

1: To Tell the Truth (Matthew ;) | www.enganchecubano.com

Sermon Truth Matters For You and Tomorrows Generation 1. Sermon Truth Matters For You and Tomorrows Generation 1. Speaker Josh McDowell. Date 02/11/ Topic.

The Plain and Simple Truth Honesty: Everything, and I mean everything, depends on honesty. The result is that trust is shattered, reputations are damaged, and suspicion rules the day. So, why do people lie? The reasons are countless. People lie to make themselves look better, steal the credit, cover up poor performance, conceal mistakes, deflect the blame, protect their reputations, and deceive and manipulate people. Regardless of the motive, the ultimate results are the same. And still other people tell white lies, hoping to protect someone often themselves from the truth. How do you identify a lie? As a general rule of thumb, if your ears hear one thing and your eyes see another, use your brain "because something is obviously wrong. Here are some common forms of dishonesty that masquerade as acceptable behavior: Distorting facts to consciously mislead or create a false impression. Spinning the truth, presenting opinion as fact, and using revisionist thinking or euphemisms to masquerade the truth are all forms of misrepresentation. Leaving out key information to intentionally deceive someone. Deliberately inventing an untruth or spreading a falsehood such as gossip or a rumor. Stretching the truth to give a more favorable impression. Refusing to acknowledge the truth or to accept responsibility for a mistake or falsehood that was made. Withholding information knowing that full disclosure will have negative consequences. Deflecting blame to another person to prevent personal embarrassment or responsibility. Making a promise with no intention of keeping it. Protecting the misdeeds of others. Saying one thing and consciously doing another. Attracting someone with an exciting offer only to divert them to an inferior deal. Any way you cut it, when people distort the truth, they put their credibility at risk, while lowering their personal standards of honesty. Remember, BIG or small. Truth Be Told The value of honesty cannot be overstated. Even though they fooled someone else, how do liars feel about themselves? They may explain away the lie by telling themselves that everybody does it or that the lie fell in a gray area. But I must ask you, is that any way to live your life? When you stand for honesty, you believe in yourself and everything you represent. When you stand for honesty, everything you say carries the voice of credibility. There are several things you can do to demonstrate honesty: Think before you speak. Say what you mean and mean what you say. Bend over backward to communicate in an open and honest fashion. Simplify your statements so that everyone clearly understands your message. Tell it like it is, rather than sugarcoating it. Present both sides of each issue to engender objectivity. If you have a personal bias or a conflict of interest, make it known. Tell people the rationale behind your decisions so that your intent is understood. If something is misinterpreted, quickly correct the record. Thank them for their honesty and treat the information provided as a gift. Willingly accept responsibility by admitting a mistake or an error in judgment "in a timely fashion. Hold people accountable when their words do not match their actions. Never compromise your integrity and reputation by associating yourself with people whose standards of integrity you mistrust. Honesty must be a way of life. Honesty means that you care deeply about trust, cherish your relationships, and value the importance of a solid reputation. Honesty means that you try to do your best and are willing to accept the consequences of your actions. Honesty means that you respect others enough to tell them the truth and that you value your opinion of yourself enough to never live a lie. Never lie to someone who trusts you, and never trust someone who lies to you. Tell Me the Truth.

2: Sermons about Making Right Choices - www.enganchecubano.com

*Truth Matters for You and Tomorrow's Generation: Workbook for Adults [Josh McDowell] on www.enganchecubano.com *FREE* shipping on qualifying offers. Josh McDowell has written an eight-week group course to help parents instill biblical virtues such as honesty, love.*

The College Blueprint for a Totalitarian America The battle over freedom on campus is the battle for freedom in America. Neither does the Sixth Amendment. Never mind the Second. Alabama is under fire. Are millennial college students really an oversensitive generation? Or are they right to be oversensitive. Two types of people are sensitive; the entitled and the endangered. Where someone is always watching for even the most minor acts of political incorrectness. College students are afraid. And they should be. The average college campus with its speech codes, thought policing, violent protests and kangaroo courts has no resemblance to anything else in the United States of America. Colleges are totalitarian states. Individuals have no rights on campus. The way that these tribes negotiate conflicting rights is a mix of Kafka and Orwell. The usual sensible responses accomplished nothing. Then autistic students complained that the microaggression guidelines were themselves a microaggression against students with disabilities. The absurdity of the situation reeks of old Soviet anecdotes. But the same system exists in the United States. Not just the speech, but the evidentiary process is fundamentally different based on group membership. Hysterical panics by favored minority activists lead to quick and illegal sanctions against students and faculty with no regard for the facts. Facts, like truth, are viewed as favoring white males. The idea that the truth is an entity for which we must search, in matters that endanger our abilities to exist in open spaces, is an attempt to silence oppressed peoples. Now we have the answer. Truth is a construct. The search for truth endangers minorities. If you try to determine whether a hate crime really happened or whether discrimination really exists, you are endangering their ability to exercise power through claims of oppression. Facts and truth create unsafe spaces for politically correct tyranny. The United States not to mention capitalism and imperialism were built on the notion that truth exists. So was our system of law. People are considered guilty until proven innocent because we believe that it is possible to find the truth. But if there is no objective truth, only subjective narratives, and social justice mandates to unpack our knapsacks and cast aside privileged narratives, then the privileged are guilty. And they can never be proven innocent without endangering the privileges of the oppressed. It means that if you are accused of a microaggression, you are guilty. If you made too little eye contact or too much eye contact, you are guilty. Campus kangaroo courts operate in this post-truth space. Accusations of oppression must always be treated as valid. But accusations by the privileged can and should be ignored. That is how social justice works. Individual guilt and innocence is a function of collective guilt and innocence. It only matters what group you belong to. On campus, as in prison, there is safety in an identity group. Only the group has the power to protect you. But even within the group there is never any true sense of security. Intersectional tribalism is always being negotiated and renegotiated. The microaggression you condemn might very well turn out to be your own. No matter how oppressed you are, someone is always more oppressed. The wrong joke, costume, idea, inference or even lack of eye contact can make you a criminal. Innocence is not an option. The very concept of white privilege indicts you for crimes that you had no idea you were even committing. At worst, your very existence is an affront. And ignorance is no excuse. Whiteness, masculinity, femininity, heterosexuality and even Americanism are pre-existing crimes that require an endless process of atonement which by its very nature will always be incomplete. You oppress by existing. To defend yourself is to further oppress your accusers by rejecting their pain. As in all totalitarian systems, your claims to innocence only deepen your guilt by challenging the moral authority of your accusers. The safest response is to confess and learn to love Big Intersectionality. Colleges have always been the training ground for the leaders of tomorrow. The blueprints for a new society begin there. If you wanted to know what leftist ideas would be going mainstream in a decade, you went to a fashionable college. The leftist idea that is going mainstream is a totalitarian state. They are the blueprint for the future of the United States. Violence against free speech migrated from the campus to the city street. The rejection of truth and facts climaxed with rejecting the

