



newsletter



Running From Temptation

I want to share with you about defeating temptation when it's right in your face and very convenient.

Genesis 39, the account of Joseph is one of the best working examples of what to do. I will use the word FLEE – F L E E as an acronym. Each letter represents another word.

Joseph was sold into slavery by his brothers who were jealous of him and hated him. He was bought by an Egyptian official to serve in his house. The Bible says that Joseph was well-built and handsome, and after a while the official's wife started "hitting" big time on Joseph. Day after day the Bible says, she asked him to go to bed with her.

The first letter, "F" stands for Feel – Feel the danger. There's no doubt that Joseph felt the danger the first time she approached him. To feel the danger you have to know what the danger is, and Joseph knew full well. To feel the danger you must be aware that it could happen to you.

The next letter "L" stands for Leave – Leave the area. Get out of there if you can. The lady of the house even grabbed hold of Joseph to take him to bed with her. He ran! He got out of there. Read the account in Genesis 39. Joseph chose to leave because his relationship with God was more important than anything else. When confronted with temptation you may need to vacate the premises, look the other way, don't go there anymore, change an activity or change plans even if it's awkward.

The next letter "E" stands for Experience – Experience God's pleasure. It's difficult to see any pleasure in Joseph's situation because she framed him and he ended up in prison. But, God was pleased and he showed it. Don't count God out. There's pleasure in head butting a temptation and winning.

The last letter "E" stands for Establish – Establish protections. Have accountability with someone and give them the permission to ask hard questions. Every person sets the level of their temptation which reveals the possibilities of their nature. So be on guard. You don't have to give in.

You have to read 1 Cor 10:13, and 2 Cor 10:3-5.

So what happens if you fail? Tell God; confess it to him (repent) and the Bible says he will forgive you. Ask his help. Repeat this as necessary.

Because He Lives,
Pastor Tim

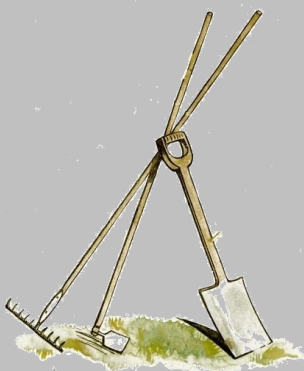
"For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have the divine power to demolish strongholds. We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ."

II Cor. 10:3-5 NIV



"No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful, He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide a way out so that you can endure it."

I Cor. 10:13 NIV





“The Compassion of Jesus”

June 2018



Randy Lind

There are many stories in the New Testament that illustrate the compassion of Jesus. There is one particular story, found in John 8: 1-11, that has made that compassion real to me. That is the story of the woman caught in the act of adultery.

According to the Law of Moses, adultery is punishable by death. The Pharisees knew this and used this to try to trap Jesus. They caught this woman in the act of adultery, brought her to Jesus, in a public place, placed her in front of Jesus and asked, “Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery. In the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?”

The Pharisees knew that if Jesus agreed that she should be stoned, He would be contradicting Roman law which states that only the Roman authorities can carry out capital punishment. If Jesus said that she should not be stoned then He would be contradicting the Law of Moses which the Pharisees could call him out on in hopes of ruining his reputation and popularity with the Jewish people.

In my mind’s eye I have imagined how that event may have actually occurred. I believe it is likely that the Pharisees set this adulterous affair up. I suspect the man that was involved was in collusion with the Pharisees. That would explain why he was allowed to escape and only the woman was brought to Jesus. Since she was caught in the act I suspect the Pharisees did not allow the woman time to cloth herself, properly, to be in public. To enhance the spectacle I suspect they drug this barely clothed woman through the streets, brought her to Jesus and threw her down at His feet.

Try to imagine how you would feel if you were this woman. The shame, the embarrassment, and the fear she must have felt. A mob of Pharisees were calling for her to be stoned. Jesus knew exactly what was happening. He knew that this woman was being used as a pawn in the scheme of these Pharisees. As Jesus saw this woman being thrown before Him, I believe He was

Immediately filled with compassion for her. I believe the first thing that Jesus might have done was to take His own outer cloak off and covered the woman with it.

As the scriptures tell us, Jesus then began to write in the dirt. As the Pharisees persisted in their questioning of Jesus, He stood and said, “If any one of you is without sin, let him be the first to throw a stone at her.” This, and perhaps what Jesus was writing in the dirt, prompted each person in the mob to drop their stones and leave.

