Inspirational Quote

The truth is that there is nothing noble in being superior to somebody else. The only real nobility is in being superior to your former self.

- Whitney Young (1921-1971) Civil rights leader

Not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock.

1 Peter 5:3 ESV

Prayer & Praise

Prison prayer answered: Adventist Missionary in Togo acquitted after 22 months in jail. Read Full Article by Adventist Today

Eddie Heinrich, Northern California Conference Youth Director and FFICamporee Daytime Onsite Activity Director had a serious accident on Sunday January 26, 2014. Please pray for his rapid an full recovery. Show your support at Facebook.com.

Ministry Opening

Barefoot Media Ministries: Is looking for a detail oriented, process proficient person who is passionate about impacting the world through creative ministry to be a full time database manager. More Info: Contact Brian Yeager

Student Missionary in Yunnan, China: Pastor Shim (PMM Missionary of NSD) at Yunnan, China is looking for a student missionary who would like to engage in mission work in China by teaching English for a year a year at Yunnan, China. More Info: Contact Pastor Shim

Youth Worker: Looking for a task force youth worker for next year (Approx. Sept - May) at the church in Kirkland, Washington. Close to graduating from undergrad or a seminary student preferred. More Info: Contact Tim Peterson.

Part of the CYE

411 news is a resource provided by the Center for Youth Evangelism

Connect With Us

Youth Pastor: Looking for a youth pastor to lead and organize an effective youth program in Fresno, California. A Bachelor’s degree, theological education, and experience working with teens required. More Info: Contact Rod Turley.

English Ministry Pastor: The Dallas/Ft. Worth Korean SDA church is looking for a bilingual (Korean/English) EM pastor to lead a congregation of 30-40 members. More Info: Contact Michael Chong.

Missionary in South Korea: Seize the opportunity to do missions to youth & young adults through teaching English, and at the same time earn income. More Info: Contact Justin Yang.

Ministry Seekers


Adventist Resources

The Haystack: This site’s goal is to be a central posting site for Adventists with videos that they want to network and share with anyone who visits. More Info: Visit TheHaystack.tv.

Belt of Truth Ministries: Media on the Brain effectively exposes Satan’s last-day strategy to prepare the world for his final deception. More Info: Visit BeltOfTruthMinistries.

Adventist National / International Events

Just Claim It: 2014 February 12-15, Miami Florida More Info: Contact the NAD office 301-680-6000 or Visit AdventistYouthMinistries Sponsored by NAD.

Adventist Christian Fellowship Institute: For public college/university schools ministry leaders. 2014 May 16-25, Locations TBA More Info: Contact Ron Picknell or Visit acfi 2014 Sponsored by NAD.

Children’s Leadership Conference: March 28-30, 2014 Andrews University More Info: Contact Walter Rogers or Visit CYE.org Sponsored by NAD / CYE / LUC.

Cruise with a Mission: A young adult annual event set for December 14-21, 2014 More Info: Contact Richard Parke or Visit CruiseWithaMission Sponsored by CYE.

Pathfinder Camporees
Forever Faithful International Camporee: August 11-16, 2014, in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. Theme: "Forever Faithful." 35,000 North American, 1,000 staff children tickets available, 2,000 International, 1,000 volunteer tickets available, and 1,000 Day Pass tickets are being sold. Ticket prices go up March 1, 2014. More Info: Contact Ron Whitehead or Visit CYE.org/Camporee.

Forever Faithful International Camporee Oshkosh Walk-Around Tuesday, April 22, 2014. Everyone is welcome to attend this important 9:00AM - 5:00PM meeting. To RSVP for a free lunch or for More Info: Contact Vern Byrd

EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE EXTENDED

The Forever Faithful International Camporee Executive Committee voted unanimously January 30, 2014 to extend the February 1, 2014, $195.00 registration deadline to March 1, 2014.

This extension is to accommodate unusual weather conditions that have impacted the registration process, and the credit card identity theft problems caused by Target and other retail stores.

After March 1, 2014, the $215.00 late registration fee will be in place if tickets are still available.

Only 35,000 North American tickets available.
Only 1,000 staff children tickets available.
Only 2,000 International tickets available.
Only 1,000 volunteer tickets available.
Only 1,000 day pass tickets available.

For more registration information, go to www.cye.org or call 269-471-8380.

Fourth South American Camporee Reports

Research and Surveys Sponsored by Institute of Church Ministries

Fourth States Still Don't Have Megachurches: And other 2013 year-end status updates from Leadership Network. Read Full Article by Christianity Today

The Six People Americans Now Trust More Than Their Pastor (2013): Views on clergy honesty and ethics hit record low. However, Gallup still finds clergy rank No. 7 out of 22 professions. Read Full Article by Christianity Today

How 100 Cities 'Rank and Tank' at Embracing the Bible (Colorado Springs? No. 56): (UPDATED) Christian college towns do well, as Barna and American Bible Society identify 'Bible-minded' cities for second time. Read Full Article by Christianity Today
Miscellaneous

5 Ways to Teach your Children to Hate the Ministry: Pastors' kids are prone to hate the ministry. Why? How can it be avoided? Read Full Article by Christianity Today

Biblical films' Hollywood Comeback: Superheroes are being elbowed out by Noah and Mary as Hollywood makes 2014 year of the biblical epic. Read Full Article by The Telegraph

'Unequivocal' cell phones cause cancer (E32): Mobiles 'cooking the brain'; brain tumors become children's number one killer illness; and leaked industry memo admits 'wargaming' the science. Read Full Article by RT Question More

Aiming for 'Effective Anger': The Top 50 Countries Where It's Hardest To Be a Christian: (UPDATED) Christian martyrdoms doubled in 2013, reports World Watch List in revealing its methodology for the first time. Read Full Article by Christianity Today

The Top 20 Most-Read Christianity Today Articles of 2013: Kirsten Powers's conversion, Andy Stanley on President Obama, child sponsorships, the war over Christian beards, and more. Read Full Article by Christianity Today

Sorry, John 3:16: The Top 10 Bible Verses You Version Shared Most in 2013: Leading Bible app analyzes how its millions of users used the Bible this year. Read Full Article by Christianity Today

Parenting in the Haze of Legalized Marijuana: What do I tell my kids about pot? Read Full Article by Christianity Today
Adventist Missionary in Togo Acquitted After 22 Months in Jail

By AT News Team, January 13, 2014   Updated January 14

Over the weekend an appeals court in Lome, Togo, acquitted Pastor Antonio Monteiro, a union conference staff member who had been held for 22 months and was the focus of a worldwide campaign to get his release. Monteiro and a church member named Bruno Amah were detained in March of 2012 on charges of conspiracy to commit murder. A decision about Amah was announced by the court at the same time and he was sentenced to life in prison.

