

Pleasant View Proclaimer

Pleasant View church of Christ

What Graduates Face

May 18, 2014

Issue 162

'Tis the season for graduation ceremonies. Regardless of whether the person is graduating from high school or college, he or she is about to experience a difficult—but exciting—transition. Graduates face many challenges in this ever-changing, ever-expanding world we live in. Here are a few of their greatest temptations:

(1). *Rebellion*. A high school graduate has been taking orders from mom and dad for 18 years, so he might be tempted to do certain things or say certain things simply out of spite. Mom didn't like long hair? He grows out his hair before Thanksgiving. Dad didn't approve of tattoos? He gets

an eagle tattooed across his chest before Memorial Day. And so on. Showing off is not a sign of maturity; it's just a cheap way to get attention.

(2). *Materialism*. Hopefully mom and dad taught the graduate about the power of money. But even if they did, the graduate is often tempted to buy all the things that he thought his parents deprived him of. Credit card companies prey on college freshman based on this temptation.

(3). *Spiritual neglect*. Will the graduate attend worship services if mom and dad aren't around? Has he been taught to have a personal faith? It will be easy for the

graduate to neglect Jesus and His church during his college years.

(4). *Experiment*. Many times graduates move far away from home and are exposed to things they had only seen on TV or in movies. During years 1-18, the graduate said, "I'll never do that," but it was easy for him to say that because he didn't have an opportunity to do those things. Now he has the chance to experiment.

High school and college graduates need our prayers. They face things that their parents never faced. They need our support.

James Hayes

Items of Note:

- Bill Johnson is recovering from surgery.
- Randy Gupton will have transplant surgery on May 27.
- Sign ups for the Sounds game are on the back wall. The game is on May 31. Last day to sign up is today!
- Continue to remember Addie Farmer, Mildred Walker, Jay Newell, Rick Reed, and Paula Lee Chance.

VBS Meeting This Morning After Worship

VBS June 8-12—Classes For All Ages

THOSE WHO WILL SERVE THE CONGREGATION

Sunday School

Read: J. Walker

Pray: Billingsley

Morning Worship

Wait on the Table: Garrett

Serve: Demonbreum, Gupton, Trent Walker

Pray: Terry Walker

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

II Corinthians 5:1
“For we know that if our
earthly tent which is our
house is torn down, we have
a building from God, a
house not made with hands,
eternal in the heavens.”

“I do not feel obliged to believe that the same
God who has endowed us with sense, reason,
and intellect has intended us to forgo their
use.”

Galileo

“A proud man always wants to do the right thing,
the great thing. But because he wants to do it
with his own strength, he is not fighting with
man, but with God.”

Soren Kierkegaard

Give Me Some Relief!

We are living in troubling times. I read this week that alcohol kills more people every year than non-war violence and AIDS combined. Throughout rural America, methamphetamine addiction is rampant. Millions of dollars are wasted every year on *get-rich-quick* scams. Adultery continues to tear families apart. Why? Sin, of course, is the disease, but the goal of those who do these things is obvious: They want relief. There is something wrong in their marriages, in their finances, or in their bodies, and they have sought relief in all the wrong areas.

Whether rich or poor, young or old, man or woman, we all face stress. Some handle stress better than oth-

ers. Some even thrive in stressful situations. Above, I have noted several worldly ways of relieving stress. But there are better, more godly ways of relieving stress. They include:

(1). *Greater Bible study and prayer.* The more we focus on God and His word, the more peace will enter our hearts and minds.

(2). *Change of scenery.* Many times the monotony of life can become stressful. Doing the same things over and over again can make us anxious. A weekend vacation getaway might make all the difference.

(3). *Ask for relief.* Some people are hesitant to ask their boss for time off

or a raise. But the boss can only say no. (It is illegal to fire an employee just because he or she asked for a raise.) And you might be surprised how often he'll say yes.

(4). *Talk about it.* A sympathetic ear is always helpful. When we talk to trustworthy people, we often find out that we are not the only ones who are struggling. Or we might find out that we have been making a mountain out of a molehill. Christians should bear one another's burdens (Gal. 6:2).

Worldly remedies for stress take us down dark paths. Biblical solutions for stress bring contentment.

James Hayes