Again, in my mind’s eye, I can see Jesus stoop down and gently take the woman by the shoulders and help her to her feet. As the woman stands, clutching the cloak of Jesus that is around her, she is fearful to raise her eyes to meet those of Jesus. She has no idea what to expect. She then hears His voice say, “Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?” In those words she hears a gentleness and compassion that compels her to look up into the eyes of the man who spoke them. In those eyes she finds forgiveness.

The woman responds to Jesus by saying, “No one, sir.” Jesus then speaks the words to confirm what the woman saw in His eyes. He said, “Then neither do I condemn you. Go now and leave your life of sin.”

The woman then walks away, wrapped in the cloak of Jesus having experienced a compassion and forgiveness that is beyond description. That day, that woman was changed forever, because she met Jesus.

***Jesus has done the exact same thing for every one of us.
Thank you Jesus!***

Randy





Clouds and Harps



Just A Thought
By: Cindy Hogan

June 2018

In my line of work, this is the time of year that many of my colleagues are retiring. One friend is launching a new career that will most likely make him busier than he was as a teacher, athletic director, coach, and biology/chemistry teacher. Another felt it was simply time because she was having trouble hearing her students, so she's going to fix up houses with her husband. After all, who really needs to hear what the hubby says, right? Another friend of mine is thinking of retirement in a couple of years just to be done with her job, although she's afraid of what she'll do with herself once she's retired. One more friend has retired twice, and always comes back to work in some capacity because she's good at what she does, and simply needs to be "at work".

I'm simply envious of all of them, because when I retire, surely I'll FINALLY have time to get some things done at home, and get to projects that 'the job' always gets in the way of 10 months out of the year!

The thing is, retirement is perceived differently by everyone, just as working is—whether you are employed, or just have a full-time job.

Now, let's stretch this into eternity. You know, that long-term retirement thing. This is also something that is perceived differently. People often think it will consist of just sitting around on clouds playing harps and just being...happy. The dead are often considered to finally be "at rest." Hmm. Will we? I mean, I like a good rest as well as the next guy, but I don't think I'll ever be tired enough to need to be at rest for eternity. That's like...forever, you know?

I recently read a quote in John Ortberg's book, "Soul-Keeping" by Dallas Willard:

"Your eternal destiny is not cosmic retirement; it is to be part of a tremendously creative project, under unimaginably splendid leadership, on an inconceivably vast scale, with ever-increasing cycles of fruitfulness and enjoyment—that is the prophetic vision which 'eye has not seen and ear has not heard.'"

Wow! What? I don't know about you, but that kind of eternity beats the socks off clouds and harps! No matter what I may feel about my current vocation/employment/

job here on earth, Dallas Willard is describing what sounds to me like, well—heaven! And let me be clear, I'm talking eternity only to those "*who love God and are called according to His purpose*" (Romans 8:28).

When I look back to Genesis, it appears we were created to be fruitful, subdue, and take care of plants and trees for food. Adam was told to work and care for the Garden of Eden. Maybe he did play a harp on his day off, but certainly no mention was made of it. But really, if man was created for a purpose, wouldn't he continue to have a purpose after his mortal life on earth ends? Here on earth, humans falter and fail and give up when their purpose seems lost.

But Willard said something else, as well: "*The most important thing in your life, is not what you do; it's who you become. That's what you will take into eternity. You are an unceasing spiritual being with an eternal destiny in God's great universe.*"

Right there. Our purpose. Regardless of our physical or mental limitations on this earth, what we become through Christ continues far beyond our last earthly breath. That, my fellow earthlings, is our true job, one from which we never retire. And why would we ever want to?





"Here's The Scoop"

Glenn Koster June 2018

Walk to a Lifeline

For we **walk**
by **Faith** and
Not by **Sight**.

11 Cor. 5:7



Almost everyone I meet on my walk has a story to tell, whether they are the cashier in the local convenience store or someone who stops along the road to talk to me. Unfortunately, telling their stories is not what most want to focus on, because the vast majority of those I meet are more interested in hearing my story. While I oblige, I do my best to find out about those I meet. Yet, one man stands out among those I have met.

Everyone knows about Harry Potter, but very few know about Harry from Potter, a small town in Arkansas. Nearly a month ago, as I was walking from Wickes to Hatfield, I walked through Potter. An elderly gentleman was out in front of his second-hand store when he saw me walking by. Seeing my vest, he called out, "Getting ready to work on our roads again?"

It did not take me long to draw the connection because it was not the first time I had been confused for a road worker. If you travel at all, the yellow vests of highway workers are stark against the blacktops. It's an easy inference to draw.

I shot back, "No, I'm walking to Seattle!"

It was not the answer he expected. He called out, "Say what?"