Monteiro and Amah, along with three other men, were detained nearly two years without trial solely on the accusation of one man who was described as a “pathological liar” in a court-ordered psychiatric exam. That witness, Kpatcha Simliya, was also sentenced to life in prison.

Todd McFarland, an attorney on the staff of the denomination’s General Conference, was with the defense team at this weekend’s trial. According to Adventist News Network, the denomination's official news service, McFarland reported that the court ruling included two other men: Beteynam Raphael Kpiki Sama, who was convicted and sentenced to 25 years in prison and fined the equivalent of $20,800, and Idrissou Moumouni, who was acquitted.

The nearly two-year saga has involved millions of Adventists who have organized prayer vigils, launched social media campaigns, sponsored letter-writing initiatives to government officials and diplomats, held press conferences and led a signature drive for a petition calling for the men’s release. "We have mixed feelings about the decision of the court," said Dr. John Graz, the denomination's director of public affairs and religious liberty (PARL). "The acquittal of Pastor Monteiro is good news and we are happy for him and his family. We are surprised and very sad about the condemnation of Amah."

Monteiro, a native of the island nation of Cape Verde, had been serving as a missionary in Togo since 2009 at the denomination’s Sahel Union Mission with offices in Lomé. The arrests and detentions unfolded following a string of homicides in September of 2011.

According to different newspaper and police reports, more than a dozen bodies of women between the ages of 12 and 36 had been found in the northern Lomé suburb of Agoué. The bodies had stab wounds and some sexual organs had been removed. Blood and animal parts are often used in ceremonies of Voodoo, which is widely practiced in Togo. When no arrests were made for some time, the public demanded justice for the killings.

Simliya was later shown on television surrounded by police guards, telling the story of the series of murders he said that he organized and naming accomplices who collected blood and organs. But much of the story proved unlikely, including the number of victims and the methods used, according to Simliya's medical examiner. “Any informed and reasonable man would have doubts regarding his incredible outpouring or the feasibility of his crimes or supposed crimes,” a September 9, 2012, court-ordered psychiatric exam stated, which was viewed by ANN.

Simliya would later recant his accusation, saying he was beaten by police and forced to give names of people he supposedly knew were co-conspirators in a blood trafficking network, according to the psychiatric exam. Still, his testimony—the only evidence in the case—was enough to bring convictions this weekend. The jury that made the ruling consisted of three judges and six lay persons, McFarland said.
The trial began Friday, January 10, at 8:45 a.m. and extended until 3:30 a.m. Saturday morning. The court reconvened at 11:45 a.m. on Saturday, and closing arguments ended at 11:30 p.m. that evening. The decision was handed down at 5 a.m. Sunday. Monteiro and Moumouni were released on Monday.

*This story is based largely on a report distributed by Adventist News Network (ANN).*

**Update:** ANN has confirmed that Monteiro did walk out of the Lome Civil Prison at 4:30 p.m. local time on Monday afternoon (January 13). He was met by his legal team and officials of the denomination's Sahel Union Mission where he has worked since 2009 as Family Ministries Director. Monteiro is from the island nation of Cape Verde and it is expected that he will return home soon.

__________________________Share your thoughts about this article:

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Four States Still Don't Have Megachurches

And other 2013 year-end status updates from Leadership Network.

Kate Tracy  
[ posted 12/23/2013 ]

Megachurches may seem ubiquitous today, with more than 5 million people now worshiping at one of America's 1,650 megachurches on an average week. But research by Leadership Network's Warren Bird, who has tracked the megachurch phenomenon closely, indicates that four U.S. states still don't have a Protestant congregation with more than 2,000 weekly attenders.

In a year-end status update, Warren recently revealed that Delaware, Maine, Rhode Island, and Vermont still don't have a megachurch. Other stats of note:

• Even though megachurches only account for 0.5 percent of the 320,000 Protestant churches in America, nearly 10 percent of Protestant churchgoers attend one.

• Only 21 percent of megachurches were founded in the last 20 years (the median founding year: 1977), and only 22 percent were founded by their current lead pastor.

• The average (median) age of megachurch lead pastors is 55, while nearly 1 in 5 are under 45. Only five percent are under 40. (CT recently noted how one of America's youngest megachurch pastors drew scrutiny for how his building a "big house" was connected to his bestselling book.)

• Worldwide, at least 48 countries have a megachurch, according to Bird's research.

CT regularly reports on megachurches, including their financial health, whether their worship is addictive, how Las Vegas is the most megachurch-oriented city, and how megachurches united with Broadway and the NFL against a common threat.

Ed Stetzer, president of LifeWay Research, has noted the explosive growth of American megachurches and how megachurch myths are wrong.
Views on clergy honesty and ethics hit record low. However, Gallup still finds clergy rank No. 7 out of 22 professions.

Kate Tracy

[ posted 12/16/2013 03:58PM ]

The Clergy’s Honesty and Ethical Standards
How would you rate the honesty and ethical standards of people in the clergy?

% Very high/High
% Very low/Low


63 67 60 54 59 58 56 47

GALLUP

Once again, Gallup has examined who Americans regard as the most honest and ethical person in their lives—and found that the answer is not their pastor, but their nurse or pharmacist.

In fact, recorded public trust in clergy has now reached an all-time low, with only 47 percent of Americans rating clergy highly on honesty and ethics (compared to 82 percent saying the same about nurses). The previous low since Gallup began asking the question in 1977: 50 percent in 2009.

However, clergy still ranked No. 7 out of the 22 professions studied. And confidence in the overall church as an institution improved over the past year.

In 2013, Americans rated six professions more trustworthy than clergy: nurses, pharmacists, grade school teachers, medical doctors, military officers, and police officers. Meanwhile, engineers, dentists, and college teachers—three professions which surpassed clergy in 2012—dropped below clergy in 2013. (Grade school teachers and military officers rose above clergy from 2012 to 2013, while nurses, pharmacists, medical doctors, and police officers topped clergy in both years.)
However, clergy members were nowhere near the low rating of members of Congress, with only eight percent of Americans vouching for lawmakers' trustworthiness. Congress ranked second to last behind lobbyists (6%), while car salespeople ranked ahead of both groups (9%).

