

Should I Respond?

"Do not answer a fool according to his folly, Lest you also be like him.

by Justin Brewer

Answer a fool according to his folly, Lest he be wise in his own eyes" (**Proverbs 26:4-5**).

The last couple of days, I've observed a few conversations to which I would apply these two verses written by King Solomon. At a quick glance, it appears that Solomon is contradicting himself, but if we dig in deeper we can obtain a clearer understanding; do not answer the fool in the same foolish manner (do not go down to their level) lest we be like him, but answer the fool's folly appropriately and wisely lest "he be wise in his own eyes."

With the ease of response on social media, Christians can too easily be caught up in non-

sensical arguments with people who are not looking for truth.

Paul calls such "foolish and ignorant disputes" and commands Christians to avoid such (**2 Timothy 2:23**). Likewise, Paul commands that we are to "Reject a divisive man after the first and second admonition" (**Titus 3:10**); this applies to Facebook as well as one-on-one contact. As Christians, we are to "Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching" (**2 Timothy 4:2**), but that does not necessarily mean that all of these actions will take place on a single soul! Weigh the value (**Matthew 7:6**) of a discourse and if it is worthless, shift your attention to someone with whom you have an actual opportunity.



The Auburn Beacon



Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. (**Matthew 5:16**)

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Be Strong and Courageous - Finding the Courage to Stand

by Wilson Adams



Thoughts to Ponder

Only be strong and very courageous, that you may observe to do according to all the law ...do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may prosper wherever you go.

(Joshua 1:7)

Elders
Walker Davis
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SCHEDULE OF SERVICES Sunday

Bible Class9:30 AM
Worship10:20 AM
Evening Worship 6:00 PM

Wednesday

Bible Classes.....7:00 PM

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Larry Rouse
Evangelist and Editor

The first chapter of Joshua is one of my favorites. As God passes the baton of leadership from Moses to His new commander-in-chief, Joshua is challenged four times to "be strong and courageous" (**vv. 6, 7, 9, 18**). The work would not be easy, the difficulties daunting, and the obstacles potentially paralyzing. Lesser men would fail, but Joshua was not a lesser man.

Some people think they are leaders, yet no one is following. I like what John Maxwell said: "A leader without followers is just taking a walk." And I would add...a lonely one at that. Joshua's faith, courage, and conviction inspired his people. Note their response to his leadership, "We will do... We will go... We will obey..." (**1:16-17**). He motivated an entire congregation to stand up and rise to the challenge. It is what courageous leaders do.

The Great American Myth

Those in foreign countries (who have seen too many American movies) conclude that we're a nation of rugged individualists. It's a myth! We are not a nation of individualists; we are a nation of conformists. In fact, we go to extreme lengths to keep from being different. After all, one of our greatest fears is to be ostracized, rejected, and put down by our peers. And so we cave to the [peer] pressure. It is easier that way.

Joshua's faith, courage, and conviction inspired his people. Note their response to his leadership, "We will do... We will go... We will obey..."

(Joshua 1:16-17)

No one said living for Christ was going to be painless and pleasant. Jesus said the very opposite. He said unbelievers will "persecute you and say all kinds of evil against you" (**Matt.5:11**). He also made it clear that "if they hated Me, they will hate you" (**John 15:18-19**). Paul echoed the same when he said, "all who desire to live godly will be persecuted" (**2 Tim.3:12**). Note: it's not may be, but will be. And I'll let you in on a non-secret-the more convicted you are as a Christian, the more courage you are going to need.

Connecting the Courage Dots

Okay, it is time for a courage check. And rather than deal in obscure generalities

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Find us on the Internet: www.auchurch.com and www.aubeacon.com

Our Meeting with Wilson Adams begins today! Truth Seekers begins on Thurs, September 7 at 8 PM Meetings will be in Room 2107 of the Student Canter Ladies Classes will begin in September on Monday Nights and Tuesday Mornings