I walked over to Harry and began a conversation that would change my perception of Potter, Arkansas, forever. We had a very good discussion about what I was doing. After learning about my walk, my story, and my desire to get people involved in foster care, Harry declined to become involved. Why? That's when things took a twist I was not expecting. I learned that Harry had been married twice. Several months before he had buried his second wife.

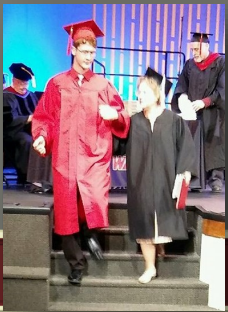
"Between my two wives and I, we have fostered 27 kids and adopted five," Harry explained. "I've done my part all my life."

I was simply stunned. I thanked Harry for what he had done. Harry set the bar high. Harry had become a father to the fatherless. A man of integrity. A man of caring. A man of love. And Harry did not do it just once nor when it was convenient. Harry demonstrated the essence of what it meant to be a father throughout his life.

We are about to celebrate Father's Day in a few weeks. My prayer for this year is twofold. I pray that the fatherless in our nation might find their "Harry from Potter" and learn anew what it means to have a father. But I also pray that the men of our nation will step forward and act with integrity and love – even when it's inconvenient.

Life is not an easy road for many of our nation's children. As Christians, we have the power to change that fact. We need to do so one life, one smile, one heart at a time.





Faith Journey

“When the Parties Over”

By: Glennis Joy Lamb



“With Lovingkindness Have I Drawn Thee”

June 2018

It’s obvious that I thrive when I’m studying. Two days after I got home from graduation I had some plans made to do some writing that had been put on the back burner, due to school. But, I felt lost. It was like the routine and discipline of turning in assignments was missing in my life. So I enrolled in another class. A mistake was made in the school office and to make a long story short I ended up not being able to take the class. I was devastated to say the least as I like all my ducks in a row, and this particular class was instrumental in keeping things in order. After much frustration, and a few tears, I realized that God had orchestrated my life and the Lord was telling me to take a break. The party is over and it was time to rest.

I was exhausted the day I graduated. I had pushed so hard that I was facing “sleep deprivation.” I woke up at 3 am. and couldn’t get back to sleep. All day long, I put on a smile and put one foot in front of the other. I did my best to be gracious to those around me. The highlight of my day had to of been when one of my favorite kids escorted me to the top of the stairs to walk across the stage. He hugged me and told me he loved me. This young man knew that I didn’t get a thrill out of walking. The day before he had teased me about “*dumping me on my head,*” trying to ease my fears. Right before he escorted me up I whispered to him, “*now’s your chance!*” There is nothing I love more than to be around young adults. They breathe life into me and make me feel young. One day I was complaining about being old and one of the kids looked at me with a confused look and said, “*oh, I thought you were the same age as us.*” I still chuckle when I think back on those words. The point is I love those kids and for some crazy reason they seem to love me in return.

So, when the party is over the most natural thing to do is to look back over the highlights. When I started back to college I was in a hurry. I wanted to finish before I died, which is a reality we must all face. Now that I have graduated with a couple of bachelor’s degrees, things are starting to get real. The reality is that soon I will be finished and on my way to new goals and new realities. So, what can I take from these past few weeks?

I arrived on campus late in the day on Wednesday. When I walked into the dormitory a young man was sitting in the lounge. I had been unable to go to his recital, because it was so close to graduation, so I had listened to it online. I wanted him to know that I cared so I picked out some specific things about his recital that had impressed me, letting him know I actually had paid attention to the hard work that had gone into it. We joked around some, and then he got dead serious. The young man looked me in the eye and told me I was different from the other older adults on campus. He said that the kids knew that I really care about them. He went on to say that all the kids felt that way, and they all felt I was genuine, and I was there for them. I do much better joking around than being serious. This kid blew me away. I do so little and I’m on campus so rarely. I pray for the kids often, when I’m in the

coffee shop I buy them drinks and leave tips for the gals working there. But mostly, I just pray for them. How strange to think that they would feel that way. I always felt my love for them was well hidden in my heart. I receive so much more from them than I could ever give! They are always there for me and they seem to sense when I’m tired or not feeling well. They break their backs to cheer me up. What’s not to love? They are the greatest! This is a memory worth harboring in my heart.