Gallup notes:

If views of a certain profession have changed, it usually has been a function of scandal surrounding it. The Catholic priest abuse stories from the early 2000s helped lead to a sharp drop in Americans' ratings of clergy, a decline from which the profession has yet to fully recover.

Americans are divided along party lines, as well as age. Gallup found more trust in clergy among Republicans (63%) than Democrats (40%). Similarly, clergy members appear more trustworthy to older Americans than millennials: half of Americans older than age 55 trust clergy members, while only 32 percent of millennials (18 to 34 years) report the same.

But the Gallup survey wasn't all bad news for religion in America. When asked how much confidence Americans have in U.S. institutions, 48 percent responded saying they had a "great deal/quite a bit" in "the church or organized religion," a four percent increase since 2012. Only 34 percent said the same about the U.S. Supreme Court, which decreased by three percent since 2012.

The increase makes churches the fourth most-trusted of the 16 institutions Gallup examines, ranking between the police and the presidency.

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International Orders
How 100 Cities 'Rank and Tank' at Embracing the Bible (Colorado Springs? No. 56)

(UPDATED) Christian college towns do well, as Barna and American Bible Society identify 'Bible-minded' cities for second time.

Jeremy Weber and Joshua Wood
[ posted 1/22/2014 01:06PM ]

Update: One theory as to why certain cities "embrace the Bible" more than others: 19 of the top 20 most "Bible-minded" cities host sizable Christian colleges. (List added below.)

-----

For the second time, the American Bible Society (ABS) has partnered with The Barna Group to identify America's most "Bible-minded" cities, based on "combined levels of regular Bible reading and belief in the Bible's accuracy." (Full list of 100 cities is below.)

After interviewing more than 46,000 adults nationwide over a seven-year period, their No. 1 pick? Chattanooga, Tenn., which ranked third in last year's inaugural list.

ABS notes:
An inverse relationship exists between population density and Bible friendliness. Of the top 25 Bible-minded markets, only three have a population of greater than 1 million households: Charlotte, N.C.; Nashville, Tenn.; and Dallas.

The complete Top 10:


By contrast, the least Bible-minded cities:


Barna identifies "Bible minded" people as "respondents who report reading the bible within the past seven days and who agree strongly in the accuracy of the Bible."

ABS/Barna's full ranking of 100 cities is below. Of interest: 19 of the top 20 cities are Christian college towns, including but not limited to (per collegestats.org):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Institution Name</th>
<th>Religious Affiliation</th>
<th>Students</th>
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<tr>
<td>Chattanooga</td>
<td>Tennessee Temple University</td>
<td>Baptist</td>
<td>885</td>
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<tr>
<td>Birmingham</td>
<td>Samford University</td>
<td>Baptist</td>
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<td>Liberty University</td>
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<td>Evangel University</td>
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<td>Queens University of Charlotte</td>
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<td>Huntsville</td>
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<td>Seventh Day Adventists</td>
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<td>Lipscomb University</td>
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<td>Trevecca Nazarene University</td>
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<td>Transylvania University</td>
<td>Disciples of Christ</td>
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<td>University/Nearby Institution</td>
<td>Religion</td>
<td>Enrollment</td>
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<td>Salem College</td>
<td>Moravian Church</td>
<td>1,130</td>
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(Chattanooga images courtesy of SeeMidTN.com and hankinsphoto.com - Flickr)

(Providence images courtesy of Jef Nickerson and Reading Tom - Flickr)

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International Orders
Pastors' kids are prone to hate the ministry. Why? How can it be avoided?

Ed Stetzer

Children with a pastor-parent can grow to hate the ministry for many reasons, but there are five guaranteed ways you can make sure they hate being a pastor's kid (PK).

1. Put the ministry before your family.

Let's face it, ministry is demanding. Sometimes church members make you feel like you have hundreds of children to rear. It feels like neglect not to address their needs. So, you leave your own children to minister to someone else's family. After all, your family will understand your being gone "just this once."

If you have to be away, it may be beneficial to bring members of your family with you on ministry opportunities. One PK reflected on his childhood, "My father included me in everything. We would spend summers in Spain planting churches. He took me on most of his global mission endeavors as well as many of his speaking engagements. The experience with my dad made me love ministry (I am in the pastorate) and I wouldn't change my experiences for anything."

If you have to be away, it may be beneficial to bring members of your family with you on ministry opportunities.

Your kids need to believe that you would rather hang out with them than with the people of the church. Children will learn to hate the ministry if you put the needs of everyone else ahead of your family's needs.

2. Tell them how much is expected of them as a pastor's kid.
"Your actions are going to ruin my ministry," a middle-aged PK woman bitterly quoted her father's oft-repeated words. Pastors can put excessive expectations on their kids because the church wrongly puts these expectations on the pastor's family. One minister's kid said, "It was VERY stressful being a PK because EVERYONE judges you differently, like you're supposed to be perfect. And then if you did mess up it was a bad reflection on Dad. We were told that by my parents often."

PK's often rebel for a number of reasons. High expectations led one PK into rebellion as he reflected back, "I felt an enormous amount of pressure to keep up appearances, something which I could not do for long. This eventually led me into a state of rebellion and anger toward my parents and people in the church."

The expectations are not limited to behavior, but also include the child's participation in church functions. The pressures on kids to help the pastor look good in front of his congregation can be overwhelming to a child. "I think my father viewed our family as the model family for the church," said one PK man in his early 20s. "So every place where volunteers were needed, his family served: weeding flower beds, singing in the choir, working VBS, or showing up for Sunday afternoon organ recitals."

### 3. Tell them about church conflicts as often as possible.

Ministry includes relational conflicts. Pastors will need to practice some level of transparency with their children so they won't assume Dad's and Mom's emotional upheaval is a result of the child's actions. Your children will take it very personal when you are angry.

A young man said, "Even when Dad tried to keep it just between him and Mom, you pick up on things." Try to explain to your children why you are frustrated but guard the details from them. The fact is, you will resolve most of the relational strains and will resume relationships. Be sure to tell the kids. Otherwise, they will become angry and bitter for you.