Lisa Carter (Luke's mother)	Jesse Godwin (Troy's father)	Nell Holcomb (Ben's grandmother, Joannetta's aunt)	Louise Pack (Anna and Christopher's grandmother)
Gloria Detmer and Carol Dickerson (Toni Herd's Sisters)	Don Lanier (Father of Greg Lanier)	David Hartsell (Holly and Brad's Father)	Ruth Addison (gmom of April and Julie)
Madeline Morton (Greg Lanier's g'daughter)	Anna Price	Betty Bradford	Reba Patterson (Heath Fowler's mom)
Jean Buchanan (Abbie Harrison's grandmother)	Tina Atnip (Orie's cousin)	Danny Weldon (Rusty Weldon's brother)	Abbie Harrison
Gerald White (Christopher, Anna and Wesley's Father)	Arabelle Rich (Joannetta's aunt)	Jane Hunt (Chuck's mother)	Charles Hunt, (Chuck Hunt's dad)
Gay Ulrich (Emma's mom)	Toni Herd	Taina Acuff (Anna's aunt)	Shawn Lauderdale (Larry and Joannetta's son)

August Birthdays
1-Trinity Jerkins
2-Emma Miller
6-Allyson Houlton
6-Sandra Chason
8-Alli Luther
9-Elliot Weldon
9-Troy Swenson
10-David Hartsell
11-Walker Davis
12-Jon Coleman
13-Ariel Ramsey
15-Kalee Reid
15-Everleigh Crawford
16-Sharon Edwards
18-Heidi Abell
18-Chris Britnell
21-Matt Cavender
22-Case O'Dell
23-Jordan Holliday
23-Colton Miller
24-Sophie Hall
26-Payton Davis
27-Chip Freeman
28-Larry Rouse
28-Cole Johnson
28-Alex Dobbins

News and Notes

- ☒ - The first college devotional and singing is tonight after services! Wilson Adams will be speaking! All students are invited!
- ☒ - Please take the cards in the foyer and invite all to the meeting this week!
- ☒ - Sandra Chason's mom, Mary Edwards, remains in the Hospital and may come home on Monday.
- ☒ - William Herd's mom, Emma Hettinger, is out of the hospital and has improved!
- ☒ - Please pray for our expectant mothers: Paula Davis, Xiang Li, Mallory Randolph and Suzanne Stagner .
- ☒ - We welcome our new member Will Reaves!
- ☒ - Shawn Lauderdale is receiving outpatient rehab at home! His address is 10835 Black Wolf Bay in San Antonio, TX 78245.
- ☒ - Please have your picture made or update your picture after the Sunday morning service in the foyer!
- ☒ - All audio is immediately uploaded to www.auchurch.com. Also CD's of meeting will be available in the foyer.

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that accomplish little (except to make us feel good), let's get real. Painfully real.

Let's start with young people...

Will you tell the interviewer that, as a Christian, it is very important for you to worship on Sunday?

Will you stand up for Jesus among your friends and tell them that you've made a decision not to drink, go dancing, or dress provocatively?

Will you read your Bible in public (you read other books in public)?

Will you forgo a friend's invite to a Sunday ballgame because of your previous commitment to worship?

Will you choose better friends if your current friends begin to weaken your standards?

Will you de-friend from Facebook those taking God's name in vain?

Will you speak up about a movie or music that de-values the values of Christ?

Will you bow your head in a restaurant and quietly (and without show) thank God for your food?

Will you promote abstinence when it comes to sexual activity?

Will you be accountable, trustworthy, and respectful to your parents?

Will you or won't you ... be strong and courageous when it comes to connecting the dots of courage?

By the way, do you think peer pressure vanishes when you get older? Doesn't the same call for courage exist among the twenty-something, thirty-something, and beyond crowd? Sure it does.

Will you speak up when someone says, "I hope you don't mind my language..."

Will you find the courage to talk to a younger sister in Christ who dresses seductively?

Will you find the courage to parent when your daughter pushes the envelope on her dress?

Will you decline the invite to lunch at Hooters?

Will you tell your neighbors that you would love to come over and watch the Sunday night game, but

you can't make it until later because you take your family to church?

Will you be faithful to your spouse while on your business trip?

Will you counsel your co-worker that cursing the unfair supervisor won't help the situation?

Will you respond as a Christian when another employee got the credit, raise, or position when you suspect they stabbed you in the back?

Will you speak up when the discussion concerns a TV show that you turned off because it was vulgar?

Will you keep your cool when your neighbor loses his?

