

# At Your Weakest Moment...

... that's when Satan will tempt you to sin. Our adversary is no fool. He's not going to waste time and effort by working against your strengths. He will attack you when you are the weakest and where you are most vulnerable.

Here's an example: Someone has had harsh words to say about you. They have assumed the worst, impugned your motives, jumped to false conclusions, spread rumor and innuendo about you. How will you react? You are angry, hurt, insulted, disgusted. The strong temptation is to strike back, to get even, to put this person "in his place". But, you must not submit to the temptation. God's word says, "Never pay back evil for evil to anyone... Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good" (Rom. 12:17,21). It's hard to follow this instruction at the moment, because you are weak and vulnerable. But this course of action is

By Greg Gwin

best - the Lord says so, and our own experience bears this out.

During such times of weakness and vulnerability, we should pray as David did, "Set a guard, O Lord, over my mouth; keep watch over the door of my lips. Do not incline my heart to any evil thing, to practice deeds of wickedness with men who do iniquity; and do not let me eat of their delicacies" (Ps. 141:3,4).

We've been warned that Satan has many "devices" (2 Cor. 2:11). Chief among these is his ability to detect our weaknesses and attack us there. Please realize that you must work hardest during your weakest moments, because that is when Satan is at work against you.



Classes This Week			
<b>Sunday Evening</b> College Devo and Singing at Jared Johnson's house. Caleb Gandy teaching!	<b>Tuesday 8 PM</b> Truth-seekers in Student Center Rm 2225	<b>Thursday 10 AM</b> Ladies Class at the Pender's on "Amazing Women of the Bible."	<b>Thursday 7 PM</b> Men's Class at Walker Davis

Sick			
Brad Marshall (Allie Hosey's Cousin)	Owen Mauldin (Seth and Summer Mauldin's Son)	Frank Hand (Laura Humphrey's dad)	Sandlyn Fultz (Davis Fultz's Sister)
Gloria Detmer and Carol Dickerson (Toni Herd's Sisters)	Don Lanier (Father of Greg Lanier)	David Hartsell (Holly and Brad's Father)	Kate Miller (Daughter of Brandon and Erin Miller)
Betty Mcareavey (Mary Ann Roberts' mom)	Neal May (Manna Jones' Mother)	Mark Dean (Father of Logan Dean)	Jerry Foropoulos (Anna Jean's Uncle)
Jon Jon Henderson (Suzanne Stagner's cousin)	Quinton Addison (April Jerkins Grandfather)	Danny Weldon (Rusty Weldon's brother)	Bob Cannon (Friend of Holly Law)
Gerald White (Christopher, Anna and Wesley's Father)	Dale Herd and Alice Nutt (William Herd's Siblings)	Emily Stallings (Anna's sister)	Ted Nelson (Sheryl Fowler's Cousin)
Lisa Carter (Josh and Luke Carter's mother)	Joe Perkins (Scott Perkin's Dad)	Toni and William Herd	Tom Davis (Walker Davis' Uncle)

### November Birthdays

- 2 - Debbi Coleman
- 6 - Troy Godwin
- 6 - Bridgette Borden
- 7 - Amy Godwin
- 7 - Leah Donahue
- 8 - Ashley Miller
- 9 - Darla Hahn
- 9 - Casie Spencer
- 11 - Andrew Hahn
- 13 - Toni Herd
- 13 - Emerson Daniels
- 13 - Dylan Bartlett
- 13 - Ronaldo Henriquez
- 15 - Jon Hornback
- 16 - Nicole Pender
- 16 - Alexander Dunaway
- 16 - Victoria Dunaway
- 23 - Mary Ann Roberts
- 24 - John Burns
- 25 - Silas Weldon
- 27 - Scott Fowler
- 28 - Will Harris
- 30 - David Simpson

### News and Notes

- ☒ - Lets keep in our prayers our expectant mothers, Laura Humphrey, Brittany Bagents, Shang Li and Jana Hall!
- ☒ - Larry Rouse is away in a meeting in Gardendale through Wednesday.
- ☒ - Remember Tim Morton in your prayers as he is deployed to Afghanistan.
- ☒ - Logan Dean's dad, Mark Dean, had successful surgery last week!
- ☒ - Michael Bassie's sister, Yolanda Stewart, will need to have some chemo treatments.
- ☒ - Please pray for Keith Bailey's aunt, Gladys Bailey, who has injured her knee.
- ☒ - Those interested in teaching or assisting with children's classes should fill out form in foyer and give to Jared Johnson

# The Auburn Beacon

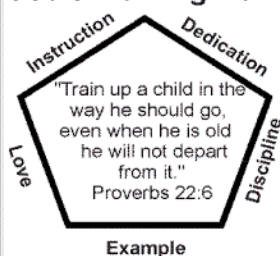


Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. (Matthew 5:16)

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### God's Training Corral



### Thoughts to Ponder

And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord. (Ephesians 6:4)

**Elders**  
Walker Davis (334) 703-0050  
Larry Rouse (334) 734-2133

**SCHEDULE OF SERVICES**  
**Sunday**  
Bible Class .....9:30 AM  
Worship .....10:20 AM  
Evening Worship ..... 6:00 PM  
**Wednesday**  
Bible Classes.....7:00 PM  
**E-Mail:**  
larryrouse@aubeacon.com  
**Larry Rouse**  
Evangelist and Editor

### Five Smooth Stones of Parenting

By Sewell Hall

In Goliath, David faced what seemed an indomitable foe. David's goal was not so much to kill the giant as to protect the children and honor of God. He took five smooth stones from the brook to achieve his purpose.