outcome of a presidential election. The leaders of tomorrow are coming of age in the totalitarian campus states of today. Taxpayers have invested enormous amounts of money into funding an educational system that rejects everything that makes our society work. If that does not change, then our society will be destroyed by the consequences. The battle over freedom on campus is the battle for freedom in America.

3: TruthCasting - Sermons for Josh McDowell Ministry - Dallas, TX

Josh McDowell has written an eight-week group course to help parents instill biblical virtues such as honesty, love, and sexual purity in their children. The workbook includes daily family activities for learning how to make right choices a habit.

LinkedIn Synopsis Current research reveals that we are realistically in danger of not passing on biblical Christianity to the next generation. Both an overexposure to worldly philosophy and an overdependence on church programs have caused us to fail in our task to hand off a vibrant, kingdom-focused faith. To counteract this dangerous direction, five pivotal factors are needed. Second, we must adopt a multigenerational perspective, providing opportunities for those older and wiser in the faith to impart a spiritual legacy to the next generation. Third, following the Deuteronomy 6 model, parents must possess and pass their faith on to their children, making the most of teachable moments and everyday life. Fourth, dads must take the lead, recognizing that they are the spiritual thermostat of the home and are commanded to raise their children in the training and instruction of the Lord. Finally, both the home and the church must educate in sound doctrine, equip in apologetics, and explain moral principles. This requires eyes to see teachable moments and the determination to intentionally pass on our faith in daily living. In the futuristic novel *Brave New World*, Aldous Huxley portrays a society whose scientific advancements have produced complete stability and happiness, but only by eliminating virtue, truth, family, and religious belief. His closing chapters offer a fascinating dialogue between the Controller and John, who was raised outside of modern civilization. At one point John asks: You must make your choice. Our civilization has chosen machinery and medicine and happiness. Or could we be in danger of losing an entire generation, as Israel did Judges 2: The sobering statistics indicate that we are failing to pass on the essential beliefs and values of Christianity: They find it almost impossible to put basic beliefs into words. Almost an identical percent said they decided based on whether it made them feel happy or helped them get ahead in life. But the decision to call this The Last Christian Generation was not made lightly nor was it done for sensationalism. I sincerely believe unless something is done now to change the spiritual state of our young people "you will become the last Christian generation! Why is there a disconnect between Christianity and the world they face every day? A handoff outside the passing zone disqualifies the team, while a fumbled baton leaves the team far behind in the race. After working with youth and families for twenty years, I have observed two common causes for a fumbled faith: When teens are not equipped to combat false ideas with sound answers 2 Cor. We reap what we sow. Far too many parents watch their kids sow seeds of destruction, but then somehow hope for a crop of righteousness. Overdependence on Church Programs Even in the twenty-first century, parents are the single most important influence on the spiritual lives of adolescents, not church leaders or programs. This inconsistency causes kids to compartmentalize their spiritual lives and eventually outgrow beliefs they have never seen modeled. What we spend our energy, time, and money on is our actual message. Are we as concerned with Scripture memorization as we are about academics? As fired up about Christ as about sporting events? We must communicate that sports, the arts, and academics are all avenues to minister and be salt and light. Is there something to be said for society stepping in? This leads to some important questions: If we grow wise by walking with the wise Prov. Are we intentionally surrounding teens with Bible-saturated saints? How often do we arrange structured activities for the entire family? A radical yet needed step is to rethink the way we view young people and youth ministry. Our modern concepts of adolescence are based on humanistic philosophy. Since the beginning of history until about one hundred years ago, teenagers were always regarded as adults in the early years of adulthood, not children in the final phase of childhood. In the early s, Dr. Stanley Hall, an avid Darwinist, implemented evolutionary concepts into his field of psychology, believing that humans continue to follow evolutionary development after birth and that the adolescent years were the final step in the process of becoming fully human, moving evolution to the next stage. Therefore, teenagers should be separated from other age groups and, since each generation is superior to the previous, rebellion is their destiny. As this idea of isolating adolescents caught on in schools and churches,

