



Out of My Mind...

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Gary Schroeder, Editor ~ Linda Penney, Graphic Design ~ Vol. 3-5, May, 2007

For Your Consideration...

I've just returned from my home church's men's retreat at Camp Burton where we considered the topic "Living Pure in an Impure World". Holiness is apparently not an important evangelical priority since research suggests that the behavior of Christians isn't substantially different in key areas than that of pre-Christians. Yet God has called and equipped us to live lives which intentionally withdraw from the impure and gravitate toward the pure. Holiness is not an inaccessible ideal but an attainable experience, if we're willing to follow the promptings of the Holy Spirit and are careful about what thoughts we let our minds entertain. We must be active participants in this process; holiness doesn't fall from the sky.

The way we integrate holiness into our lives has important consequences for our evangelistic efforts. Christians are to be recognized by their God-honoring life styles, not just the fish symbols on their cars (But if your car has one, you best not be seen speeding or driving in an overly aggressive manner!) When people see Christ in us, they will ask us to explain the motivation for our behavior and then we can share what being a Christ-follower is all about. (1 Peter 3:15)

After this weekend, a bunch of men from Evangel are going to be more vigilant about "walking the walk" and "talking the talk" consistently.



In My Briefcase

The Law of Rewards
by Randy Alcorn

Leading With a Limp by Dan Allender

The Great Giveaway by David E. Fitch

FROM THE FIELD...

Russ Godfrey, a 2nd Half for Him-type from Calvary Baptist, Avon Lake writes:

Back in 2005 we got a call from one of our distributors located in Louisville, KY asking if someone could come down and meet with one of their customers who needed help deciding what equipment they would need to install a medical gas piping system in a hospital. Samaritan's Purse had made a commitment to assist Tenwek Hospital in Bomet, Kenya in putting together, and installing a medical gas piping system in a new building being constructed housing 5 new operating rooms, recovery and pre-op areas. The thought that kept going through my mind was that the Samaritan's Purse folks really needed someone who knew how to do this to help them. Two days later I got a phone call from Tim from Samaritan's Purse asking me if I had ever considered going with them to assist in the installation. I said "NO, I hadn't." Tim asked me to pray about it and said he would call me upon his return from Afghanistan.

I didn't want to go to Africa; I didn't think I could handle that. I knew that my boss had a heart for missions, so I talked to Don and tried to convince him to go instead of me. He didn't want to go either! The next day, Don came in to the office and said, "I'm going; WITH YOU!" Well, it was clear to me that God was calling me and I could not resist any longer, Praise God! I called Samaritan's Purse and told them Don and I would go.

Because God sent other skilled people to assist in this project we were not only able to finish the project on time, but trained the Kenyans to do this kind of work. The Tenwek staff has already purchased some new equipment to replace all of the medical gas piping in the older sections of the hospital, and they are now able to install it themselves!

ON THE MEND

Barbara Wheeler
Marianne Hazel
Eisaman Family

SURROUNDED IN LOVE:

The Badar Family

Selah: "If we fail to put both intention and resources behind the mission of serving others before serving ourselves, we will not escape the gravitational force of inwardness. Self-centered behavior is the human condition and it cannot be overcome without submission to divine priorities and power."

John Edmund Kaiser