



# GRACE

# HAPPENINGS

## **A WORD FROM PASTOR STEVE –**

We live in a world that is full of sin and that sin can invade our lives and the lives of our families. As parents and grandparents we are tasked with teaching our children Biblical truth. One of those areas that needs to be addressed with our children is appropriate body boundaries. The following is an article written by Daniel Weiss for Thriving Family magazine, Focus on the Family's marriage and parenting publication. He has taught on sexual wholeness since 2002. He founded The Brushfires Foundation to renew a Christian vision of the whole person and to help people apply this to their daily lives. And now the article....

Recently my children wanted to see if they were strong enough to push me over. I stood unmoving as my three oldest daughters, ages 8, 7 and 6, crashed into me without success. Then my 5-year-old barreled forward with hands outstretched and slammed into me right below the waist. She won. I fell over.

What amazed me was how her older sisters cried foul. "You don't touch people there," they protested. Although what happened wasn't a big deal, it was rewarding to know that (most of) my children understood that there are certain parts of the body that are off-limits to others.

Parents are rightly concerned about teaching their children appropriate body boundaries. As society has become highly sexualized and pornographic in recent decades, children at younger ages are being exposed to false messages about the significance of the body and how to interact appropriately with others. It may feel imposing to talk about inappropriate touch, but parents don't have to approach the topic with dread and urgent fear. We all want to prepare our children for life's



dangers, but we don't need to scare them or introduce shame about their bodies.

In my home, we emphasize the good, true and beautiful, but also talk age-appropriately about the deviations we see all around us, whether they appear on TV or on the playground at school. My wife and I approach the task of teaching our children about appropriate and inappropriate touch in several ways:

### **Emphasize value**

In the same way a math or English teacher encourages children to reach their highest potential, we teach the best to our children about their bodies. In my home, we affirm each child as a gift from God and talk about how to make our entire lives a gift back to Him and to others. Our bodies are not less important than our spirits; they are an essential part of the way God made us. How we treat our bodies matters to God and can have a significant impact on our well-being throughout life.

### **Acknowledge inappropriate situations**

Talking about these topics with openness and honesty will help your children feel safe and comfortable when they want to tell you things that may feel embarrassing or uncomfortable. Living in a fallen world means that we all fail to fully live out God's design and purpose for our lives. While careful to shield our children from unnecessary exposure to harmful things, we also want them to understand that brokenness is a reality in life.

It's helpful for parents to understand that some inappropriate situations will happen naturally as children try to figure out how life works, such as finding two children examining their genitals together or having a child force a kiss on another because "Mommy and Daddy do that." If we encounter a circumstance that is relatively innocent or benign, we remind our children about how God calls us to live, and we emphasize the ways we should show respect to each other. If something more abusive were to occur, however, it might be appropriate to involve a trained counselor or even law enforcement.

March 2017

## **Here am I. Send me!**

Isaiah 6:8 – Then I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?"  
Then I said, "Here am I. Send me!"

### **Point out the larger context**

Words such as honor, respect and modesty connect our teachings on appropriate touch to the larger idea of Christian stewardship, which includes the proper care and function of our bodies. Proper care means that we keep our bodies clean and healthy by bathing or visiting the doctor. We talk about the areas covered by a bathing suit as a simple example to explain which body boundaries aren't to be crossed except for certain exceptions. For example, our children understand there are times when it's necessary for a doctor or parent to check their genital area, such as during a medical exam.

We also explain how each body part has its specific purpose that serves the whole. And like the apostle Paul in 1 Corinthians 12:22-24, we teach that there are areas of the body deserving of special respect and modesty. Modesty is not presented as a reflection of shame, but as a protection of God's good gifts. The genital areas are for the elimination of waste and for pleasure and reproduction in marriage. If anything happens that doesn't fit into these two categories, we can return to the consistent messages we've shared about the proper function or role of those parts. Again, a more harmful or abusive situation must be treated with seriousness and potentially involve authorities.

### **Shower children with appropriate touch**

The best preparation we can give our children is to demonstrate appropriate touch often by showering our children — and spouses — with kisses, hugs, back rubs, tickles, wrestling and other physical play. Good touch activities such as these remind our kids of how pleasurable and enjoyable it is to follow God's plan. And how you and your spouse interact with the children is as important as anything you will ever say.

### **REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS**

Pray for our shut-ins, send a card, make a phone call, pay a visit (call first), make a meal and deliver it or stay and eat with them, pick up groceries / medicines. Addresses and phone numbers are in the directory or put cards of encouragement in the box above the mailboxes in the library and they will be delivered on a regular basis.