we essentially created a new class of people: Note that this method of splitting up by age was an application of evolutionary principles, not the biblical pattern of younger generations gleaning from older. Youth groups sometimes even detract from maturity because the emphasis is mostly on fun, reinforcing the mindset that they are still children and feeding an attitude of self-indulgence during these supposed limbo years. We must therefore diligently build into our young people the understanding that they are called to make an impact now Eph. Parents who possess and pass their faith. As already mentioned, parents often send unintended messages to their kids: There is no neutral home environment; either our children see Christ as one part of a compartmentalized life or they see that Christ is our life Phil. The principle to remember is that parents cannot impart what they do not possess. The clearest description of this is Deuteronomy 6: This lifestyle of modeling and communicating is the intertwining of biblical principles and a Christian worldview within the context of life: Dads who take the lead. Dads are the spiritual thermostats of the home. According to both Malachi 4: If a father is not sure how to lead spiritually, he should talk to mature believers and find helpful resources. Homes and churches that educate, equip, and explain. Undergirding all of these crucial relationships must be the presence of clearly communicated truth. If not encouraged to express these doubts, they will either suppress all questions and adopt a blind faith, or they will be easily swayed by fine-sounding yet false arguments and end up with a dead faith. With these five elements in mind, both the home and church must: Educate in sound doctrine. Many teens are oblivious to what their faith traditions say they are supposed to believe. Their vague perceptions of religion often contradict the actual teachings of their own religious tradition. Though apologetics provides the basis of a well-placed faith 1 Cor. They must understand that faith is not belief despite the evidence, that believing does not make something true, and that sincerity is not all that counts. Rather, biblical faith is trusting in truth that is reasonable to believe. When properly equipped, students will confidently live, defend, and share their faith. In addition to right answers or Bible verses in their heads, they must have the wisdom and discernment to transfer biblical principles to diverse situations. Just as essential is the understanding that moral choices reveal what we truly believe about God, His Word, and His plan for our lives Titus 1: Before they can begin, however, they must know where they are and where they intend to go. As we turn to practical ways to equip and disciple those coming after us, it might be tempting to think there is insufficient time for such a major task. However, we make time for what is important to us hobbies, reading, TV. If an employee got a promotion at work that required learning new material or skills, would the employee tell the boss that he or she did not have the time to get up to speed? No, that employee would put in the effort to read, ask questions, and plan how to fulfill his or her new role. What is the quality of your relationship with God? Is it at such a level that you would be happy if your child never rises above it? How have you communicated this in words and priorities? Do your children know what you believe? Have you told them? Do you know what they believe? Have you asked them? Have you shared your testimony with them? Have you ever asked them to share theirs? Have they ever seen you witness to or pray for a lost person? How often do you use encouraging and affirming words with your children? Do you ever spend time as a family in prayer or Bible reading? Have you ever shared strategies for spiritual growth with them? Where Are You Going? When you picture your child in the future, what do you see? A passionate love for Jesus shown in an unquenchable love for others? The truth is, the current choices of most parents are not leading to the future result they desire for their children. To put it bluntly, your future picture of them may only be a fantasy. This is why we must be intentional about what is most important in life. So how serious are you that your children possess both orthodoxy right belief and orthopraxy right action? Do you desire that they see academics, sports, hobbies, and work as a springboard for Kingdom impact? Do you want them equipped to articulate and defend their faith with boldness, gentleness, and respect? Should they not only survive college, but also thrive? As a final step, plan how to begin moving in the right direction with realistic actions. The Deuteronomy 6 model describes these as a natural part of your everyday life as you walk, lie down, get up, etc.

4: Stand Firm in the Faith: Truth Matters - Lunacy In Lakeland - by Rev. Robert S. Liichow

It's slightly imperfect, so you get it for an outstanding price! Minor flaws on this spectacular deal may include wrinkled pages, stray marks, missing dust jackets, dented corners or spines, dusty page edges, or minor cracks in CD cases.

We just have a natural talent for it, that blossoms automatically when we are really young. Just after we learn to talk, we learn to lie. But the first one I remember, I was playing with a friend in the yard in front of the house, when my Dad came home! That made quite an impression on me. In fact, that skill, which begins so early in our life, was never allowed to fully develop in me. The Kingdom Code This particular section of the handbook is about The Kingdom Code, the rules we ought to follow as citizens of the kingdom. The reason we follow the rules is because we are already in the kingdom and we trust God to tell us the truth. We also need to honor God with our thoughts, our motives and our attitudes—the inner things only God can know about us. Jesus talks about anger, sexual desire, divorce, lying, revenge, and hatred. In each case, he calls us, his followers, to commit ourselves not just to obeying the external requirements of the law, but also to allowing the Kingdom Code to govern our thoughts, our motives and our attitudes. Last week, we talked about divorce. Just as he did with the previous subjects, Jesus begins with what his followers already knew about telling the truth from the Old Testament. The story of the Old Testament is full of examples—oaths are mentioned almost times! But the law picks us the practice and talks about the significance of making an oath. The OT teaches that a person following God, an honest person, will fulfill their promises. You will be able to rely on him doing what he said he would do. But not everyone tells the truth. But if they swear that they will do it, that usually means something more to us. At least they seem to know that they are making a promise. Stick a needle in my eye. They are intended to demonstrate honesty. In fact, when there were no witnesses to a crime, testimony under oath was to be accepted as true testimony even though no one else could corroborate it. The owner is to accept this, and no restitution is required. When no human witness can validate our words, an oath involves an appeal to some supernatural witness: An oath is the promise someone makes when he swears. But both swearing and cursing were originally meant to validate: Swearing an oath does so by invoking a greater witness. Cursing does so by invoking dire consequences. The second time, he denies it with an oath. The third time, he calls down curses on himself and swears to them. Both swearing and cursing are used in the Bible and used by God! I am the LORD. Often, God was called as a witness to an oath. In fact, this is what the third of the ten commandments is talking about: But the intention of the OT was not that words under oath are the only words that are binding! The intention was that it is wrong to lie under oath, just as it is wrong to lie at any time. Does this absolutely forbid taking an oath? Jesus puts himself under an oath Matthew The point of the OT was to say that because we should fulfill our oaths because we should always be honest. The Pharisees interpreted it to mean that ONLY when you made an oath did you have to tell the truth, and even then, it only had to be a certain kind of oath. That is not at all what God meant. Trustworthiness depends on integrity. Let your "Yes" be yes, and your "No," no, or you will be condemned. Giving an oath matters, Because not all words are true. Anyone is at liberty to use this lesson for educational purposes only, with credit.

