

Pleasant View Proclaimer

Pleasant View church of Christ

Tragic Decisions

February 1, 2015

Issue 199

Nashvillians have been following the rape trial of two former Vanderbilt football players for the last two weeks. What happened in that Vanderbilt dormitory on June 23, 2013 could be described as sinful, disgusting, shameful, and horrific. Brandon Vandenburg and Corey Batey, both highly intoxicated, raped an unconscious fellow student over a span of 30 minutes and recorded the incident on their cell phones. The images were then distributed to other players. Had a security guard not seen the rape on a surveillance video while he was investigating another case, these men would've gotten away with their crimes; but instead,

both men were sentenced to 20 years in prison.

The rape took 30 minutes. The trial lasted 12 days. It took less than four minutes for the jury foreman to read the verdict. A 30-minute crime cost both men 20 years of their lives, and it will forever change the life of the victim.

What can be learned from such a horrible event? First, every step we take in life sets us on a course. We never stay in one spot. Each decision leads to another decision. Those young men chose to drink, chose to rape, and chose to cover up their crime. Our success or failure in life is often the result of many small deci-

sions, not one big decision. Second, alcohol fuels poor behavior. Drinking will always be defended in America because people love to drink, in spite of these incidents. I doubt this rape would've happened if everyone involved were stone cold sober. Third, you don't have to be a feminist to see that women are still de-valued by many men in our culture. They are seen as disposable sex objects. But women should be protected.

Remind your children that 30 minutes of immorality can lead to 20 years of misery. Do what's right.

James Hayes

Items of Note:

- Addie Farmer is still at NHC in Springfield recovering from several health issues.
- The flu has affected Macie Shelton and the Mangolds.
- Faye Waller was treated for pneumonia at St. Thomas-Midtown last week. She is having more tests this week.
- Eddie Ray Walker has also been sick lately.
- John Hayes will teach class Wednesday night.

**Fill Out Your Directory Information And Give It To Mike Or James
We Need 100% Participation For Our New Directory**

THOSE WHO WILL SERVE THE CONGREGATION

Sunday School

Read: Cartwright

Pray: Gupton

Morning Worship

Wait on the Table: T. Walker

Serve: Demonbreum, Garrett, J. Walker

Pray: M. Newell

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

Romans 5:20-21
“The Law came in so that the transgression would increase; but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more, so that, as sin reigned in death, even so grace would reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”

“Next Sunday represents the start of my fifth year at Pleasant View. I want to thank all of you for your encouragement, financial support, prayers, and all the respect and kindness you have shown me over the last four years. You have truly blessed my life. I pray that in some small way I have helped you in your walk with the Lord. Continue to pray for me, as I will for you. I look forward to what the Lord has in store for Pleasant View in 2015! “

James Hayes

When Legal Meets Immoral

Another local story that has created controversy is the proposed relocation of a swingers club next to Goodpasture Christian School in Madison. The owner of the downtown Nashville club recently sold the current property and purchased a former office building that is within walking distance of the school property. So far, no laws have been broken. The club is not considered “adult entertainment” as defined by Metro codes; therefore, it can exist close to a school. The school administration and other Madison civic leaders are planning to use every avenue at their disposal to redefine adult entertainment or change the zoning laws in Nashville.

This controversy shines light on a bigger social issue: To what extent can people prohibit an immoral practice in their community when no laws have been broken? Larry Roberts, the attorney for the club owner, made this comment to *The Tennessean*: “My client doesn’t have to get the approval of the Church of Christ or the people of Goodpasture Christian School.”

First of all, Mr. Roberts is right. A church or a school cannot dictate the activities of the community around them. Communities are governed by laws, and the laws are made by elected representatives. Goodpasture cannot tell a convenient store down the road what to

sell, and a church cannot tell a private establishment what they should do on a Friday night. So what recourse does the church have when immoral influences come into their community? Well, they can do what black leaders did when “separate but equal” really meant “separate and substandard”—they can use social peer pressure. They can alert the community as to what is happening and bring pressure upon the offenders to do something else or do it somewhere else. We can also be sure that those who are making the laws represent the church’s best interest, which, as we know, would be what’s most beneficial to the community.

James Hayes