One PK explained it this way:

"The most difficult thing being a PK was watching my dad remain faithful to a church that wasn't. To see my dad as he prayed, loved, and shepherded men who stabbed him in the back was hard. It was extremely hard. By the time I left for college I was so mad at church, I would have gladly left."

Children will take up an offense for their pastor-parent and may not be mature enough to handle the complexities of relationships—especially church governance.

### 4. Look godlier at church than when you are at home.

Children will grow bitter about watching a parent live an insincere lifestyle. They will assume the faith was all an act, turning them away from you and the gospel (because they've not seen the real thing). One lady PK said, "He treated my mother awful. He ruled the house with an iron [fist], never was grace given. I knew most of the stories in the Bible, but I never learned from observation how to apply them to my life."

Your family needs to hear you confess your shortcomings more than anyone else.

This is problematic for a pastor's family. "Dad always showed more affection to mom at church than he did anywhere else," a lady said with sadness. "Work got his best," said one young man. "Work took a lot out of him so he was very short [tempered] and easily frustrated by his kids. He had a strong devotional life but found it hard to show grace to the family while showing vast amounts of grace to the flock."

Your family needs to hear you confess your shortcomings more than anyone else. Tell them you are sorry. Ask for their forgiveness regularly and then repent from any actions that are sinful. Your child's needs from their parents are not intrinsically different from any other profession.

Integrity always matters— but if a Christian leader is different in public than in private, the gospel is dishonored and people are eventually disillusioned. When that involves your children, expect them to walk away from the gospel—disillusioned.

### 5. Act more like a live-in, full-time pastor at home, rather than a parent.

Your kids need a parent, not a live-in pastor. One 22-year old PK explained it this way, "I am not a rebellious, spiteful PK because I am not really a PK. I am just a guy whose dad also happens to be a pastor. Sure, having a pastor-dad is different, but I think one of the biggest
reasons PK's get so rebellious is that they don't really have a dad—they have a live-in, full-time pastor who treats his kids more like a member of his congregation.”

One middle-aged PK lady pleaded with ministry parents, "Please, be a parent first to your kids and their pastor second. I don't call my father my pastor. He is simply my daddy. And I thank God for that every day."

**How to help them love ministry**

Not all children of pastoral parents hate the ministry. We must do what is best for their overall well-being, fight our own insecurities, and then trust the grace of God to do the rest. One well-adjusted young man encouragingly said, "Being a PK with godly and realistic parents, I've also had an example for what it looks like to love Jesus and cherish His word. The example of my parents and wonderful people in the church has encouraged me to follow Jesus because I see what He's grown in their lives, and I want that. And I want my friends to have that too."

If you have adult children who were PK's, maybe you need to go to them and ask for forgiveness.

If you have adult children who were PK's, maybe you need to go to them and ask for forgiveness. We heard from so many grown adult PK's who are hurt, bitter, angry or disillusioned. They need to hear from their parents how much they are loved in spite of all of the mistakes you made while serving in ministry.

If you are still raising your little PK's, ask the Spirit to show you where your children are adversely affected by your actions. Humbly ask their forgiveness—even if they are preschool. Then, raise a generation of PK's who see their parents in need of a Redeemer and who are resting in the grace of God more than they fear the accusations of a congregation.
By Nick Allen, Los Angeles 3:41PM GMT 25 Dec 2013 Follow

The saint-like image of a hooded woman looms out from the movie poster, her arms outstretched as a divine light bursts from the sky. A message written above is simple and unambiguous: “You Will Believe.”

So goes the promotional campaign for the forthcoming Hollywood blockbuster Mary Mother of Christ. “It is a part of Mary, Joseph and Jesus’s life that has not been shown on the big screen before,” reads a synopsis. “Under the reign of terror of Herod the Great and, against all odds, they survive as young parents in one of the most treacherous times in history.” It promises “faith-based high action drama” – and there is no room in the audience for doubting Thomases.

Mary Mother of Christ, whose title character will be played by Odeya Rush, a 16-year-old Israeli-born actress, is one of a series of unashamedly Christian biblical epics due to appear next year, marking an unprecedented overture by Hollywood to America’s evangelical heartland.

Studio executives who have spent the past few years releasing superhero and zombie films have, it seems, had an epiphany. Now their new best friends are evangelical pastors whose endorsements they actively seek, even inviting them on to sets during production. Pastors in turn play clips from films of which they approve to 10,000-strong congregations on 40ft wide movie screens.

Larry Ross, who has handled publicity for Christian groups and leaders including Rick Warren and Billy Graham, said “no pastor goes to seminary in order to market movies” but if the movie “proves edifying to their congregation, if it builds their faith”, they would recommend it.

In March audiences will be treated to Noah, a $150million special effects-laden extravaganza, in which Russell Crowe will build an ark and rescue mankind from the Great Flood. Harry Potter actress Emma Watson will play his adopted daughter, and Sir Anthony Hopkins is portraying Methuselah. The ark was built on Long Island, New York.

Noah will be followed by Sir Ridley Scott’s Exodus, in which Christian Bale, as Moses, will part the Red Sea. Scenes from ancient Egypt have been reconstructed in southern Spain, with Bale wielding a bow and arrow and Sigourney Weaver playing the Pharaoh’s wife. Scott has described the film, in a less than godly phrase, as “F------ huge”.

Another movie of Moses’s life called Gods and Kings is also planned. Steven Spielberg was due to make it but has been replaced by Ang Lee, who won the Best Director Oscar this year for Life of Pi. Meanwhile, Son of God will tell the story of Jesus’s life, with Portuguese actor Diogo Morgado in the lead role. Will Smith is said to be planning a film based on the story of Cain and Abel, and Brad Pitt is rumoured to be playing Pontius Pilate in a separate project. There will also be Resurrection, in which a Roman soldier is sent to investigate Christ’s death. It has been likened to “Gladiator, with a mystery bent”.

Phil Cooke, a film-maker and media consultant to Christian organisations, said Hollywood’s epiphany had financial, not spiritual, origins. “What’s happened is they’ve understood it’s very good business to take Christians seriously, and this is a real serious market,” he said. “For years Hollywood bent over backwards to reach special interest groups, be it feminists or environmentalists. It has finally realised that there are 91 million evangelical Christians in America.”

For their part, studio executives have taken something of a leap of faith that films in which religious figures save the world will bring big box office receipts.

That faith is based in no small part on the success of The Bible, a television mini-series shown on the History channel earlier this year, which averaged 11.4 million viewers and became America’s most watched cable show of 2013.

