

Pleasant View Proclaimer

Pleasant View church of Christ

Tempted and Tried

November 24, 2013

Issue 138

According to the *Wall Street Journal*, each year 6,500 children are rushed to the emergency room after ingesting powder or liquid detergent. Detergent-related emergencies among children have spiked dramatically recently due to the advent of “pods”—colorful, small packs of concentrated detergent. Toddlers and small children think the bite-sized pods are candy. Even though pods only comprise 7 percent of the detergent market, over 10,000 children have ingested their contents over the past year.

Children easily misunderstand the purpose of things. They don't know that Windex is not a blue soft drink

unless you tell them. Adults have to warn children not to play in the oven or hide in the dryer. Windex and ovens and dryers were made to serve a specific, useful purpose; but all can be deadly if used improperly.

Adults should not behave like children. They shouldn't naively run into situations without considering the moral and spiritual implications of their actions. But they often do. Satan takes ugly things and dresses them up to look as pretty as possible, and he takes good things and makes them appear ugly. He made fruit a harmful thing for the woman in the garden. He made adultery a

beautiful thing for David. If it's too good to be true, it probably is...because Satan likely has his fingerprints on it.

The apostle Paul said he “put away childish things” when he became a man. He compared his physical maturity to the spiritual maturity of the church. But the same analogy could be made for personal spiritual maturity. We need to put away childish, reckless behavior if we are to mature into the likeness of Christ. We need to stop giving Satan the time of day.

James Hayes

Items of Note:

- Randy Gupton is having serious kidney and diabetic complications. He will know soon about possible heart surgery and kidney transplant.
- Lowell Gregory is doing well after recent surgery.
- Nursing home gift bags will be prepared this week and delivered next Sunday.
- If you know someone who would like a fruit basket, give the name to Doug.

A.M. Sermon: “Why We Believe In Non-Denominational Fellowship” Boxes For Christmas Cards Are In The Back Corner Of Auditorium

THOSE WHO WILL SERVE THE CONGREGATION

Sunday School

Read: J. Buchanan

Pray: Brown

Morning Worship

Wait on the Table: Terry Walker

Serve: Stuard, M. Newell, L. Newell

Pray: Billingsley

Pleasant View church of Christ
2500 Highway 49 East
P.O. Box 189
Pleasant View, TN 37146

Sunday School: 9:30
A.M. Worship: 10:30
P.M. Worship: 6:00
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00 pm
Phone: 924-9714

Matthew 6:19

“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal.”

“No one, by swearing, makes themselves an ounce more honest; any more than a man makes himself wealthy by counting his gold. Oaths may make a liar a liar yet again, having lied about the oath as well. But it cannot alter the worth of an honest man’s word.”

Jake Yaniak

“A graceful refusal is better than a lengthy promise.”

Anonymous

Right or Wrong?

“When in doubt, don’t.” You may have heard that phrase. To some, it’s their guiding principle in matters of judgment. They think, “If I always say no, I can never be wrong.” The problem with that principle, however, is that it leads one toward paralysis and exclusion. Saying no instinctively will prevent people from actively engaging in the world around them and keep them from being salt and light. They will define morality so narrowly that the only people that can fit into their world are themselves and their own family.

Here are some questions to ask yourself when you are confronted with a moral dilemma:

1.) Are there direct biblical com-

mands or relevant examples related to the activity? God’s laws cannot be ignored for the sake of convenience or to assuage guilt.

2.) Is the activity illegal? We are subject to the laws of our country. Government is a minister of God to punish evildoers and protect the innocent.

3.) Will this activity cause someone else to stumble spiritually? We should never prevent someone else from living as faithfully as possible.

4.) Is it physically profitable? Our bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit and should be treated as such.

5.) Would you recommend the activity to someone else? If you’re

ashamed of the activity, that is a good indication that the activity is wrong.

The world is saying yes too often. As a knee-jerk reaction to worldly permissiveness, the church often says no too many times. “No” is not always the best answer, and “yes” is not always the best answer. And we should be careful to assume that our own judgment is better than someone else’s. All things should be considered carefully and prayerfully, with care and concern for the spiritual health of those around us.

James Hayes
