Dear Center for,

This eLetter provides you with the latest version of Contemporary Comments.

In the right sidebar you can also secure the Sharing Scripture facilitator guides for 1st Qrt. January-March 2014 on "Discipleship."

These excellent discussion sheets are designed to enhance your Sabbath school class or small group. Suitable for photocopying, Sharing Scripture contains thought questions and exercises that transform ordinary study times into dynamic learning adventures.

Grace to you!
Center for Creative Ministry

Contemporary Comments

"With the Rich and Famous"
February 22, 2014

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Featured Items
MARCH WEBINAR
There is still time to register for our March webinar hosted by Monte Sahlin: "Dealing with the Dropout Problem: How to Reconnect with Former & Inactive Members."
To register click here.

Order THIS WEEK’S PDF
Sharing Scripture
"I'd be much happier if I just had more money." Have you ever had this thought? It's tempting to think that money can buy happiness when you look at what some wealthy people do with their fortune: large houses, fancy cars, dream vacations, and guaranteed college funding for their kids.

Although there are happy rich people, it's not true that money can buy happiness. Read a few facts and quotes from wealthy people in an article from Business Insider:

Having a lot of money makes you want to make more.
"I thought, if I could make 10 million dollars then it must be too easy. In fact, I honestly thought, everyone else had probably already made 11 million dollars. So then I felt poor again. I now needed 100 million dollars to be happy." - James Altucher

When rich people start dying, they become less proud of their wealth.
"After she attained what she thought was success, [my mother] was diagnosed with Stage IV cancer. She spent the days up until her death regretting almost all the choices she made and beat herself up day after day. One of her last journal entries included reflections on how unappreciative she was with the things in front of her, and finally realizing happiness does not lie within superficial matters a little too late." - Mona Nomura

Sometimes, you feel like you are God.
"When I was little, I used to take kids aside and explain to them that I was indeed God. ‘Psssst, you know I'm God, right?’ Obviously that feeling has left me, but it hasn't left my father, who used to tell me that we have blue blood. He now sits in his room in a constant depression, and is the most miserable person I know." - Igor Atakhanov

After you are rich, you take it for granted, like you take having great parents for granted.
"[Being rich] feels like all the other blessings we have in life when times are tough - we know that they are blessings, strive not to take them for granted, but can forget we're blessed when we're feeling down. It's like having a beautiful kid or a wonderful spouse or great parents. And for me, at least, I can say with absolute certainty it has not made me any happier." - Rick Webb

Why is it that being rich and famous doesn't make a person any happier? Because at the very heart of one’s soul is the deep desire for something that money can’t buy. Nicodemus was searching for that something when he secretly came to Jesus. And he found out that what he really needed was a new life--to be "born again."

Discipling the rich and famous shouldn't be intimidating. Nor should we envy them, become jealous, or shun them. They need to hear about Jesus just like everyone else. They need to hear that their sins can be forgiven and that a better world is coming. And if we don't tell them, who will?

~ nc
About Us

Since 1988, the Center for Creative Ministry has been serving local church leaders and individuals around the world. Formerly known as the publishers of ABBA Newsletter and the Baby Boomer Ministries Resource Center, we have now broadened our generational/ministry focus to include our children. The Center for Creative Ministry took on its new name on June 1, 1996.

The Center for Creative Ministry, formerly Baby Boomer Ministries, is a privately funded and managed para-church ministry fully recognized by the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America. We are dedicated to supporting the local church in outreach and nurture ministries by providing resources, information, training, and consulting.