Wilma Davidson  
Julie Lindsey  
Gerry Kline  
Russ Hearton  
Jack Goeke

Carol Sarver  
John Gay  
Nina Johnson  
Gerry Gladfelter  
Wanda Buttrey

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### **PURCHASE SUBS OR PRETZEL SANDWICHES**

**Help Support Mission Projects/Trips**

*Orders Due Sunday, March 5*

*Pick up or have delivered Wednesday, March 15*

**Additional order sheets are available on the table in back of the sanctuary and the downstairs usher stand. If you don't want to purchase a sandwich, envelopes are available to make a donation**

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## **POWER FOR LIVING**

These encouraging pamphlets are available as you pick up your Church Bulletin on Sunday mornings. They provide an inspiring story of faith and answered prayer, a devotional and a daily guide for reading through the Bible on an annual basis and so much more.

If you are a regular reader of these handouts, we would like to ask where do they end up after you are finished enjoying them?

DO YOU:

1. Throw them in the trash?
2. Share them with a friend or neighbor?
3. Leave them in any office that has a stack of magazines: Doctor, Dentist, lawyer, etc.?
4. Pin them to a bulletin board at the grocer's, beauty parlor, barber shop, auto repair?

**You're catching on!**

5. Mail them to a college student, folks in the military? Maybe, old grouchy Uncle Clem, who never smiles?

If "*Power for Living*" has blessed you, why shouldn't you share that blessing with someone else? The Gospel of Christ has no ending.

*Please pass them on!!*



### **COUPLES' WEEKEND RETREAT 2018 FEBRUARY 2 – 4, 2018**

Many GBC couples over more years than can be counted have been blessed by attending the Couples' Weekend Retreat at Montrose Bible Conference. Enjoy delicious food, fellowship, great music and inspiring speakers once again during the 2018 retreat.

Registration for the 2018 Couples' Weekend Retreat is now open. This weekend fills up quickly. The date GBC couples are attending is February 2-4, 2018, and the cost is approximately \$340. A \$50 deposit is required when making a reservation, with the balance due when you arrive. There is an alternative date which is February 9-11, 2018, for those who can't attend with the other GBC couples.

*Make your reservations NOW!*  
Call (570) 278-1001 or 1-800-598-5030

**PARENTS – TIME TO REGISTER YOUR CHILDREN/TEENS WHO ARE EARNING POINTS TO ATTEND HIGH POINT CAMP THIS SUMMER**

Junior camp for grades 3-7 is July 17-21  
Teen camp for grades 7-12 is August 7-12

Early registration is now until April 1

Parents are responsible for registering their child on line at: [hpcamp.org](http://hpcamp.org)

Print an extra copy of the registration and amount paid and put in Julie Shaeffer's mailbox

Reminder: GBC reimburses parents based on the *early registration fee*



*Focus on giants—you stumble.  
Focus on God—your giants tumble.*

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[www.gracebaptistyork.com](http://www.gracebaptistyork.com)

Sunday: 8:15 Contemporary Worship  
9:30 Sunday School  
10:45 Traditional Worship  
6:30 Against the Flow Youth  
6:30 Evening Worship Service  
Wednesday: 7:00 Bible Study & Prayer for Adults / Pioneer Clubs / Against the Flow Youth

Rev. Steve Warner  
Senior Pastor

Rev. Jon Barrett  
Assistant Pastor

**5<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL  
MEN'S RESURRECTION BREAKFAST**

A Time for Faithful Men to Come Together  
As Frontline Soldiers for the Lord

All Men are Encouraged to Attend and Invite your Unsaved Family, Friends and Co-workers to this Special Meeting where the Gospel will be Presented

Saturday, March 4, at 9:00 a.m.

Enjoy a Buffet Breakfast  
Worship time with Todd Brill

Lou Enoff, Guest Speaker, Proclaiming that  
"God's Not Finished With Me Yet"



Lou is a first generation American born in the coal country of Western PA. After finishing high school in PA he went on to West Virginia University where he received a bachelor's degree and in his senior year was married to his wife Diane

After college Lou worked briefly as a restaurant manager in Pittsburgh but by 1964 accepted a federal government entry level job in the Washington DC area. By the Grace of God Lou moved from that entry level position to become the director of a federal agency with over 65,000 employees and a budget over \$40 billion. After 30 years he left the government and started his own consulting practice. During that time he has worked in over 35 countries and the USA.

Lou has been married for over 50 years and he and his wife have 3 grown children, 10 grandchildren, and one great grandson. He has served as an Elder in his church for several years and has been active as a member and on the boards of several national and international ministries.

Please Register You and Your Guests by February 26

Sign-up Sheets are at both Entrances to Church  
Free Will Offering Will Be Taken

**Here am I. Send me!**

**Oh Lord, there's just so much to be done.  
Oh Lord, so many souls to be won,  
Oh Lord, this world is falling apart,  
Dying for love from a broken heart.**

**Here am I, send me, though there's really  
not that much I can do. What I have seems  
so small, but I want to give it all to you.**

# QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING

**SUNDAY, MARCH 12 – 6:30 P.M.**

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*Do This In Remembrance of Me*  
**Monthly Communion Service**  
 March 19  
 6:30 p.m.