The ceremony ended and I was faced with going to my reception. My daughter and her husband had planned the entire reception while in the middle of moving! I will never forget the sacrifice they made to show their love to me. What a joy and blessing to have such incredible kids! I love being with my children and grandkids, but as I prepared to go over to the park where the reception was being held I was dragging my feet. I really just wanted to go play tennis, shoot a gun, or go hiking! I had some really great friends that had sacrificed to be at my reception so I slowly made my way over, and I enjoyed visiting with them. I endured thirty guests and then I’d had enough. My favorite professor showed up with his wife which brought me joy, and then I prepared to leave. I got a phone call from my son who had a group of kids that were going to follow him over to my reception (I had put the wrong park on my invitation), but I let them know I was leaving! The party was over and I had endured all this feeble little body could take! I am sure the kids would rather spend their time with other young adults than this old gal, even if they do like me!

So, the party is over. I am home. The things that intimidated me and frustrated me are in the past. The joyful memories are forever in my heart. My daily routine is filled with trying to complete the writing projects I haven’t had time for. But the most important change is in me. I am resting more, journaling my walk with the Lord, and trying my best to stay focused on what the Lord is teaching me. I have grown in ways I never expected. Impacted by my professors, the students, and the challenges I faced. I am more confident in some ways, less in others. I see my short comings, and at times they appear to be boulders in my life. I also see the Lord at work in my life, and in my heart. The Lord is shaping me and moulding me into a vessel that He can fill and use. I am also sad. A part of my life has forever ended, and very soon everything will change. A part of me wants to scream that I’m not ready for this, and the other part is ready for the new adventure that is waiting for me. My final thought is that when the party is over I hope that those who have come into contact with me will remember me by my middle name, “**Joy.**” If I do anything of value in this life, I hope that in the end others will see “**joy**” in my life, and realize *the source of my joy is Jesus!*



In Christ’s Love,
Glennis Joy





June

2018

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| <p>Happy Father's Day</p> <p>The righteous man walks in his integrity; His children are blessed after him.</p> <p>PROVERBS 20:7</p> | | | | <p>1</p> <p>Any man can be a father but it takes someone special to be a Dad.</p> <p>Tim & Shelli Nisly</p> | <p>2</p> <p>Mary Newton</p> | |
| <p>3</p> <p>Hogan's Lake Service 10:30 am. Fellowship & meal after the service.</p> | <p>4</p> <p>"If any man serve me, let him follow me." John 12:26</p> | <p>5</p> <p>Prayer Group 9:30 am.</p> | <p>6</p> <p>SOME Super Heroes Don't have CAPES... They are called DAD</p> | <p>7</p> | <p>8</p> <p>Tim & Robin Yates Scott & Stacy Smith</p> | <p>9</p> <p>with man THIS IS impossible, but WITH GOD all things are possible</p> <p>MATTHEW 19:26</p> |
| <p>10</p> <p>Common Ground 9:45 am.</p> | <p>11</p> | <p>12</p> <p>Prayer Group 9:30 am.</p> | <p>13</p> <p>Janet Fischer</p> | <p>14</p> <p>EVEN THOUGH I MIGHT NOT SAY IT, I APPRECIATE ALL YOU DO, SO RICHLY BLESSED IS HOW I FEEL FOR HAVING A FATHER JUST LIKE YOU.</p> | <p>15</p> | <p>16</p> <p>Gary & Jody Rivers</p> |
| <p>17</p> <p>Happy Father's Day!</p> <p>Common Ground 9:45 am.</p> | <p>18</p> <p>As for Me AND MY HOUSE WE WILL serve the LORD</p> <p>JUSTINIA 24:15</p> | <p>19</p> <p>Prayer Group 9:30 am.</p> <p>Council Meeting 6:30 pm.</p> | <p>20</p> <p>FATHER Kind trust nurturing friend WISDOM family man thoughtful STRONG patient</p> <p>LO VE</p> | <p>21</p> <p>Dennis & Janet Fischer</p> | <p>22</p> | <p>23</p> <p>A father is a guy who has photos in his wallet where his money used to be</p> <p>Author Unknown</p> |
| <p>24</p> <p>Common Ground 9:45 am.</p> <p>Beth Boese</p> | <p>25</p> <p>WE HAVE THIS hope AS AN ANCHOR FIRM & secure</p> <p>HEBREWS 6:19</p> <p>Shonda Arpin</p> | <p>26</p> <p>Prayer Group 9:30 am.</p> | <p>27</p> | <p>28</p> <p>DAD MY FIRST LOVE MY FOREVER HERO</p> | <p>29</p> <p>ROMANS 12</p> <p>12 BE JOYFUL IN HOPE, PATIENT IN AFFLICTION, FAITHFUL IN PRAYER.</p> | <p>30</p> |



Get To Know “John Muntz”

June 2018

“The Gardener Who Is Passionate About Christ”

This month I had the pleasure of interviewing John Muntz. John is always happy, while giving of himself to those around him. John’s love for others goes beyond the bounds of what is normal. I’ve watched him give to the needs of hurting men and women until there was nothing left to give. I’ve watched him patiently share the message of salvation with the lost while staying in tune to the problems these men and women were facing. But who is this man named “John Muntz” outside of the realm of ministry?