5: TruthCasting - Sermons for Josh McDowell Ministry - Dallas, TX

*Truth Matters for You and Tomorrow's Generation: Leader's Guide [Josh McDowell] on www.enganchecubano.com *FREE* shipping on qualifying offers. As part of the national Right From Wrong Campaign this curriculum series is designed to equip adults to fulfill their responsibility to teach young people how to determine right from wrong.*

Take Youth Ministry Seriously But for this to happen churches must begin to take youth ministry seriously and view it as strategic. For instance, some churches subtly de-prioritize youth ministry by bundling it under family ministry and, slowly but surely, teenagers stop showing up because the focus has shifted. But where most churches ultimately demonstrate their lack of passion for youth ministry is in their annual budget. Sadly, youth ministry is usually one of the most underfunded areas of the church. Here are four reasons: Generation Z is the first post-Christian generation in the history of our nation. As a matter of fact the trajectory of the rejection of the historic Christian faith in the U. If anything we need to re-establish the importance of reaching Generation Z in our churches and radically re-think the strategies we are using to reach them. But we must figure it out. We need the best minds of the church on deck to do this. We need to get the elders, pastors and leaders involved in this—not just the youth leader. By the way, you can all download a free copy of my book, *Gospelize Your Youth Ministry*, here to help with this crucial conversation. Teenagers are the church of tomorrow and of today! We are losing the church of tomorrow teenagers because we are not taking them seriously today. Teenagers who have put their faith in Jesus have the Holy Spirit and a spiritual gift. We must unleash them now to use their gifts to build the church. Throughout history God has used teenagers to change the world. In the New Testament God used the mostly teenaged disciples to advance his Gospel, first across Jerusalem and, eventually across the world. In church history God moved in the heart of a year-old human trafficking survivor, named Patrick, to eventually bring the Gospel to Ireland. Out of it came another youth movement in the form of the Calvary Chapel and Vineyard churches. When teenagers are taken seriously the church thrives. When they are not the church eventually dies.

6: Equipping the Next Generation - Christian Research Institute

Note: Citations are based on reference standards. However, formatting rules can vary widely between applications and fields of interest or study. The specific requirements or preferences of your reviewing publisher, classroom teacher, institution or organization should be applied.

It has no place here. They represent the vestigial tail of white male fragility that seems to have a last-gasp stranglehold on this country, and they are determined to take us down with them. They can die mad about it. All I really want to do in this essay is get at the heart of why. This would normally be less of a problem, but since we all find ourselves having to engage with the aforementioned toxic bunch, it becomes really hard to navigate discussion with each other, probably because it feels like so much is at stake this is precisely why larger conversations need to be moderated; the troglodytes suck up the space for rationality and common ground. No one is ever happy about getting lumped in with troglodytes, so I understand why people get defensive. So please be careful, and open your heart and open your mind to a larger conversation. Because this an essay about why we love Star Wars. It is about why Star Wars makes us feel certain things. And this essay has to be about everything because the popular conversation has completely lost its way. It is as if we are all in the biblical Tower of Babel, unable to speak the same language. So of course everyone feels misunderstood and tangled up in rancor pun intended. Thus, I only have one goal, which is not for us to agree. I just want us to start speaking the same language. It always comes back to this question for me. Why does it illicit such passion? Why do so many kids love it? Why do so many adults love it? One that has lasted 40 years. Which just means that people have all had their own arcs of experience with it. And I am no different. I cannot explain the depths of fandom I have had for this universe. It started with the original trilogy then moved into outright obsession. I legit wore the VHS tapes down to the nub. But it went on from there. I read every damn expanded universe book. I played every video game will it get better than the original Dark Forces? I read every diagram book. I truly went through the depths of unpopularity for having such a nerdy relationship to Star Wars, but then moved on to the popular hope of return to prominence in eager anticipation for the coming prequels. And now, it has all came back around, and I find myself having such push-pull with the new Disney movies and the different feelings they all seem to elicit. But such is the way most pop culture experiences go. As such, there is no denying that our relationship to Star Wars always seems both grandly universal and yet deeply personal. No matter what, there will be the simple, inescapable truth for many of us: Make no mistake, A New Hope is most definitely about something. For it tapped so succinctly into the hopes and dreams of being young, and adulthood feeling so very far away. Just as it both spoke to our desire and fear of responsibility. Or even how it had the courage to be ahead of its time and make Leia one of the better examples of a dynamic female character in popular entertainment. And, in the end, it was a film that accurately reflected the joy of being part of something bigger than yourself. It dramatized all of this so succinctly. It is about the dream of what adulthood can be. Going off pure impact alone? It is undeniable that A New Hope is one of the clearest and most compelling stories of youthful desire on the planet. That is, the story of how we shake off the fears that contain us, that make us our worst selves, and how we learn to enter new worlds with courage and an open heart. Coincidentally, I have simultaneously argued that Star Trek has always been about how we enter new worlds with an open mind. It is synonymous with fantasy itself. It is synonymous with who we want to be. It is synonymous with nothing short of our own hopes and dreams. Which means it is synonymous with the true power of entertainment. It is as real in their minds, and as important to their operation, as life itself. Welcome to the third era of Star Wars. The second era is of course the prequels, a reflexive, roughshod time that created nothing short of animosity toward the man who had created the very thing they loved. But many stayed true, as well, adoring the universe they loved, even if they had complaints about the story taking place within it. And so, after Lucas sold the rights and donated the entire four-billion-dollar price tag to education, like a mensch , we now find ourselves in the third epoch of the corporate-run Disney era. Back when the sale happened, please remember that certain hardcore fans were intensely relieved. So angry they were at Lucas, that they would now embrace anyone who could possibly do

