

June 18, 2023

The View

"Sirs, we wish to see Jesus." – John 12:21

Welcome Visitors

Our goal at the Folsom church of Christ is to do everything according to God's word, including respecting its silence. We are not a denomination, not part of anything larger than this local church; we have no earthly "headquarters." The five elders oversee this church and, ultimately, we answer only to Christ. The comments you hear today are primarily for the benefit of our own members, as we examine Scripture and seek to be built up in our faith in Christ. If you don't understand something, please do not hesitate to ask the preacher or one of the elders. We welcome and appreciate your comments and questions on any issue and especially if you see or hear anything that you feel does not correspond to God's word. We are here to serve; please help us do that.

**Please fill out a visitor's card and put it in the collection plate when is passed.
We do not solicit donations from visitors. See page 4 for more information.**

REMEMBER: THE NEW QUARTER BEGINS ON SUNDAY JULY 2ND

Schedule

The Lord's Day

9:30 AM Bible Classes

Auditorium: "Love Your Bible" (Part II).

Young Adult Class (room 12): "A Study of Ruth, and 1 John: Trust & Love"

10:30 AM: Assembly

Preaching Today

David Posey: "Rich Kids"

Livestream at 9:30 & 10:30 <https://tinyurl.com/5f2cbm3y>

Bible Class: 5:00 PM @ the Building

"Praying the Psalms" (Auditorium)

High School Class @ 5 PM @ David & Christie Posey's home

Middle school class: monthly (contact David Sanderson (david.r.sanderson@intel.com)

or Seth Reagan (sethreagan@gmail.com)

There are several on-going Bible classes in the homes of members. Check with David Posey or one of the other elders if you would like to join one of those classes.

Wednesday 7 PM @ Building

Bible classes for all ages

Auditorium: Love Your Bible, Part II

Room 12: Young Adults Class: "A Study of Ruth, and 1 John: Trust & Love"

Articles published in the View reflect only the thoughts and opinions of the author alone, not necessarily the editor, the elders or any member of the church at Folsom.

It's Dad's Day

Dads

I don't know how to talk about fathers without talking about my father. As I've gotten older, I have appreciated my father more and – of course – I wish he was still here so I could tell him that. I'm sure many of you feel the same way. We were very different. The picture is of my dad a fellow carpenter building a school cafeteria. Someone would have to be holding a shotgun on me before I would even attempt to do that. Dad loved carpentry and was exceptionally good at it. I am exceptionally bad at it. It is interesting to me that I ended up following in his footsteps – not the footsteps on that high beam, but his footsteps as a gospel preacher. So, it appears, we weren't that different after all. – dp



Ephesians 6:4

"Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord."

Isn't it interesting that, of all the things Paul could have said after "do not" he chooses the word "provoke"? It seems that he wants fathers to think seriously about how they communicate to their kids otherwise they will fail to follow through with "discipline and instruction."

The Greek word for "provoke" means to rouse someone to anger; we might say, "to push our kid's buttons." Instead, we should be wearing the fruit of the Spirit on our sleeves and in our hearts (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control).

Be careful; be very careful...

- Gaslighting is not a fruit of the Spirit.
- Mockery is not a fruit of the Spirit.
- Condescension is not a fruit of the Spirit.
- Manipulation is not a fruit of the Spirit.

There is a law against these things. They are all ways that some fathers "provoke" their kids. Paul said, "don't do that."

– dp

The REAL Crisis in America: The Absent Father

You can blame poor education, mental illness, teen pregnancies, crime, drug use... you name it... on a host of causes. The real cause seems to be apparent: *disappearing dads*.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, 18.4 million children under 18 years old – that's **1 in 4**, live without a biological, step, or adoptive father in the home. That's enough children to fill New York City twice or Los Angeles four times over.

The Father Absence Crisis in America

18.4 Million Children, 1 in 4, Without a Biological, Step, or Adoptive Father at Home*

Research shows² when a child is raised in a father-absent home, they are affected in the following ways...