“It made the Bible cool to talk about again,” said Mr Cooke. “The separation of church and state in America is so strong that people had become afraid to talk about God, at work or at school. Suddenly, these Bible stories were water cooler conversation again.”

Since the days of epics such as Ben-Hur and The Ten Commandments more than half a century ago, Hollywood and America’s Christian areas have rarely seen eye to eye. A low point was Martin Scorsese’s 1988 film The Last Temptation of Christ, which featured sex scenes,
and flopped after Roman Catholics led a boycott.

But in 2004 Mel Gibson’s The Passion of the Christ achieved great commercial success, thanks partly to the endorsement of prominent Christians such as Rev Billy Graham. Since then, studios including Warner Bros, Sony and Fox have nurtured faith-based audiences. They have created “faith” divisions and employed Bible scholars to check scripts. “Mega-church” pastors have been invited to preview films months before their release.

Websites have also been created for pastors to download trailers to show during sermons. The push includes promoting films with Christian groups globally, particularly in South America and Africa.

However, that audience is knowledgeable about the subject matter and Hollywood is wrestling with questions of dramatic licence. One of next year’s epics has already run into controversy. Test screenings for Noah with a Christian audience in Arizona, and a Jewish audience in New York, reportedly produced troubling results. It has been suggested that the film shows Noah as an early opponent of climate change. Its director, Darren Aronofsky, has called him the “first environmentalist”.

Brian Godawa, a screenwriter, claimed to have read an early version of the script and said it portrayed a scenario in which the Great Flood was caused by man’s “disrespect” for the environment. Paramount, the studio behind Noah, remains adamant that it will sail on to success.

Whatever happens, Noah will have the same advantage for studios as the other biblical epics. Unlike movies based on superheroes, or the latest literary sensation such as Fifty Shades of Grey, the studios will not have to pay millions of dollars in copyright and licensing fees. The stories in the Bible are free to use.
'Unequivocal' cell phones cause cancer (E32)

January 12, 2014 08:30

AFP Photo/Philippe Huguen

Download video (76.95 MB)

Mobiles 'cooking the brain'; brain tumors become children’s number one killer illness; and leaked industry memo admits 'wargaming' the science.

Seek truth from facts with former senior White House adviser Devra Davis, Storyleak editor Anthony Gucciardi, 'cell phone survivor' Bret Bocook, Microwave News editor Louis Slesin, top radiation biologist Dariusz Leszczynski, and Ellie Marks, whose husband Alan's suing the industry for his brain tumor.

Watch live on RT:
Sunday January 12 at 04:45, 08:45, 12:45, 16:45, 20:45 GMT.
Monday January 13 at 00:45 GMT.

For more information, please visit rt.com/schedule/

This is a rush transcript. Copy may not be in its final form.

RT: My name's Daniel Bushell. Class action lawsuits filed against cell phone manufacturers. Coming up...

Announcer:

Insurers refuse public liability for cell phones.

The warning buried deep inside your mobile.

And the next 'casualty catastrophe' after tobacco and asbestos.

Keith Philips, brain tumor survivor: I would hold my cell phone here and the tumor was right there.

Stuart Cobb, brain tumor survivor: I always held it on my right side, right here. The industry should have put these warnings on these phones a long time ago.

RT: Professor Dariusz Leszczynski is one of the world's leading radiation biologists, and brave. He knew phone manufacturers would try to end his career for printing groundbreaking research, proving cell phones do cause biological damage.

Professor Leszczynski joins us, great to see you. How did the industry react?

Prof. Dariusz Leszczynski, Radiation and Nuclear Safety Authority, Finland: So far I think I didn't experience any smear campaign. But in my case it was just that the industry used their influence to prevent funding of my research projects.

RT: But studies like Professor Leszczynski's now allow top neurosurgeons to issue a stark cell phone warning.

Dr. Keith Black, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center neurosurgeon: It's essentially cooking the brain.

RT: Ellie Marks' husband Alan suffered serious memory loss after years of using a mobile.

At 2am one night he had a massive seizure. Surgeons found a tumor the size of a golf ball right where he held the phone.

Ellie, thank you so much for joining us. Why are you and so many others suing the industry?

Ellie Marks, wife of brain tumor victim: There's many many many others that are already deceased from this and are dying from this, younger than my husband. Some as young as 28 who are deceased and their neurosurgeons actually told them that it was probably their cell phone use.
We had about 20 cities and states that wanted to legislate as San Francisco had and they were all threatened with lawsuits by this industry.

RT: This is a photo of Bret Bocook's brain. The top quarter responsible for body balance has had to be removed after surgeons found this vast tumor right where he held the phone.

A US national rowing champion, now he can barely move.

Bret, great to speak to you, tell us about the class action lawsuit against the phone industry.

Bret Bocook, brain tumor victim: The only way you can educate the public against big business is through lawsuits. That was how they did it with smoking. It was not until the District Attorneys in the United States got involved and sued the cigarette industry that they actually had a huge settlement, had to pay hundreds of millions of dollars for public education as to the dangers of smoking.

That's what's going to happen with cell phones. It's just unequivocal categorical that these things cause cancer. And also, they don't want you to know that.

This is on the same trajectory as smoking. Because if you look at smoking in the '60s they had doctors coming on TV and saying 'Hey, smoke Marlboro, smoke this brand, because it's good for your cough.'

Camel cigarette commercial: And see how well Camels agree with your throat!

The Flintstones cigarette commercial: Winston, America's best selling best tasting filtered cigarette!

Bret Bocook, brain tumor victim: And more dangerous for children, because their skulls are a lot thinner. At least you can't buy cigarettes unless you're 18. But even a five-year-old can go and buy a phone.

RT: For phone manufacturers young children are targets. There are now working cell phones even for babies.

PCMag phone review: The glowPhone is for kids maybe five to eight and the flyPhone is for tweens.

RT: Samantha Miller's funeral was on her 18th birthday.

Phone use through childhood first gave her headaches, reports the Daily Mail, then the brain tumor that killed her.

In the West, brain tumors have overtaken leukemia, notes Senator Lyn Allison, as the number one child killer illness.

But doctors warn that's the tip of the iceberg.

Clinical studies find young men who keep phones in their pockets have much lower chances of producing offspring, while women often store them on their chest.

Tiffany Frantz, breast cancer victim: I would just tuck it into my bra.

