

## GIVE YOUR TOBACCO TO A CHIMPANZEE?

Neal Pollard

As a little child, I remember learning and loving a song we would sing at Vacation Bible School time and sometimes during the weekly Bible class time. You may know the song:

Don't drink booze, don't drink booze,  
Spend your money on a pair of shoes.  
Please don't smoke, please don't smoke,  
Feed your tobacco to a billy goat.  
Please don't curse, please don't curse,  
I can't think of anything that's worse.  
Be polite, be polite,  
Always treat other people right.  
Worship God, worship God,  
Don't go Sunday with a fishing rod.

Even as a tyke, I knew I was being indoctrinated about the perils of using alcohol, tobacco, and curse words as well as the need for courtesy and faithful attendance. It so happens that I could see the logic in the lesson it taught.

The Associated Press reports that Omega, a 12-year-old chimp, has developed a nicotine addiction from his cage at a Lebanese zoo. Omega has not had an ordinary life, even for a chimpanzee in captivity. He began life as an entertainer in a local restaurant (you can't make this stuff up!), where he smoked cigarettes until he was too big and strong for that gig. The last 10 years have been spent at the zoo, where he waited for those moments when a visitor would toss him a cigarette inside his cage. Animal rights activists are rescuing him, putting him on an Emirates airline flight, and relocating him to a sanctuary in Brazil where it is presumed they will try to rehabilitate him and break his smoking habit.

Omega cannot be held responsible for an unhealthy choice he cannot possibly weigh and rationalize. Tobacco is an addictive substance, providing a short-term pleasure and creating a dependency that increases with continued use. He is not made in God's image (cf. Gen. 1:27), and he has no heaven to gain or hell to lose (cf. Matt. 25:31ff; 2 Cor. 5:10). We, on the other hand, have been given stewardship over time, money, talents, and other resources, including our bodies (1 Cor. 6:19-20). There are a myriad of choices we make that can harm those bodies, from overeating to drug abuse to tobacco use. We do not want to make deliberate choices that wear down or weaken those bodies in which we are to be found wholeheartedly serving the Lord. The list of poor health conditions related to the effects of long-term, regular smoking is very long. Beyond that, we should not want to be enslaved to anything or anyone other than our Lord and righteousness. How sad to see a chimp reduced to taking a drag from a used cigarette. Sadder still is to see people made in the image of God reduced to nervous, distressed, agitated messes for want of another smoke. Let us work not to let cigarettes or any other earthly thing make a monkey out of us!

## West Side Youth



### Happy Birthday This Week:

Connie Harrah 6/28  
Eddy Gilpin 6/29  
Linda Maness 6/29  
Sandra Wood 7/2  
Marc LaPlante 7/2

### Happy Anniversary This Month to:

Ben & Michele Nikkel 7/4  
Miles & Louise Quesenbury 7/14  
Squeaky & Lisa Valentine 7/18  
Tom & Nancy Richardson 7/31



## WOW

The next event will be planned for August.  
Keep an eye on this spot for details!!



Ty Stricklin returns to the states on June 20. He will return to his post at Balboa Hospital in San Diego, CA.

Angela Halling is currently stationed in Korea.

Katie Halling is now stationed in Norfolk, Va. She is in training with the Navy Search & Rescue unit.

Lcpl Harper, Matthew D.; is a Marine from Galax who is now serving in Afghanistan.

## Directory Update

Jerry Anderson 's new email:

**HOUSE WARMING** for Jeremy & Jessica White  
2625 Wood Warbler Lane, Roanoke, VA 24018  
July 9, 2-4 PM . See Amanda Brown for details.