better. But how would both she and Disney handle this responsibility? What would they do with the Skywalker saga? Would they restore the brand to its former glory? Or would this be a chance to bring the world of Star Wars into exciting new possibilities? When the whole thing started brewing a few years ago, I had a creative friend tell me of a meeting where they were being pitched on the new Disney modus operandi. He reported the following: After all, the biggest complaint with the prequels was that it all felt too polished, hollow and flat. But Disney wanted to communicate clearly to the fans that they could rest assured by communicating this critical element of texture. Behold these demonstrations of practical effects! Abrams for episode seven from the very beginning, and yet, oddly hopeful. I think he gets great performances out of his actors. And he might have the single best eye for casting in the universe. But when *The Force Awakens* came out, all his storytelling faults reared their ugly head, full of horrible conundrums because of the mystery box instincts. But, it was still really good at textural delights. And it did its job in launching a new adventure with characters I genuinely liked. For all my complaints, I still wanted to continue my journey. As far as Disney was concerned, it was a safe landing. Meanwhile, *Rogue One* illustrated a different turn with a rockier production path. But again, while there was some division about its relative success, there was very little animosity. At that point, not too much had been made of Kathy Kennedy and her role in all this something that has recently changed a great deal. Make no mistake, she is a titan of this industry. Even beyond her work as mega-producer with Spielberg and Amblin, her career speaks for itself. The simple goal of her hiring was to turn her into the new version of Kevin Fiege for Star Wars. What kinds of Star Wars films do they want to be making? Who are they trying to please? There are many fans who act like the entire approach of *Solo* was written, directed and released as a direct reaction to *The Last Jedi*. This is, of course, laughable. Movies take years to make and changes must be considered carefully, which is precisely why you need a steady hand and vision for the rocky points. And the danger comes when a group of vision-holders constantly reacts to the the dialogue of response. And then does not change how they talk about the films, but the decisions that go into that process. The Disney approach has had me worried. This is a youth soccer term for when all the kids run outside of their positions and just try to kick the ball. Especially because the ball is actually a snarling, hissing wolverine that really just wants to be cuddled often fandom is the definition of anxious-ambivalent attachment. So not only is it folly to overreact to them, but it makes the understanding of your complex audience all the more critical. But luckily for us, there is a film that has come along to act as the lynchpin of our modern popular understand of Star Wars itself. But I also say all this like the percentages actually matter. And I have admitted time and time again that this opinion is probably worthless because I have now come to know a lot of members of the Johnson family. Accuse me of bias. Throw out anything and everything I have to say. Which is exactly why you feel intense relief when you see something you actually love. And yes, I loved *The Last Jedi*. As did many, but I never thought I would love a Star Wars movie again in this way. I loved it for so many reasons, that I felt compelled to write about it opening night, for its beautiful recalculation of everything I had problems with not just in the previous film, but with the franchise in general. But perhaps I should have realizedâ€¦! Some people would not handle that recalculation well.

7: CFO Insights: Lessons for the Next Generation | Deloitte US

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This article first appeared in the Christian Research Journal, volume 30, number 1. For further information or to subscribe to the Christian Research Journal go to: [They have deep confusion about the nature and character of the Trinitarian God, other essential Christian truth claims, and the nature of truth itself.](#) Most of their worldviews are shaped by a pluralistic culture rather than biblical literacy, so, naturally, their beliefs diverge widely from biblical standards. As a result, many teens are leaving the faith they grew up with, and of those who remain in the fold, few are living as bold witnesses for Christ. Dedicated teenagers who embrace an authentic Christian worldview, however, not only are less likely to abandon the faith, but are more likely to practice it in their daily lives. This is why apologetics training is such a critical component in the discipling of youth. If we can help them to internalize the truth and beauty of Christianity, they will be far more likely to live out its goodness. History has shown that people act on what they believe—*not* what they say they believe, or want to believe, but what they really believe. People who believe that God truly has spoken through the Bible are far more likely to follow its guidance and are much bolder in their witness for the truth of Christianity than are those who are not so convinced. We must lovingly train young people to be able to defend their faith with confidence and authority. The lunch bell rang and Mike sheepishly slipped into my classroom, slouched into a desk, and buried his face in his folded arms. McDowell, we need to talk. I think I am losing my faith. The night before we talked he came across an atheist Web site that raised difficult questions about his beliefs. Lacking the intellectual tools and the confidence to answer the challenges, he started to wonder: Is the Bible really true? How can I believe that Christianity is the only way to God? Doubts such as these came crashing down like bricks to assail and overpower his confidence in God. Fortunately, Mike trusted me enough to enlist my guidance during this challenging part of his faith journey, and over the next few months we spent many lunch hours exploring crucial apologetics questions. Mike appreciated having a knowledgeable adult to help him through the hard questions, and later shared with me that had I not been there, he likely would have jettisoned his faith. For the past decade or longer, the Christian marketplace has been flooded with books about how to do ministry in a postmodern world. Their authors rightly have pointed out many cultural changes due to postmodernism, but often have failed to realize how much has actually remained the same. It is certainly true that living the Christian life with consistency and conviction can be an attractive witness to teens, but this must not deter us from making a rational apologetic for the knowability of truth, or the coherence of Christian truth claims with reality. My experience has been that, especially when given the privacy of a note card to respond, students often ask the tough questions, and are interested in reasons for belief in Christianity and its claims. In speaking engagements throughout the United States, I have collected thousands of these questions from curious students. If we cannot rise to the task, we run the risk of losing our children and generations to follow. One might argue that such a disturbing and tragic loss already has begun. I once met a young man who told me that he had lost his faith in God. The reason he gave for this was the inexplicable and unforgivable death of his best friend—*something he believed a loving God never could allow.* I asked him whether he, prior to the death of his friend, had ever thought about the problem of evil and suffering. His problem was one of ignorance, since he had never wrestled with the problem of suffering before his tragedy and had never developed a biblical worldview that could help prepare him for such an event. Those who give thoughtful reflection to the reality of suffering ahead of time have far greater odds of holding fast to their faith when tragedy strikes. As parents, educators, and youth ministers, we can give children a priceless gift by helping them to think biblically and to defend their faith before they leave our sphere of influence. The Crisis of Belief Most adults are concerned about the behavior of young people. Few, however, go deeper to the source of their behavior: Glenn Schultz demonstrates how beliefs influence behavior in his book *Kingdom Education: These beliefs shape his values, and his values drive his actions.* People act on what they believe—*not* what they say they believe, or want to believe, but what they truly