RT: Tiffany Frantz got breast cancer aged just 21, right where since childhood she's stored her phone.

These spots mark the areas of Donna Jaynes' cancer. Her doctors call this a 'new breed of distribution' that exactly matches where women keep their phone.

Dr. John West, Chairman, Breast Care Center: It's a very unusual pattern where these multiple small cancers were confined to the upper inner aspect of the breast, I've never seen anything quite like this.

RT: This is a radiation detector, in normal surroundings around 30 microvolts/meter (µV/m).

Microwave ovens reach 800 µV/m. Wi-Fi routers use the same radiation technology.

Loading a film on a tablet PC reaches 2,000 µV/m.

Some of the world's best selling smartphones register over a thousand times above normal levels.

Insurers have in fact stopped covering cell phone manufacturers for public health.
Insurance firms privately call cell phones the next public ‘casualty catastrophe’ after asbestos and cigarettes.

Phone manufacturers have now quietly inserted a legal disclaimer.

On iPhones you have to go to Settings, General, About, at the bottom scroll down to Legal and at the end – RF Exposure, Radiofrequency Exposure.

Unlike most pages, the small print here can't be enlarged, but it reads: ‘Carry iPhone at least 10mm away from your body’

At the same time the industry says all its studies show phones are perfectly safe.

**Thomas Wheeler, CTIA phone lobby head:** Radio waves from cellular phones are safe.

**RT:** A 'conflict of interest' Harvard ethics professor Lawrence Lessig calls industry paid studies, which consistently conclude phone radiation is harmless.

Independent scientists meanwhile overwhelmingly find the most serious problems, from DNA damage to three times lower sperm counts, 290% more brain tumors, autism and birth defects.

**Former senior White House advisor and leading epidemiologist Dr. Devra Davis has testified to Senate on the subject she joins us, great to see you.**

How do you explain the completely opposite findings between industry and independent studies?

**Dr. Devra Davis, author of Disconnect:** Anytime there was independent research, what industry would do was three things: first they would go attack the scientists who have done the studies, they would try to get them fired, they’d try to get their funding taken away or they would accuse them of fraud.

When that didn’t work they hired other scientists who knew nothing about the field to do studies that looked like they were replicating the other studies but they really weren't.

And when all of those things failed, they wrote a memo in which they said if the cellular industry has done its job we think we war-gamed the science. That’s a quote - ‘war-gamed’ the science. Now science is not a matter of war, and it’s not a matter of games; we’re deadly serious about our health and that of our children.

**RT:** War-gaming, reveals this leaked Motorola document, is industry paid studies purely for reassuring the public.

**Norman Sandler, Motorola:** We have sufficiently war-gamed the issue.

**RT:** A sting has exposed how easy to get phoney studies in print.

Posing as a serious scientist, John Bohannon sent in a paper full of schoolboy errors, offering payment for publication.

Incredibly more than half the journals in these countries all around the world published it, even lying to the public that the study had been peer reviewed.

Investigative journalist Anthony Gucciardi has broken numerous health scandals, great to see you.

Surely big business wouldn’t fake studies to put millions of lives at risk. Do we have documented precedents?

**Anthony Gucciardi, Storyleak editor:** This is exactly like Eli Lilly which in the 1980s knew that Prozac was leading to suicides and aggressive behavior, the exact opposite effect of what they wanted. They knew that in the 1980s after they conducted the research. They hid the research and it wasn’t exposed until 2005 from the BBC.

But then they would have their corporate interests do studies and talk about how great it was. Now of course they’re required to admit that antidepressants do cause suicide, aggressive behavior, pretty much every shooter is on them.

When these cell phone companies are forced to admit that cell phone radiation does cause brain tumors, that it does do all this, and they’re already saying this in their manuals, so it’s already coming up. But once the public is aware of this fact, it will be even worse than antidepressants, it will be even worse than tobacco.
RT: We invited the powerful phone industry lobby CTIA to discuss the issues raised in this report.

They sent a one-line refusal.

CTIA phone industry lobby: Thank you for contacting us, but we will not be able to do this interview.

RT: The industry's most respected journalist is Dr. Louis Slesin, editor of Microwave News since 1981.

Louis, great to speak to you, there seems to be a parallel universe of what the industry says and everyone else.

Dr. Louis Slesin, Microwave News editor: The whole system is broken. People are not being told the truth, it's crazy. You know it's easy to say we made a mistake on tobacco after we know that tobacco’s a killer. The point is to take action.

RT: Action IS being taken outside the US.

France is moving schools back from Wi-Fi to cabled Internet.

Countries from Germany to Israel and Finland are moving to stop cell phone sales to kids.

But Obama just made industry chief lobbyist Thomas Wheeler head of the regulator itself, the FCC.

A former administration official calls it another astonishing conflict of interest.

So doctors who want parents at least informed of cell phone dangers to their kids say they aren’t holding their breath.

Seek truth from facts. This is The Truthseeker.
Aiming for 'Effective Anger': The Top 50 Countries Where It's Hardest To Be a Christian


Update (Jan. 14): Today the Pew Research Center updated its groundbreaking research on religious freedom worldwide. CT offers two charts examining how the World Watch List compares with Pew's findings.

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Twice as many Christians were killed for their faith in 2013 as in 2012, according to the latest report on the world's top 50 violators of Christian religious freedom.

However, the 2014 World Watch List (see full list below) from Open Doors International—which notes the increased impact of "failed states" and reveals its methodology for the first time—calculates a far lower total for Christian martyrdoms than recent estimates by other groups.

The top 10 nations "where Christians faced the most pressure and violence," according to the WWL, were North Korea, Somalia, Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan, Saudi Arabia, Maldives, Pakistan, Iran, and Yemen. While North Korea has topped the list for 12 straight years, this is the first time that a sub-Saharan African country took the No. 2 slot.

"Overall, the 2014 list determines that pressure on Christians increased in 34 countries, decreased in five, and remained about the same in the remaining 14," reports World Watch Monitor. The level of persecution "increased seriously" in eight countries: Syria, Iraq, Pakistan, Sudan, Libya, Egypt, Colombia, and Kazakhstan. By contrast, it "decreased considerably" in two countries: Mali and Tanzania.

The list's biggest debut: the Central African Republic (CAR), where strife between Muslims and Christians has displaced 1 million people and threatens to spread beyond the country's borders, the United Nations recently warned.

