

Pleasant View Proclaimer

Pleasant View church of Christ

Spiritual Disclaimers

January 25, 2015

Issue 198

Product advertisements have two main components these days. The first is the pitch—what the product will do to improve your life. The second is the caution or “disclaimer”—how the product could possibly bring you great harm. Both are necessary if the consumer is going to make an informed decision.

The Bible gives the pitch and the caution for nearly every major event we face in life, even though it was written over 2,000 years ago. Here are a few examples:

(1) *Marriage*. What was the last thing God created when He formed the world? Adam? Eve? Actu-

ally, the last thing God created in the Genesis account was marriage. After He created woman from Adam, God put man and woman together (Gen. 2:24), which solved man’s (and ultimately woman’s) need for companionship, reproduction, and spiritual and emotional support. That’s the “pitch” for marriage. Then Jesus gave the caution: “...whoever divorces his wife, except for immorality, and marries another woman commits adultery” (Matt. 19:9).

(2) *Money*. The Bible is replete with stories of those who blessed others through financial means (Acts 4:37). And we know of the wealth of many faithful men of

God—Abraham, Solomon, David, Job, etc. Paul gives Timothy (and us) a sober warning about money, however: “For the love of money is the root of all sorts of evil...” (I Tim. 6:10).

(3) *Grace*. Without the grace of God, we could not be saved (Eph. 2:8). But grace cannot be used as an excuse for disobedience. Notice Paul’s grace disclaimer: “What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin so that grace may increase? May it never be! (Rom. 6:1).

God gives many gifts. Let’s not misuse or abuse them.

James Hayes

Items of Note:

- Addie Farmer is unsteady on her feet, but her shingles rash is slightly better. She is in NHC in Springfield.
- Janice Clary fell last week and received 3 stitches in her chin and 12 stitches in her heel. 8299 Ellis Dr. Joelton, TN 37080.
- Sue Ellis, Edward Simpkins’ mother, fell and cut her arm. She is home after surgery.
- Thank you to Jeff for covering class last Wednesday for James.

Let The Men Know What Week Is Best For VBS We Are Planning A New Directory

THOSE WHO WILL SERVE THE CONGREGATION

Sunday School

Read: J. Buchanan

Pray: Terry Walker

Morning Worship

Wait on the Table: Baker

Serve: Reed, Trent, J. Walker

Pray: JL Shelton

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

*“All the knowledge I possess everyone else can
acquire, but my heart is all my own.”*

Johann von Goethe

“The sun always shines above the clouds.”

Paul Davis

Ephesians 5:3
“But immorality or any
impurity or greed must not
even be named among you,
as is proper among saints.”

The Value Of Sunday School

Sunday School did not originate in sacred Scripture. And it wasn't the product of the Restoration Movement. In the late 1700s, Christian missionaries in Britain worried about illiteracy among children who were forced to work 12-16 hours a day during the Industrial Revolution. Their only off day was Sunday, so church buildings were used to conduct “regular” school for the children. Over time, school became compulsory and universal for children in all developed countries Monday through Friday, so “Sunday School” became exclusively a time for religious education, in conjunction with other Sunday services.

An overwhelming majority of con-

gregations have Sunday School.

Most Christians see the value of Sunday School, but some just see it as an extra, unnecessary, “It-doesn't-do-anything-for-me” hour on Sunday. But Sunday School is important because...

(1)... *that's where children often learn the Bible for the first time.* I doubt that most of you who are reading this learned about Noah from a sermon. You probably learned about him in Sunday School. Sunday School allows teachers to use age-appropriate songs and literature to help young people learn the books of the Bible, the Ten Commandments, etc. Did you take your children to Sunday School?

(2)...*sermons are limited in their scope.*

Sunday School teachers can dig into topics in a way that preachers cannot during a sermon.

(3)...*it allows for productive discussions.*

Students can ask questions and receive answers in class. The student can engage the material much easier in Sunday School.

(4)...*it's always good to study the Bible with Christians.* At-home Bible study is vital for spiritual health, but opening God's word with like-minded Christians encourages the faithful. And we need all the encouragement we can get.

James Hayes