- ⊖ 4x Greater Risk of Poverty
- ⊖ More Likely to Have Behavioral Problems
- ⊖ 2x Greater Risk of Infant Mortality
- ⊖ More Likely to Go to Prison
- ⊖ More Likely to Commit Crime
- ⊖ 7x More Likely to Become Pregnant as a Teen
- ⊖ More Likely to Face Abuse and Neglect
- ⊖ More Likely to Abuse Drugs and Alcohol
- ⊖ 2x More Likely to Suffer Obesity
- ⊖ 2x more Likely to Drop Out of School

National Fatherhood Initiative
www.fatherhood.org

*U.S. Census Bureau. (2022). Living arrangements of children under 18 years old: 1980 to present. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Census Bureau.
²National Fatherhood Initiative. (2019). *Father Facts: Eighth Edition*. Germantown, MD: National Fatherhood Initiative.

PO Box 37635, PMB 84123, Philadelphia, PA, 19101-0635 | 301-948-0599 | info@fatherhood.org
© 2022 National Fatherhood Initiative®. All Rights Reserved. National Fatherhood Initiative® is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit.

modesty

IS ALWAYS BEAUTIFUL
-G.K. CHESTERTON

CHRISTIANS KNOW THAT SEXUAL IMMORALITY, LYING, DRUNKENNESS AND SINS LISTED IN TEXTS LIKE GALATIANS 5:19-21 PUT THE SOUL IN JEOPARDY. BUT IF THERE IS ONE THING THAT MAY SNEAK UP ON US, WHEN FACING GOD AT THE JUDGMENT, IT MAY BE THE SIN OF NORMALIZING IMMODESTY. IT HAS BECOME SO COMMON THAT WE MAY NOT BE “SEEING IT” WHEN WE SEE IT. I HOPE YOU’LL PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER WHAT WE SAY HERE.

In 1964, Supreme Court Justice Potter Stewart, in the landmark obscenity case *Jacobellis v. Ohio*, in comments about defining what is obscene said, famously, “I know it when I see it.” Whether he was being serious or facetious, he had a point.

When the subject turns to modesty, you can expect to hear all kinds of “qualifiers,” meant to justify less than modest apparel. The main argument you’ll hear is “the culture has changed.” And it has. It is always changing. But when it comes to immodesty in any culture, “we know it when we see it” and everybody knows it.

To say that immodesty is common today is like saying it is usually dark at midnight. Examples of immodesty are virtually everywhere. You don’t have to go the beach, just go to a mall, or a social event — and sometimes, even a church.

These modesty warnings are almost always directed to women. So let me stop here and warn the men that Matthew 5:27-28 puts the onus primarily on men:

You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

Men look at women. If a man says he doesn’t look at women he will lie about other things. What Jesus is saying is beware of that “second look,” the lingering look that turns into lust. Men will be held responsible for lustful “looking.” (And, yes, women can be guilty of lust, too).

Christian women should do their best to avoid provoking the potential “lustful look” when they decide what to wear each day. They should dress modestly, in attire that is not designed to tempt a guy. I’m sure no Christian woman wants to be partly responsible for a man losing his soul because of how she dresses. The image says it really well. — dp



David Tant wrote this several years ago but it is still relevant — even more so:

If a swimsuit or shorts and halter is modest apparel, then why not wear it to church? Many years ago when I was a teenager in Texas, a girl we called “Sister” liked to compete in girls’ events in rodeos. One time she was out of

“In our summer work in Jamaica, we take several young people with us, and as we walk about the town, I recall being asked, “Are you Christians?” How could they tell? By the way we were dressed.” David Tant

town for a Saturday event and planned to be back home Saturday night. But the car broke down and she had to spend the night away. Sunday morning she went to church in her rodeo outfit. That wasn’t her normal “Sunday best” clothing, but she was modestly attired. Suppose she had been at a swimming competition, or even a track meet with shorts. Knowing her as I did, she would not have gone to church in such attire.)

Mary Quant, the London fashion designer and mother of the mini-skirt, stated: “Mini-clothes are symbolic of those girls who want to seduce a man...” When asked where it was all leading to (miniskirts, etc.) she replied with one word “sex.”

In teaching a teenage class at summer camp, I asked the young people why girls wore revealing clothing. Almost universally, the teenagers summed it up in one word — “advertising.” So... Ladies, when you go out in public, what are you “advertising” — your godliness or your worldliness? In our summer work in Jamaica, we take several young people with us, and as we walk about the town, I recall being asked, “Are you Christians?” How could they tell? By the way we were dressed.