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## **MEN'S RETREAT AT NEW LIFE BIBLE CAMP**

March 24 - 26  
 "Priorities of a Godly Man" with  
 speaker Pastor Van Marsceau

Van Marsceau is the Senior Pastor of Fellowship Bible Church in Shenandoah Junction, WV. Van will be challenging the men with what the scriptures tell us are priorities we should have in our lives. Get away for the weekend and be refreshed in God's Word and fellowship with other men. Great food will be provided and activities are available for all.



Cost is \$59 for Friday-Saturday or \$64 for Friday-Sunday  
 Sign-up sheet is at downstairs entrance

A Few Words From Pastor Jon:



*Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." – Matthew 22:37*

Jesus said this bold statement in the midst of the Sadducees and Pharisees selfish testing and self-righteous ridicule. He knew their hearts. What an incredible response. Imagine the disdain and offense the religious leaders took when these words came out of our Savior's lips. You see, in their minds, they were clean, justified, and righteous because of their

position, heritage, and religiousness. Looking deeper inside their hearts, they loved their sin, and they were unwilling to bow to the Righteous King and Messiah standing right in front of their faces.

During Valentine's week we heard a lot about love. As I look at my life, like the Sadducees and Pharisees, I tend to love my sin more than I love Jesus. I feed my flesh with self-righteousness, false control, and religion. I stiff-arm the authority of the All-Mighty and rob Him of His due glory.

Let's go back to the concept of loving our sin more than we love Jesus. When Jesus was tempted by Satan in the desert in Matthew 4:1-10, we see (3) key areas of temptation. We are tempted in the same way by Satan, our flesh, and the world. We see the temptations of self-gratification (Matthew 4:3-4), self-protection (Matthew 4:5-7), and self-exaltation (Matthew 4:8-10). This is nothing new under the sun. Go back to Adam and Eve. In the garden, Satan suggested that God was withholding good from them, so they decided to fulfill their desire devoid of God's will. They loved their sin and chose it over trusting in the All-sufficient, All-satisfying goodness of the Father.

Furthermore, we love to take things into our own hands and protect ourselves while questioning God's presence and His perfect protection. When things don't go our way we ask where God is, we ask if He is "really" good, and question if He is truly in control. When Jesus was tempted by Satan He rested in the shelter of the Father's unshakable security.

Lastly, we all love to exalt ourselves over God. We all get prideful and want to do things in the way we want to do them, and deny giving God the opportunity to work in us so He gets the glory. Jesus refused to exchange the end-time exaltation by the Father for a right now exaltation of a snake. Pride brings destruction and regret. Why do we love it so much, then? Therein lies the root of our sin.

There is a solution! God's way! Examine the joy and freedom of self-abandonment. Let's pray for the desire to love Him more than we love our sin. In Christ, the Father has made the way clear for us to love Him with all of our heart, soul, mind, and strength, more than we love our sin. Will it ever look perfect this side of heaven? No. But, His mighty blood covers us. As we fall more in love with the King of the universe and realize who He truly is, our desires for Him start to change and He leads us deeper with Him. Hallelujah!

Youth Group SuperBowl Party!!





**“MESSIAH IN THE PASSOVER” WITH REV. ISRAEL COHEN FROM CHOSEN PEOPLE MINISTRIES**

Participate in a Jewish Passover Seder  
Saturday, April 8, at 5:00 p.m.

**EASTER WEEKEND**

Good Friday Service, April 14 at 7:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday Morning

April 16

7:00 Sunrise Service

Breakfast

Children’s Easter Egg Hunt

9:30 - Sunday School

10:45 - Worship Service with Communion and Cantata  
“Come to the Cross and Remember”

No evening service/activities.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL  
“OPERATION ARCTIC”**

June 29 – 23

6:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Age 3 through Grade 8

Staff meeting for everyone from grade 9 through adult who  
are considering helping in any way—

**Sunday, March 5, at 5:30**

Sign up at the meeting for the position you would like to fill

**L 😊 KING AHEAD**

Mark your Calendars Now so you don’t Miss Anything!!

**DATE DONE RIGHT NIGHT 2017  
MISSION: THE SEARCH FOR INNER TREASURE  
A PHOTO SCAVENGER HUNT**

Date Done Right Night at GBC started about 16 years ago for dads and junior/senior high girls. The idea came from a Daddy/Daughter Dance at a public school. Approximately 8 years ago younger girls and moms and sons were invited for the first time. A highlight of years ago, when only older girls attended with their dads, was a limo ride. The most precious memory for many of those girls was the year Pastor Auker was sick and the girls rode in the limo to the Auker home to visit with him.

April 1, 2017 4:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Dads and Daughters – semi-formal dress

Moms and Sons – athletic casual dress

Each “couple” will need Transportation and a Camera

You may also want to bring a GPS, map or phone

Appetizers, dinner, desserts and MEMORIES for only \$30 per couple; \$10 for each additional child; \$60 family max

RSVP by March 19