believe. Young people who have a biblical worldview are not only less likely to leave the faith, they are more likely to practice it in their own lives, and those who believe that God truly has spoken through the Bible are far more likely to follow it than are those who are not so convinced. This is why it is so critical to help our youth come to terms with their actual beliefs and to help address their doubts, questions, uncertainties, and fears honestly. Given the importance of truthful beliefs, we should be deeply concerned about our youth today. In his top religious trends of , George Barna concluded: American Christians are biblically illiterate. Although most of them contend that the Bible contains truth and is worth knowing, and most of them argue that they know all of the relevant truths and principles, our research shows otherwise. Take a moment to consider the implication of these statistics. How can our young people have vibrant prayer lives when nearly one in five 18 percent do not believe God is personally involved in the world today? This is why Paul attaches such prime importance for spiritual transformation on the training of the mind: Helping our youth, then, to transform their reasoning and understanding and to become like Jesus begins with helping them to think like Jesus and to put those thoughts into action. The theme throughout the week was Matthew I taught from passages such as 1 Samuel I asked the campers for feedback at the end of the week, and their responses shocked me. One camper summed it up in these words: The Division of Truth Why do youth think they can pick and choose religious beliefs, as if they were merely choosing movies to watch or iTunes to download? In Total Truth, Nancy Pearcey explains that contemporary culture holds widely divergent opinions about the concept of truth itself. Religion is not considered an objective truth to which we submit, but only a matter of personal taste which we choose. As a result of this cultural divide, teenagers have been trained to compartmentalize their belief in God away from their daily lives to keep their beliefs about God in the private, subjective realm and not to consider them objective knowledge. This compartmentalization is revealed most clearly in the way youth prioritize spirituality. Rather than talking about their religious identities, beliefs, or practices, most teens talked about their friends, their My Space accounts, music, romantic interests, or other personal issues. Religion influences them religiously that is, when it comes to church attendance, basic beliefs, prayer, and so on but not necessarily in other ways. Many religions of the world are based on timeless principles, but Christianity is based primarily on the historical resurrection of Jesus. Paul makes this clear in 1 Corinthians One of the greatest obstacles we face in ministry to youth today is their distorted view of truth. This is why I spend nearly three weeks teaching my high school seniors about the nature of truth. Paul warns us in his second letter to the church in Thessalonica that people perish for not loving truth 2 Thess. Do Youth Really Care about Truth? Philosopher Francis Beckwith once had a skeptical student who questioned him every day in his ethics class. Beckwith, why is truth so important? Deeply rooted in the hearts of young people is the awareness that truth is a necessary bedrock for life. We should not dismiss the fact that youth believe in truth, that they want truth, and that they organize their lives around what they believe is ultimately true. They just need help to clear away the misconceptions about truth that they unwittingly have adopted from our culture. The purpose of apologetics is not merely to win an argument, but to draw people into a loving relationship with their Creator. It often is our attitude that speaks more powerfully than our words; thus, if we have the greatest arguments in the world but have not love, it profits us nothing 1 Cor. More than ever, we need to follow the advice of Peter and give our youth reasons for believing in the truth that concurs with reality, yet do it with gentleness and respect. I once performed the following experiment with my students. It is a matter of subjective opinion or personal preference, not objective fact. I then opened the door for us to discuss the objective claims of Christianity. I pointed out to my students that Christianity is based on an objective fact in history the resurrection of Jesus. I also pointed out that Christianity has an objective view of creation, the nature of the triune God, the nature of man, and the authenticity of the Bible. In my own work with teens, I have found four helpful strategies. First, help teens develop the skills of critical thinking. Few have cultivated the ability to think critically, yet critical thinking is the very skill they need to distinguish truth from error. I regularly bring in to my students examples of logical fallacies from magazines or the newspaper to help them identify poor thinking. Second, use examples from the media to teach biblical truths. Studies indicate that students spend more time interacting with the media outside the classroom e. I try to incorporate a media example nearly every time I teach youth. Film clips and song lyrics are great springboards for discussion and

