

Pleasant View Proclaimer

Pleasant View church of Christ

What Are Your Triggers?

Here are a few things every person should know about weapons: First, weapons do not fire themselves—a trigger, button, or some other type of device must be pulled, pushed, or struck in order for the weapon to fire. Second, weapons always fire in the direction they are aimed. A weapon cannot rationalize a situation and go against the desires of the user. Third, weapons can cause permanent damage.

The words we say can be deadly weapons that have all of those same characteristics. The half-brother of Jesus said that the tongue is like a flame that can set a whole forest on fire (James 3:5). In the same book,

James wrote that we should be slow to speak (James 1:19). So, ask yourself: What are my triggers? What are the things that cause me to speak too quickly, say hurtful things, and thereby damage the people around me? Am I too sensitive? If so, why am I too sensitive?

Jesus is our perfect example in all things (1 Peter 2:21), so we can follow His lead when it comes to speech and what triggers poor speech. Over 700 years before Jesus was born, Isaiah prophesied that He would be oppressed and afflicted but not open His mouth (Isaiah 53:7). Does that mean that Jesus had no trigger? Of course not. Jesus called Peter Satan. He

called Pharisees hypocrites. And He once called some Jews liars because they accused Him of having a demon.

What can we learn from Jesus' speech? He was slow to pull the trigger. He spoke the truth always. And His words were always useful to the hearers, although sometimes unpleasant.

I would guess that most of the regrets we have concerning our speech come from times we said too much, not from times we said too little. Our speech should always be with grace (Col. 4:6), and our words should never be used as weapons.

James Hayes

May 4, 2014

Issue 160

Items of Note:

- Randy Gupton's heart is healthy enough to have his kidney transplant. The transplant will be May 27.
- Addie Farmer had back surgery Thursday at Skyline.
- Continue to remember Rick Reed, Mildred Walker, Paula Lee Chance, Jay Newell, and all those who have been traveling this time of year.
- Gospel Meeting is July 27-30.

Elizabeth Demonbreum Baby Shower Is Here This Saturday At 2:00

VBS June 8-12—Classes For All Ages

THOSE WHO WILL SERVE THE CONGREGATION

Sunday School

Read: Billingsley

Pray: Gupton

Morning Worship

Wait on the Table: Terry Walker

Serve: Demonbreum, J. Walker, Trent

Pray: Brown

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

I Timothy 5:1-2
“Do not sharply rebuke and
older man, but rather
appeal to him as a father,
to the younger men as
brothers, the older women
as mothers, and the younger
women as sisters, in all
purity.”

“We sinned for no reason but an incomprehen-
sible lack of love, and He saved us for no reason
but an incomprehensible excess of love.”

Peter Kreeft

“Love, not anger, brought Jesus to the cross.
Golgotha came as the result of God’s great de-
sire to forgive, not His reluctance.”

Richard Foster

When You Care Too Much

The website Facebook was founded on February 4, 2004 in Cambridge, MA. Just ten years later, Facebook has approximately 1.2 billion active users worldwide. The reason for its popularity is obvious: it provides an easy way for friends and family to stay in touch. It also provides an outlet for discussions of politics, sports, food, and all the other things people enjoy talking about. Like anything else, Facebook can be misused. It can be a place where people go to dump their trash, like gossip, slander, and judgment. There is one more aspect of Facebook use that I believe has been overlooked: It causes people to care too much.

Once upon a time, it was much

harder to know what was going on in other people’s lives. Thanks to Facebook, now you can just click the computer mouse a few times and see the latest pictures of their kids, know where they are working, and send them messages without using a stamp, an email address, or an answering machine. The drawback is that instead of simply *observing* the activities of friends and family, we have a tendency to feel *involved* in their various issues.

Whether or not you have a Facebook page doesn’t matter: all of us can fall into the trap of caring too much about what others are doing. Should we care? Yes. Should we offer support when we know our

friends and family are hurting? Yes. But should we pass judgment and draw conclusions about people from every statement, picture, and update we see? Absolutely not.

Social media has been a tremendous source of good in this technological age. It has worked wonders for all aspects of church work around the world. But it shouldn’t be misused and cause us to care more about others than is necessary.

“But have nothing to do with worldly fables fit only for old women. On the other hand, discipline yourself for the purpose of godliness” (1 Tim. 4:7).

James Hayes