Congrats to one of our songleaders,  
**Paul Mays**, who sang the National Anthem

Monday, 6/27- SYD at West Side, 7-8:30

Tuesday, 6/28-Tubing Trip

Wednesday, 6/29- WND

July 2-8 Horizons Week @ FHO

July 11-SYD at C'burg, 7-8:30

July 14- Water From the Well Project

July 25- SYD t Dale Ridge, 7-8:30

July 27- Teen Devo

July 28- Door Knocking for VBS

July 30 -VBS

July 31- Young Men conduct worship service

## Fabulous !!!

West Side teens were shining at VCC this week.  
Outstanding Senior Girl: **Sarah Cook**  
Outstanding Junior Girl: **Khaila Mickens**  
Outstanding Junior Boy: **Austin Whitlow**

Thanks to all who went and represented us so well.



## TEAMS Fourth of July

July 3rd from 1:00-3:00 pm  
Congregational picnic at **Moyer Park**.  
Details and sign-up sheet will follow.



## BABY SHOWER

A shower to welcome the newest Beavers addition will be held **June 26th** at **4:00 pm** in the **fellowship hall**. Charlotte Harrington is hosting. Gift suggestions will be posted on the bulletin board.

## JULY ITEMS FOR THE STAFFORDS:

Instant sugar-free chocolate pudding; Truvia sweetener packets; Meringue powder.  
Give to Jeanny to be shipped over.

**\*OUR GOAL\***

## For Your Information

### TUESDAY NIGHT TALENTS

Tuesday Night Talents continues July 5th. Bring your dinner at 6:00 or come at 6:30 pm and join us for the work!

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### UPCOMING EVENTS

June 28—Tubing Trip

July 3-Congregational picnic at Moyer Park

July 2-8 is Horizons Junior & Senior week at FHU

July 9-15 is CTS series at FHU

July 17—Preacher Camp

July 30—Vacation Bible School

August 6—Anti Drug Program at ALMS auditorium/Tom House

August 12—18—Polishing the Pulpit

October 16-19—Gospel Meeting with Steve Hall

November 12—Men's w/s planning breakfast

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### Wednesday Night Summer Series:

June 29- **Alan Highers**- "What About Instrumental Music in Worship" (August 2004)

July 6- **Foy E. Wallace, Jr.**- "The Kingdom of God"

July 13- **Marshall Keeble**- "The Doctor Who Never Lost a Case" & "There's Water in the Plan"

July 20- **\*George Bailey**- "Heaven Holds All To Me"

\* = living

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### Continue in Prayer:

Ruth & Glenn Hartman, Sr.; Shannon VanRavesteyn, Annette Shrader, Willard Campbell, Clarence Angelotti, Vicky Rogers, Renee Galloway (LTF), James Paul, **Jack Cook family**, Hazel McFalls, David Manno, Maurene Gearhart, Evelyn White, Donell Argabright, Garret Pennington, Brian Anderson, Hannah Duke, Missy Dye, Bradford Durham, Jerri Blevins, Bud Ferguson, Kevin Bernard; Ashley Lakes; Sandra Speir; Corey Ryan; McKinley Burch ( got a good report- no sign of additional melanoma)

## Senior Servants

Lynn Anderson  
Norma Biller  
Betty Buckner  
Jim Dorsett  
Al Farrow  
Walter Jenkins  
Martha Keith  
Margaret Kratz  
Miriam Majors  
Jo Musgrove  
Grace Myers  
Evelyn Scott  
Elsie Smith  
Ruth Stanton  
Evelyn White  
EV Wimmer  
WJ Wood

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- Wes White had surgery Friday
- Ron White will have gall bladders surgery on July 5.
- Karen Garrett, Ed Argabright's daughter, is recovering from back surgery at Springtree Health Care
- Dale Janosik, Lila Conklin's daughter, has trouble breathing. Tests were done, but show no sign of her cancer recurring.
- Jeannie Ruf, Jean Argabright's relative has started chemo for her esophageal cancer.
- Rik Henrikson, Lori Cook's cousin, has inoperable cancer.
- Elsie Smith has entered Carriage Hill Retirement Center Please send her a card.
- Susan Stinnett, John Black's daughter, has been having severe back pain.