thoughtful reflection on issues pertaining to God and society. I remember that valuable lesson to this day. Third, ask pointed questions. This is how Jesus Himself taught: When Jesus was challenged or asked a question, He often responded with a question. Fourth, help teenagers put their knowledge into practice. I know of one group, for example, that has taken Christian students on a trip to the University of California at Berkeley 17 to expose them to secular thought before they go to college. The youth were not thrown into this situation suddenly, but trained for months before the trip on defending the Christian faith. Students got connected with Christian groups on campus, but also heard presentations against theism from students involved in Berkeley atheist clubs. The youth were able to interact personally with the atheist students, to ask good questions, and to put their faith on the line. As a result, many of the students walked away with a renewed zeal for learning apologetics. A Bold Stand for Truth As I reflect back on my conversations with my student Mike, I realize that his progress developed in a particular fashion. A key principle that I learned in our discussions is that when young people find answers to their questions about the Christian faith, they often become bolder in their witness for Christ.

8: Today Quotes (quotes)

'Truth Matters' (Ratio Christi Television) You can support 'Truth Matters' here: Helping a New Generation Build a Lasting Faith (Ep. 96).

By Paul Lamey His advice is also relevant to the pastorate, especially maintaining longevity in ministry. It is rare for pastors to stay in one church for long, much less to stay in one place until their ministry is complete. Half the ministers beginning their pastorate will not survive five years. They will self-destruct or be chewed up before the ink on their seminary degree is dry. If these statistics are even close to the reality, then the lifespan of the average pastorate in one church is all too brief. Numerous issues contribute to short-term pastorates. Some pastors flight around from one church to another, never settling anywhere for long. They are like migratory birds; they change locations with the seasons. These pastors tend to treat ministry like a sprint or a stepping stone and not the marathon it is. On the other hand, there are also churches that rifle through pastors, shuffling the deck every few years. Additionally, some denominations frequently move their ministers from place to place, a practice that is not helpful to the problem either. Pastor, as far as it depends on you, stay at your church for the long term. Be patient, loving, and faithful to the Word. If possible, stay at your church until the Lord plucks you to be with Him in eternity. In the end, this will be best for you and your congregation. I believe the following are best accomplished when the pastor is committed to staying with the same congregation: The proclamation of the Word requires an unflinching commitment to explain the original meaning of the text and its application to the church. Though a seminary education is invaluable, such should be viewed as a supplement and not a substitute for training within the local church. Therefore, it is incumbent upon current pastors and elders to take the long view toward cultivating future leaders from among their own congregation. Pastors must own the responsibility to train men in their church for ministry, equipping them for the task while affirming their character and ability. A lengthy tenure helps to develop the trust of the sheep. After all, pastors are not above the flock but part of it. Those who remain with their sheep long enough to suffer and rejoice with them will reap the fruit of their enduring efforts. An enduring commitment is also a blessing to your wife and children as they put down roots of ministry in one place without having to start over every few years. Longevity allows the pastor to develop the trust necessary to effectively guide and guard his people. Over time, he is able to establish a balanced track record of exhorting the faithful and refuting the harmful. Furthermore, his consistent and loving proclamation of Scripture through the years provides a powerful buffer against errant teachings that seek to gain a foothold. The habits modeled by those in spiritual leadership set a pattern for people in the church to follow Luke 6: But it takes time to cultivate faithfulness and humility in ministry. When you stay in the same place for a long time, the congregation can observe and follow the patterns of your ministry Phil 3: Of course, that does not mean you have to be perfect, brilliant, or famous. It simply means you must be faithful. How long should you stay at your church? Pastor, stay long enough to say with Paul: I have been with my congregation thirteen years and in some ways I feel like we are just getting started. There are many more sermons to preach, sheep to guide, and leaders to train. As my father counseled me: Consider the wisdom of one seasoned pastor: The entire church leadership should be involved, and if that occurs, there should be no acrimony. It should be prayed over at length, explored in every detail, and handled in an open and aboveboard manner. When that is done, I believe we can expect God to bless those changes. But to continually hire and fire pastors, and for pastors to church-hop must be displeasing to the Lord and is very disruptive to the congregations Curtis C. Thomas, Practical Wisdom for Pastors,

9: Film Crit Hulk: The Beautiful, Ugly, & Possessive Hearts of Star Wars | Observer

Ideadiezcom, is and in to a was not you i of it the be he his but for are this that by on at they with which she or from had we will have an what been one if would who has her.