"Like Mali last year, CAR shows how rapidly a seemingly stable state can disintegrate and a Christian minority or even majority can come to the brink of extinction," said Open Doors in its press release. The CAR surged from being unranked to No. 16, much as Mali surged from unranked to No. 7 last year. (Mali has now fallen to No. 33.)

When only incidents of violence—including murders, rapes, kidnappings and church burnings—are assessed, the CAR ranks No. 1 worldwide, followed by Syria (though it produced far more martyrs). Rounding out this top 10: Pakistan, Egypt, Iraq, Myanmar, Nigeria, Colombia, Eritrea and Sudan. (The WWL's overall rankings include both physical violence and other pressures against Christians, and Open Doors notes that violence is not the most prevalent form of religious persecution.)

The rapid rise of the CAR illustrated an increase of persecution in "failed states," according to Open Doors. Six of the WWL's top 10 countries—Somalia, Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Yemen—fit the organization's definition of a failed state: "a weak state where social and political structures have collapsed to the point where government has little or no control."

The report showed "the importance of a stable state as a guardian of religious liberty," said Ronald Boyd-MacMillan, chief strategy officer who oversees the WWL, in an interview released by the organization.

The rankings continued last year's trends of increased persecution in African nations and by Islamist extremism, which drove persecution in 36 of the 50 WWL countries, according to the new report.

Sri Lanka (No. 29) and Bangladesh (No. 48) also joined the 2014 list, while Azerbaijan, Uganda, and Kyrgyzstan dropped off entirely. Tanzania dropped significantly from No. 24 to No. 49, while Colombia climbed from No. 46 to No. 25.

The report calculates a total of 2,123 Christians were martyred in 2013, roughly twice the number in 2012. Syria and Nigeria led with 1,213 and 612 martyrs, respectively, followed by Pakistan (88), Egypt (83), Angola (16), Niger (15), Iraq (11), the CAR (9), and Colombia (8).

In determining the degree of persecution, the report's methodology separately assesses governmental and societal persecution. A groundbreaking 2009 report by the Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life found a high correlation between social hostilities and government restrictions. CT charted the comparisons between the Pew list and the WWL.
Open Doors claims the WWL is "the only annual survey of religious liberty conditions of Christians around the world," and explains:

> [The WWL] measures the degree of freedom Christian have to live out their faith in five spheres of life – private, family, community, national and church life, plus a sixth sphere measuring the degree of violence. The methodology counts each sphere equally and is designed specifically to track the deep structures of persecution, and not merely incidents.

"Above all, we want others to join in and help improve our standards and catalyze more study of the Persecuted Church, so that the sum of our knowledge will increase," Boyd-MacMillan said.

The purpose of the report is to "create effective anger," leading people to pray and act on behalf of persecuted Christians, he said. "It creates awareness and it requires a strategic response. And great research is the only way that effective anger can be produced."

Brian Grim, a senior religion researcher at the Pew Research Center, told World Watch Monitor the good news behind such reports:

> Reports like the World Watch List, and those we produce at Pew Research Center, stimulate discussion and action among groups such as the United Nations, the European Parliament and the U.S. Congress. In 2011 alone, the sources used in the latest Pew Research study reported that 76 percent of countries had government or societal initiatives to reduce religious restrictions or hostilities.

Here is a summary of the 2014 World Watch List and how countries changed rank from 2013. Descriptions of persecution in all 50 countries can be found here.
Subscribe now for a year (10 issues) at $24.99 for print, iPad, and instant web access.

International Orders
The Top 20 Most-Read Christianity Today Articles of 2013

Kirsten Powers's conversion, Andy Stanley on President Obama, child sponsorships, the war over Christian beards, and more.

Jeremy Weber

[ posted 12/31/2013 12:06AM ]

Did you catch all of the most-read CT articles from 2013? Here's a look back at what readers kept clicking:

20) New Life After the Fall of Ted Haggard
How the megachurch healed—by remembering what it means to be the local church.

19) Q&A: Billy Graham's Warning Against an Epidemic of 'Easy Believism'
The evangelist speaks to CT on obedience, Heaven and Hell, and his My Hope campaign.

18) Do All Children Go to Heaven?
Reconciling original sin and death of the innocent.

17) Rob Bell's 'Ginormous' Mirror
To read his book is to read about our fascination with ourselves.

16) The Wars Over Christian Beards
Church leaders have almost always faced off over pastors' shaving habits.

15) Dallas Willard, a Man from Another 'Time Zone'
He wrote and taught like no one else on the 'with-God life.'
14) Worshiping Jesus in the Mosque
What it's like to follow Christ embedded in Muslim culture. An interview with a Muslim follower of Isa.

13) Sex Without Bodies
The church's response to the LGBT movement must be that matter matters.

12) Blindsided by God ... But Never Betrayed
How setbacks in my life revealed the Lord's true character.

11) Tebow's Big Fumble
Soon, the ball will be thrown to each of us.

10) The Real Problem with Mark Driscoll's 'Citation Errors'
And it isn't plagiarism.

9) Want to Change the World? Sponsor a Child
A top economist shares the astounding news about that little picture hanging on our refrigerator.

8) Chuck Smith, 86, Dies After Cancer Battle
Renowned California pastor founded Calvary Chapel movement.

7) Here Come the Radicals!
David Platt, Francis Chan, Shane Claiborne, and now Kyle Idleman are dominating the Christian best-seller lists by attacking our comfortable Christianity. But is 'radical faith' enough?

6) Top Ten Jesus Movies
They've been making films about the Son of God for over a century. Here's one man's list of those that ascend to the top of the cinematic pack.

5) How I Escaped the Mormon Temple
After being in the LDS Church for 30 years, I began reading the New Testament. What was there shocked me.

4) Did Andy Stanley Really Mean Obama Is 'Pastor in Chief'?
The Atlanta megachurch pastor speaks about his pre-inauguration sermon and reaction to it.

3) The Atheist's Dilemma
I tried to face down an overwhelming body of evidence, as well as the living God.

2) My Train Wreck Conversion
As a leftist lesbian professor, I despised Christians. Then I somehow became one.

1) Fox News' Highly Reluctant Jesus Follower
Of all people surprised that I became an evangelical Christian, I'm the most surprised.

For comparison, here are the top stories of 2012.