I am not speaking about being obnoxious and purposefully offensive. I understand the time for silence, propriety, and common sense. I get that. But there is also a time to speak with courage. Paul said, "Therefore knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade men" (2 Cor.5:11a). That says literally, "to win over with words." Yes, sometimes we must speak up in order to stand up.

Do you have that kind of courage?

Three Courage Commitments to Make

1. I am responsible. There are times in life when no one is around-no parents, no mate, no other Christians. What then? Integrity is what you are when no one is looking. Do you have it?

2. I must not forget. It's easy to forget who we are. The day you became a Christian, you took the name of God's Son. It is a name you wear 24/7/365. Do not tarnish that name (**1 Pet.4:16**).

3. Jesus Christ sets my standard. Not the world. Not my business associates. Not my friends. I have given my life to Christ. He calls the shots.

I don't know where you are today, but you will be tested before this day is over. Will you stand or cave? Will you find your voice of courage or will you cower?

Be strong and courageous...

...for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go (**Joshua 1:9**).

Pressing On E-Magazine, January 2012



What I Want for My Daughters

By Bryan Gibson

I want my daughters to be beautiful on the inside. ... I want them to be clothed with "strength and honor" (Prov. 31:25), and with a "meek and quiet spirit" (1 Pet. 3:3-5).

Recently, my wife and I were blessed with the birth of a baby girl, Leah May Gibson. We now have two daughters Alli is three years old. As any father is likely to do, I've done some thinking about what the future holds for my two daughters. Here are some things I want for my girls, things I believe God wants for them, too.

I want my daughters to be beautiful on the inside. It's not that I want them to neglect their outward appearance; it's just that there are some things far more important. I want them to be clothed with "strength and honor" (**Prov. 31:25**), and with a "meek and quiet spirit" (**1 Pet. 3:3-5**). I want them to have the kind of beauty that never fades. In looking through the New Testament I see many qualities I would love for my daughters to have. I want them to be poor in spirit, meek, merciful, compassionate, tenderhearted, forgiving, kind, longsuffering, pure in heart, and patient. I want them to hunger and thirst after righteousness. I want them to mourn when they sin. I want them to learn to rejoice, even in the midst of difficult times. I want them to learn what it means to be truly content. In short, I want them to be like Christ, which should be the goal of every faithful Christian.

I want them to marry faithful Christians. I want this, partly, for selfish reasons. I want my daughters to be treated well, and if they marry faithful Christians, they will be. If married to faithful Christians, they will be loved as Christ loves the church (**Eph. 5:25**). They will have unselfish husbands (**Phil. 2:3-4**). They will have husbands who not only tell them they love them, but who show them as well (**1 John 3:16-18**). But there are other reasons for wanting them to marry faithful Christians. I want them to marry someone with whom they can pray. I want them to marry someone who will want the same things for the children as they do.

I want them to marry someone with whom they can be fellow-workers in the kingdom of God, a husband and wife team like that of Aquila and Priscilla (Acts 18:24-26; 1 Cor. 16:19; Rom. 16:3-4).

I want them to be good wives. Each will need to understand her role of submission in this relationship (**Eph. 5:22-24, 33**). Each will need to look out for the interests of her husband, as well as her own

(**Phil. 2:3-4**). Each will need to show her husband she loves him (**1 John 3:18**). Each will need to do her husband good as long as she lives (**Prov. 31:12**).

I want them to be good mothers. I want them to see the importance God places on bringing up children (**1 Tim. 2:11-15**). I want them to be like the virtuous woman of Proverbs 31, who was very attentive to her children's needs. I want them to be like Hannah, who said of her son Samuel, "I will give him to the Lord all the days of his life" (**1 Sam. 1:11**). I want them to be like Eunice, who taught her son Timothy the Scriptures from childhood (**2 Tim. 1:5; 3:14-15**).

I want them to be ready to do good for others. I want them to be like the virtuous woman who "extends her hands to the poor . . . reaches out her hands to the needy" (**Prov. 31:20**). I want them to be like Dorcas, who was "full of good works and charitable deeds" (**Acts 9:36**); like Phoebe, who was "a helper of many" (**Rom. 16:1-2**). I want them to be the kind of women who have "diligently followed every good work" (**1 Tim. 5:10**).

Finally, I want my daughters (as well as my sons) to go to heaven. If they can do the things mentioned earlier in this article, they will be well on their way.

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