John Muntz was born in Omaha, Nebraska, and has two younger sisters who now live in Wichita. His dad died when he was six and they moved to Iowa to be close to relatives. His grandfather took the place of the father figure in his life. His mother became a nurse. During his Junior and Senior year of High School they moved to Jackson, Kentucky where John attended a Christian school and his mother was the Dean of Women. After High School, John met the President of Central Christian College in Mc Pherson, who dropped by his house, and he was influenced to attend college there. John met Pat, his future wife, during this time.

John met Pat at Coronado Heights while attending a college outing. They didn’t go there together but ended up coming back together. For dates they would go into town and share a sandwich at a little place near the downtown area, in Mc Pherson. They were married in 1973 and at that time moved to Oklahoma City, where they lived for seven years. In Oklahoma, John went to Central State University where he got his nursing degree, and Pat finished her degree in Education. They moved from there to Wichita where John got his BS in Biology from WSU. John’s favorite vacation was when they attended their son’s wedding in Dillon, Colorado last year. All of their family was there and they had a grand time of fellowship and enjoyed being together. His favorite activity on that trip was hiking.

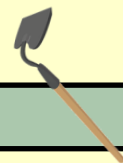
John was interested in Sustainable Agriculture and Environmental Issues. He found out about an secular organization called “Meadow Creek Project” in Arkansas, and went there to do a summer internship. After the internship ended, he was invited to work for them. From that small beginning, they were offered a job to work at a ministry called “Servants in Faith and Technology,” in Alabama. Pat coordinated the educational program while John coordinated small agricultural programs, including gardening and bee keeping. This was a training program for Missionaries, High School kids, and Development Workers (people going into impoverished areas to assist with water programs, food, and sanitation). While working for “Servants in Faith and Technology,” John was sent to Bolivia for two weeks for extension training sessions, the family was sent to Venezuela for ten weeks, and Pat worked in the Philippines for two weeks. John and Pat worked for this ministry for nine years. SIFAT, is a organization which provides training in Christian Community development. The motivational verse of SIFAT is, *“And let us consider how we may spur one another on towards love and good deeds, not giving up on meeting together as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—all the more as you see the Day approaching.”* Heb. 10:24-25 NIV

In 2011 they moved to Hutchinson to be near family. Pat began working in Mc Pherson at Central Christian College while John worked for Mennonite Friendship Community, as a nurse. They started attending FCOG at that time as this was Pat’s home church. The Muntz’s have three children and five grandchildren. His wife Pat has been his partner in all the escapades they’ve been on, and they have shared 45 years of life together. John said it has been his joy to have Pat by his side. It has been such a blessing that his wife can play the piano, and he enjoys singing together with her (while she plays) at their home here in Hutchinson. John has a devotional that takes a hymn daily, giving the background to the hymn, and building on that premise gives thoughts that encourage your heart. Pat takes the hymns they’ve never heard then plays them so they can learn them, and this has been a real blessing to his heart.

John’s favorite thing about FCOG is the people. Fellowship with other Christians. Sharing in ministry with other Christians. All the Pastors have been great. He loves being a part of the body of Christ.

John got saved when he was 12 years old and was baptized when he was nineteen years old. Pastor Hanson is the pastor who led him to the Lord in Burmingham, Iowa. John’s favorite scripture verse is Prov. 3:5-6.

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding, in all your ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct your paths.”



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Tim Kraft, Pastor

Terry George, Administrator

Tim Yates, Young Adult Pastor

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Glennis Joy Lamb, Administrative Assistant

Tim Nisly, Custodian



How awesome is our LORD, King over all the earth!
Psalm 47:2

The Man Who Walks in Integrity

Integrity: 1 : firm adherence to a code of especially moral or artistic values : incorruptibility. 2 : an unimpaired condition : soundness. 3 : the quality or state of being complete or undivided : completeness.

Merriam Webster Dictionary Online

Integrity means to be a man who has moral and ethical convictions. You chose to do the right thing even when no one is watching you. You chose to do things that are honorable and you do not demean others. It means to be reliable with a moral compass that directs your life.

Character Qualities of Integrity Include:

- Being truthful even when it hurts.
- Being responsible when others around you are not.
- Choosing to be accountable to others.
- Being loyal to those you serve.
- Having self-awareness, knowing what you excel at but also knowing your faults and limitations.
- Having a vision for the future.
- Being assertive when necessary but gentle when not.

