”

An obscure video from the main protest on Wall Street shows a group of people chanting about the right to have sex with animals.

There are also several videos documenting blatant anti-Semitism in the movement.

This is the movement praised by President Barack Obama and many others in leadership positions in America’s government.

So what does all this mean? Here’s my take away from this whole movement and everything surrounding it.

When the President of the United States supports a movement like Occupy Wall Street and condemns a movement like the Tea Party, America needs God’s help. American Decency is currently working on a project to mobilize Michigan pastors to encourage their congregations to make Godly principles their primary consideration when they vote in the upcoming election.

America needs Christ and, consequently, the body of Christ. If the church will not even turn out to vote for Christian principles, why should God bless America?

Please pray for our country and get the people in your churches and social circles ready to vote. That’s the only way to keep our nation’s moral state from smelling like Zucotti Park.

What Goes In, Will Come Out

By Lisa Van Houten



Do a quick search of a Bible's concordance for the word "tongue" and you'll find that God had much to say about how we use that little part of our anatomy. Nearly the entire chapter of James 3 speaks about the "untamed" tongue equating it to "a restless evil" and "deadly poison." Psalm 34:13 commands us: "Keep your tongue from evil and your lips from speaking deceit." And Proverbs 12:18 equates rash words to "sword thrusts."

While readers of God's Word already knew that obscene talk has negative consequences, a recent study of Midwestern youths has now "discovered" that fact!

A research study found that: *the more profanity [youths] are exposed to through television and video games, the more accepting they are of swearing and the more likely they are to use profanity themselves. Those kids who swore more were also more likely to engage in physical aggression.*

"Profanity is kind of like a stepping stone," said study researcher Sarah Coyne, of Brigham Young University. "You don't go to a movie, hear a bad word, and then go shoot somebody. But when youth both hear and then try profanity out for themselves it can start a downward slide toward more aggressive behavior."

Read more: <http://www.foxnews.com/scitech/2011/10/17/swearing-on-tv-linked-to-teen-aggression/?test=latestnews#ixzz1bFNZQZzR>

Another evidence of the power of entertainment to shape behavior – both language and actions. The language heard on television and in movies is the language used more and more frequently by the

millions of sponges soaking it all in – namely our youth.

And what viewers are hearing (and seeing) on television today would, as the saying goes, make a sailor blush! - No offense to the Navy.

You may recall our commentaries over the years regarding our monitoring of the crude CBS show *Two and a Half Men* – one of the most popular shows on television - a show rife with extremely vulgar dialog and explicit sexual references. Watched by tens of millions of viewers in the targeted 18-49 age range, *Two and a Half Men* has a long history of glamorizing the perverse and profane to be emulated by those millions of viewers.

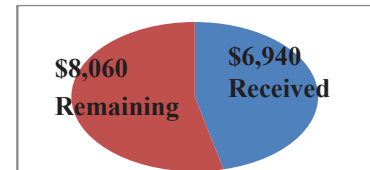
Now, CBS - being an equal opportunity offender - has a show geared toward women, *2 Broke Girls*, which not only joins *Two and a Half Men* in the CBS Monday night lineup, but also imitates its crude, sexualized language – only on this show the raunchy comments come out of the mouths of two young women. Within the first 60 seconds of the premier episode, *2 Broke Girls* made it clear that the focus of this show was to be as offensive as possible with crass sexual dialog and scenarios much too explicit to list here as examples.

We urge you to contact the sponsors of this show listed below, as well as mail the enclosed postcards to advertisers.

YUM! Brands, Inc. - Pizza Hut, KFC
David C. Novak - Chairman, Pres., & CEO
1441 Gardiner Lane
Louisville, KY 40213
Phone: 502-874-3820
Fax: 502-874-8790
yum.consumeraffairs@yum.com

Hershey Foods Corporation
- Hershey Kisses
John P. Bilbrey - President & CEO
100 Crystal A Drive
Hershey, PA 17033-0810
Phone: 717-534-4200
Toll-free: 800-539-0261
jbilbrey@hersheys.com

Please take advantage of a new match challenge!



By the grace of God and by the generosity of one of God's faithful servants, we have been blessed and encouraged by a year-end match challenge. It is a challenge that has been offered before and one for which we are so grateful, although we often wonder "How are we ever going to make it this year?" And yet, the Lord has faithfully provided!

It's not an easy challenge as it appeals to individuals who have not given to this ministry for quite awhile to stand with us again. It also challenges those who have given recently to give over and above what they gave last year.

Our anonymous donor has faithfully challenged friends and supporters of this ministry to get behind us so that we would be strengthened. We are grateful for the challenge.

We know that many are struggling to pay their own bills, tithe to their church, and stay afloat financially themselves. However, if you are in a position of being able to stand with us financially would you please prayerfully consider supporting the work of ADA now and/or in the months ahead to help us meet this important match challenge? Thank you for your prayerful consideration and for doing whatever you can do!

Here are the details of the challenge:

We will again offer a matching grant of up to \$15,000 under the following conditions;

1. All new money received between 9/1/11 and 12/31/11
2. New money is any money received from someone who has not given since 1/1/10 or who gives more in 2011 vs 2010 (but only for the amount given after 9/1/11). (Eg. If someone gave 200 in 2010 and 300 in 4/11 and 400 in 9/11, we will match 400)

Please let me know if you have any questions.