Related Topics: None

Posted: December 31, 2013 at 12:06AM

Subscribe now for a year (10 issues) at $24.99 for print, iPad, and instant web access.
Sorry, John 3:16: The Top 10 Bible Verses YouVersion Shared Most in 2013

Leading Bible app analyzes how its millions of users used the Bible this year.

Jeremy Weber

[ posted 12/30/2013 02:38PM ]

YouVersion has released its year-end analysis of how its millions of users engaged the Bible this past year.

Users shared 68 million Bible verses in 2013 via the uber-popular Bible app, installed 49 million times this year (and nearly 123 million times worldwide).

The Bible verse that was "bookmarked, highlighted, and shared ... more than any other verse" in 2013? Philippians 4:13: "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."


By comparison, the Bible's most-read chapter was Romans 8—"read 4 times per second in 2013," notes YouVersion. The other top chapters were Romans 12, Matthew 5, 1 John 4, and Hebrews 12.

The top 10 most-shared Bible verses, as well as other YouVersion insights, are in the infographic below. Meanwhile, YouVersion's recently released Bible App for Kids has already reached 2 million downloads.
Last year, CT noted how the Web's most-popular Bible verses match up—except for John 3:16. Once again, the key verse which ranks high among other digital Bibles failed to make YouVersion's top list.

CT also noted the favorite Bible verses of Barack Obama and Mitt Romney.
Bible App installs in 2013: 49,000,000

Bible App opens in 2013: 1,000,000,000

Bookmarks created: 120,000,000
- 3.8 bookmarks per second, up 133% this year.

Highlights created: 300,000,000
- 9.5 verses highlighted per second, up 161% this year.

Audio chapters listened to: 595,000,000
- 18.8 audio chapters per second, up 140% this year.

Verses shared: 68,000,000
- 2.1 verses shared per second, up 137% this year.

Read 4 times per second in 2013!

Most read chapters:
1. Romans 8
2. Romans 12
3. Matthew 5

Most popular verses:
1. Philippians 4:13
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International Orders
Parenting in the Haze of Legalized Marijuana

What do I tell my kids about pot?

Alexandra Kuykendall, guest writer

I got out of my minivan, and I could smell it in the rec center parking lot. Minutes later, my 11-year-old could, too.

Our first discussion about the new Colorado law that legalizes marijuana began with her asking, ”What's that smell?” It forced a conversation we needed to have anyway about marijuana, its effects on behavior, and the new laws that might make that smell more common. ”You mean it might smell like this all the time?” The only response I could offer was, ”I don't know.”

I'd learned she'd already talked with her grandmother, my mom, about the people standing in lines outside storefronts for their first chance to buy recreational marijuana legally. In Denver these days, it seems everyone's talking about the Broncos or marijuana.

Adults haven't quite made sense of it all yet, so it's even harder to explain to kids. It's legal in Colorado, but still illegal under the federal law? How will this all play out in a year? Five years? Ten years? Will the jokes ever go away, or will we keep hearing Jimmy Kimmel make cracks about the ”Mile High City”? When will the craze of hemp-minded tourists peter off? Will we see more crime, or simply more tax revenue?

Parents can't help but ask themselves even more questions: Will pot be more accessible to my teenager next month? Next year? How about my pre-teen? Will the marijuana “edibles” packaged as candy make their way into my kids' hands?

Though parents are perplexed and looking for guidance on how the new law trickles down to the kitchen table discussions, I've found only a single local news story about parenting through it. A Denver Post article that ran the first week of January: Teens and pot use: Parents, here's what you need to talk about.

The reporter interviewed local healthcare professionals to debunk common myths about the drug. The experts state that pot use is dangerous for developing brains. That teenagers and young adults carry a higher risk of becoming regular users because of how their brains interact with the drug. That there can be long-term damage to a young person's IQ, plus respiratory harm if the marijuana is smoked. Pot
use is not good for young people's bodies and minds. And now, we can assume it will be easier than ever for our kids to acquire.

As John Piper writes in his recent blog post *Don't Let Your Mind Go to Pot*, we must convey to our children that their bodies are vessels of the Holy Spirit, to be cared for because God lives in them (1 Cor. 6:19-20). There are lots of activities that are both legal and fall within the social norm that I do not want my children to participate in. Whether legal or not, socially accepted as "no big deal" or not, my kids have God-given free will that may lead them to make choices I disagree with in all kinds of areas. I know laws alone don't dictate our children's behavior or outcomes, but I do know my husband and I appreciate when the laws feel like a help rather than a hindrance in steering my kids toward our moral framework. Piper notes:

> When my mother told me not to smoke, for example, or not to have sex before marriage, because my body was the temple of the Holy Spirit, it clicked. That made sense. It was an immovable barrier between me and self-destruction. My body belonged to God. It was not for my recreational use in just any way I pleased. It was for his glory.

I hope this reasoning makes sense to my children as well. As parents we will pray for such clarity in them, but we won't rely on it. Our family requires a continued discussion around health and behaviors and working towards God's best for our lives. Our parenting sets up boundaries to limit their risks of exposure to risky behaviors, which loosen as they mature. We reinforce our words with modeling a care for our own bodies and minds because we want to honor what God has offered us.

We are neither purists nor protectionists. By this I mean my husband and I do our best to demonstrate good health, and we drink alcohol and caffeine in moderation. Still, we don't exercise half as much as we should and eat our fair share of junk food. As far as treating our bodies as the temple of the Holy Spirit we fall short for a myriad of reasons, ranging from life with four kids to our fallen nature.

And we don't parent in a vacuum. We are attempting to raise our kids to become real adults in a real world. When they grow up and leave our home, we want them to be prepared to handle the realities of our society, marijuana and all. We're partly terrified, but this is the "in the world" life we're called to live, and it comes with potential risks.

I wish there were a step-by-step process for ensuring this drug and my children don't mix. But I'm starting to suspect the reason there haven't been many local news stories on how to tackle this new parenting dilemma is because there aren't clear talking points. I'm left with the parenting basics Christian parents have used for centuries: boundaries, prayer and continued conversations with my kids about their value to God and the free will he's given them.

Alexandra Kuykendall is Mom and Leader Content Editor at MOPS International (Mothers of Preschoolers) a ministry to moms of young kids. Her memoir, *The Artist's Daughter*, explores her own journey of identity development and significance from childhood to marriage and motherhood. Connect with her at [AlexandraKuykendall.com](http://AlexandraKuykendall.com)

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