Liichow In these days of increasing deception, it is becoming more important then ever for Christians to stand firm in the faith and discern the times in which we live. Due to the increase interest in Todd Bentley and the Lakeland Revival, we have been given permission to share an article written by Rev. Liichow is a graduate from the University of Michigan and has recently graduated from Concordia Theological Seminary. Robert Liichow is a prolific writer, conference speaker, and church consultants and exit counselor. He has also been a frequent radio guest on Issues etc. If you would like to support the Ministry and work and receive a newsletter, You can contact their ministry by visiting the website at: What is amazing to me is that everything I have read about this latest manifestation of excited ignorance is that it is nothing new! The usual fanatical claims of miracles are being reported and as usual unsubstantiated. This is the 13 resurrection as a result of this outpouring. We requested an all night wake. At the funeral we played the revival. We declared my brother alive. My brother sat up in the coffin praising God. My brother went to heaven and he thought he would not return. He said Todd was Bring his spirit back from heaven. All of us the funeral home were praising God. I simply ask this -- can you please supply DMI with the names, addresses, phone numbers and Death Certificates of these, any individuals? After all if thirteen people have been raised from the dead by the poer of God then, obviously, their experience will stand any form of scrutiny. The following information comes from his own ministries webpage regarding his ministry background: This experience brought Todd out of a lifestyle of drug and alcohol addiction without cravings or withdrawal symptoms. He was also delivered from a lifestyle involving criminal activity, youth prisons, drugs, sex satanic music and bondage. Todd was instantly transformed into a radical disciple and soul winning evangelist for Jesus. I rejoice that God delivered Todd from such a sinful past mirrors my own in many ways. But to compare ones conversion to that of the greatest Apostle in the Bible is a little grandiose. Not only did God allegedly give Todd a fresh is there a stale anointing? This increased healing anointing is so powerful that the blind see, the deaf hear, growths dissolve, as Jesus through Todd Bentley still heals every sickness and disease. We have a man that can see out of a glass eye! Never have I heard of a glass eye seeing. I need a minute to process this. I can see light and shadow. This is more of a miracle than if the Lord gave him a real eye. I must admit that is pretty good when a guy can see through his glass eye. One thing that is patently missing from Mr. Here is a man going around the world teaching the Bible, yet without having been taught himself! The only credentials that sign-seekers want to know about is whether or not the preacher has some divine personal encounter with God. It is the alleged encounter that counts and is given a higher precedence over formal seminary training. To the sign-seeker the divine encounter is a spiritual revelation directly from the Holy Spirit to your human spirit. Formal biblical training is merely head knowledge; one mans understanding being transmitted from a mere man to another, man or woman. Here is a glowing review written by the Publishers at Destiny Image Publications: Todd Bentley is causing quite a stir worldwide. Some say he is being used by the Lord to bring healing and miracles to thousands of people -- others are deeply skeptical of him and his ministry, Fresh Fire founded in What started for the year-old Canadian as an invitation to speak at a church in Lakeland, Florida, in April , has turned into a massively growing revival that now accommodates 10, people on land at the local airport. According to Fresh Fire Ministries 1. I am a forerunner and one of many who will carry the healing anointing to the nations. God has lead me to put this book together not just to tell about my personal journey into the miraculous, but also to help people understand what God is doing in our time, and encourage readers to take steps of faith in areas where they may have been holding back. Todd has witnessed God heal hundreds of people who were: Exposing Heavenly Realms and Prophetic Experiences, teaches how Spirit-filled believers can take back what Satan has perverted, allowing them to explore the supernatural realms that God wants them to experience. Todd shares revelation about the supernatural world including: I am troubled by everything about Mr. Bentley as I have already mentioned he declares to have had a conversion experience like Saul of

Tarsus, is empowered with the miracle anointing of our Lord Jesus Christ and now we read that he is like John the Baptist in that he is a forerunner but his mission is to carry the healing anointing to the nations! Obviously, we are not dealing with a mere mortal but one of the super-charged end time remnant Ubermensch long prophesied to come by former heretics. There are around 2. Where are we told that Satan has somehow hindered us from doing so? The Lord Never encourages His people to attempt to explore the supernatural or seek after supernatural experiences as Todd is teaching. Not only is this a false teaching it is a dangerous one. Bentley goes on to say that he will teach people how to access the supernatural, what types of experiences they can expect I am sure it is nothing more than the usual holy laughter, spiritual drunkenness, being slain in the spirit, flapping, flopping and jumping about. Todd will reveal locations in the supernatural! Again, where does the Bible speak of any of this? Here is an example of Mr. The following is a direct transcript from a You Tube Video: The woman was standing in the back of the room when the faith of God hit the meeting, and her tumor exploded out of her right leg, slid down her leg onto the floor! I started banging them up-and-down on the plat[form]! Audience laughter And just as my boot made contact with her nose, she fell under the power of God. Does this sound like the manner in which Jesus ministered healing? To Bentley the gift of faith equals doing something bizarre and then attributing it to the Holy Spirit. Is the Revival Biblical? That depends upon how we define our terms. To the charismatic extremist revival is when the Holy Spirit re-descends upon people in a certain locale and they are moved to repentance, or their spiritual joy restored or they are empowered to serve God in some dramatic manner. In the united States revivalism was directly tied to Pentecostalism and the belief that the Lord Jesus was soon to return. They believed He sent the Holy Spirit again to give people the gift of tongues to go into the entire world and proclaim the Gospel. This was the foundation of the Azusa Street revival of Well, Jesus did not return as quickly as hoped so Pentecostalism formed into distinct denominations. It was run by men such as William M. Osborn and a few others. It died out due to the exposure of fraud, immorality, lack of verifiable proof and the people simply wanting something more. I kid you not, I heard this in person, saw it played out in person at TACF, filmed it and dissected it and found nothing but filth. Son, let me tell you something. Do you know when you can tell a revival meeting is over? Allen message to brother Marjoe Gortner. Obtained from the Preachers, James Morris St. The revivalists had all become extremely wealthy and left town! Now out of the blue we have another revival! Suddenly signs and wonders are being performed this time down the way in Lakeland vs. Pensacola Now the hungry can run and be filled with empty promises of power and glory. They can have a safe place to go enthusiastically mad and engage in the St. Vitas dance of delusion once more. Does the Bible prophecy a great world-wide end-time soul-saving revival? No it does not. Jesus is also caustic regarding those who run hither and thither seeking signs: A wicked and adulterous generation looks for a miraculous sign, but none will be given it except the sign of Jonah. Jesus excoriates those who dare to claim to be the ones working the signs and wonders: What is more what on the surface seemed to be a good work, I. The Bible is filled with warnings about false prophets, false apostles, false teachers, when will our sign-seeking friends awake to these warnings? Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. Wherefore by their fruit ye shall know them.

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