July 2011

## Gleanings from the NKJV (9)

### “Fools Mock at Sin”

**Announcements:** Paul Mays

**Song Leader (AM):** David Brown

**Opening Prayer (AM)**

7/3 Roger Mays  
7/10 Jerry Anderson  
7/17 Charlie Gwaltney  
7/24 Wayne Dixon  
7/31 Jonathan Beavers

**Preside at Communion:** Mike Durham

**Serve Table**

A. C. Janney; Josh Whitlow  
Tom Richardson; Garrett Durham

**Closing Prayer (AM):**

7/3 Mark Brooks  
7/10 Barry White  
7/17 Jim Cooke  
7/24 Cameron Brown  
7/31 Don Pettit

**Song Leader (PM):** Sam Valentine

**Opening Prayer (PM)**

7/3 John Black  
7/10 Jim Harrington  
7/17 Marc LaPlante  
7/24 Squeaky Valentine  
7/31 Bob Garby

**Scripture Reader:** Jimmy Harrington

**Closing Prayer (PM)**

7/3 Herman Lowe  
7/10 Jeff Guilliams  
7/17 Glenn Gabbard  
7/24 Glenn Hartman  
7/31 Gene Benefield

**Serve Table (PM)**

Cameron Brown; Bradford Durham

**Song Leader (Wed):** Garrett Durham  
**Prayer (Wed)**

7/6 Greg Edwards  
7/13 Jim Bush  
7/20 Ron White  
7/27 David Brown

**Open/Close Bldg:** Bob Garby

**Greeters:** Pettits; Peverall

**Nursery Attend:** Nancy Richardson (am)  
Emily Gray (pm)

**Ushers:** Curtis Oakes, Roger Mays

**Handouts:** Dylan Tyler; Connor Jearls

**Prepare communion:** Katelyn Brown  
Gloria White

**Baptismal Garments:** Lisa Valentine

**Cards/Pencils:** Austin Whitlow  
Emmalynn Whitlow

*Last week's attendance 6/19 & 6/22/11*

*Bible Class—151 Worship Service—166*

*Sunday Eve.—78 (VCC) Wed. Eve.—78*

*Contribution—\$5035*

We continue our look at some statements that are translated differently in the New King James Version from the King James Version. These differences in the wording, although not affecting the meaning of the passage, often make for some interesting studies. We now turn our attention to the book of Proverbs.

Proverbs is a compilation of pithy, sage sayings mostly written by Solomon. It is a book which lends itself to categorization as opposed to outlining, for the most part. This great book says much about both the subjects of wisdom and foolishness. At times, both are personified in order to showcase the lessons from each. A clear distinction is drawn between the wise man and the foolish man.

One of the statements made regarding the foolish individual is found in Proverbs 14:9. Here the text reads: “Fools mock at sin, but among the upright there is favor” (NKJV). Very early in the book of Proverbs we are told of the consequences of not heeding God’s way and of mocking at sin. The writer states: “Because I have called, and ye refused; I have stretched out my hand, and no man regarded; But ye have set at nought all my counsel, and would none of my reproof: I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh; When your fear cometh as desolation, and your destruction cometh as a whirlwind; when distress and anguish cometh upon you. Then shall they call upon me, but I will not answer; they shall seek me early, but they shall not find me: For that they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the LORD: They would none of my counsel: they despised all my reproof. Therefore shall they eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices” (Prov. 1:24-31). When one makes a mockery of sin and regards God’s word as dispensable, optional or worthless, there will come a time when he will need what God provides, but he will not be able to find it. He will look back with anguish upon his wretched life and ruined state. Just as he has mocked at sin, God will also “mock” when his fear comes. Israel serves as a prime example of this. They forsook God, and He forsook them (Judges 10:13; II Kgs. 22:17; Jer. 5:19; 15:6; 19:4-9). We live in a world that needs desperately to learn not to “mock at sin.”

-Eddy