In the pervasive humanism of our society, parents face what appears to be an equally unconquerable giant who is determined to destroy their children. They have five stones with which to protect them.

### Purpose

"A child left to himself brings shame to his mother" (Proverbs 29:15). Consequently, Wisdom says, "Train up a child in the way he should go..." (Proverbs 22:6). This requires first determining "the way he should go," then pointing the child in that direction. For Christians one direction supersedes all others: eternal life in heaven via Christlikeness on earth. Scores of agencies with different goals challenge us for control of our children. My father used to say, "I will not let the schools take my

For Christians one direction supersedes all others: eternal life in heaven via Christlikeness on earth. Scores of agencies with different goals challenge us for control of our children. My father used to say, "I will not let the schools take my children away from me."

children away from me." Today there are many additional threats: TV, internet, video games, ipods, scouts, sports, neighbors, etc. These must be constantly monitored and controlled.

Parents of good children are often told, "You are just lucky." No, good children are not the product of luck, but of purpose—relentlessly, sacrificially and proactively pursued.

### Training

(Continued on page 2)

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(Continued from page 1)

“Bring them up in the training...of the Lord” (**Ephesians 6:4**). Training a plant requires knowing where you want it to go and then patiently bending it, pruning it, and perhaps even tying it. Training an animal involves knowing what you want it to do, using force at first, then patiently guiding, correcting, and finally rewarding and punishing. In both instances, training means establishing authority and maintaining control. Training children begins with example and sometime physical force, then guidance, correction, and eventually reward and punishment when the child understands what is expected. Above all, it means establishing the parents’ authority and letting the child know who is in control. This must begin very early. Once willful rebellion is tolerated, a wrong direction is established and the necessary “bending, pruning, and tying” become all the more difficult. The mother of John and Charles Wesley described good discipline as “shaping the will without breaking the spirit.” This agrees with the Spirit’s counsel: “Do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up...” (**Ephesians 6:4**).

### Instruction

“Bring them up in the...admonition (instruction – NASB) of the Lord” (**Ephesians 6:4**). Unlike plants and animals children can be admonished and instructed. This, also, parents must do. The very intellect that enables children to be instructed also enables them to exercise their free will as they grow older. Parental control constantly diminishes, and unless God’s control is established, their lives will be out of control. God’s control is established by teaching them the scriptures. Long after Timothy was beyond the control of mother and grandmother, their faith dwelt in him (**II Timothy 1:5**). How was this accomplished? Paul reminded Timothy, “From childhood

you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith that is in Christ Jesus” (**II Timothy 3:15**). Faith in older children is the result of early instruction in righteousness. Parents should take advantage of the classes offered by the church, but this is not enough—they must teach their children personally. A mother once told me of overhearing her husband saying to their young infant in the crib, “Let me tell you about Jesus.” Not surprisingly, that young infant is now a godly young teenager.

### Affection

Training and instruction must be administered with love—a love that “suffers long and is kind,” that “does not behave rudely,” and above all, “does not seek its own” (**I Corinthians 13:4-5**). Children will forgive many mistakes if they can always be sure of their parents’ love. “Love will cover a multitude of sins” (**I Peter 4:8**). Affection without firmness is disastrous, but equally disastrous is firmness without affection.

### Prayer

David did not attribute his defeat of Goliath to the stone, to his sling or to his skill. “The battle,” he said, “is the Lord’s” (**I Samuel 17:47**). So it is with the training of our children. God is concerned with the outcome and we are servants whom He has entrusted with our little ones. We must pray daily for the wisdom that He has promised to supply (**James 1:5**) and for His providence to overrule our inevitable mistakes. And when our children have become what we hoped for, we have no ground for boasting, only for the humble exclamation, “to God be the glory!”

David succeeded, using only one stone; parents will need all five.



# Garbage Trucks and Mouths

By Bryan Gibson

The sanitation crews in my town do a great job. Throughout the week you see them stopping at homes and businesses, loading the garbage on to trucks. Unfortunately, some garbage has to be left behind—that which comes from people’s mouths. These trucks weren’t designed to pick up that kind of trash, and if they were, there wouldn’t be enough of them. To put in bluntly, it’s hard to find someone who doesn’t “cuss.” Some people know it’s wrong, and just don’t care; others perhaps are just ignorant of what the Bible says. So that we all know for sure what the Bible says, let’s consider the following:

God hears every word we say (**Psalms 139:3-4**), and in the Day of Judgment we will give an account to Him for the words we’ve spoken (**Matthew 12:34-37**). Some will refrain from bad language when “ladies are present,” or when the “preacher is around.” God is always present—and He will hold you accountable!

The teaching of Christ in the New Testament is plain: do not use corrupt, filthy, or coarse language (you might want to look up these words). This would certainly include “dirty jokes” (politely referred to as “off color humor”), and what are commonly referred to as “cuss words” (**Colossians 3:8; Ephesians 4:29; 5:3-4**).

Strictly speaking, profanity is a separate category from the ones in the previous point. Words become profane when sacred words and concepts are treated in a common and trivial fashion. Today, when you hear, “Oh my God,” or “Jesus Christ,” in many cases, it’s to express disgust or surprise—not exactly the reverence the Lord intended. The Lord’s name is sometimes even used in combination with other expletives. One would have to be truly blind not to see the blasphemy involved. And while we’re on the subject, is it really any better to use euphemisms, such as “golly,” or “Jee” (“gee”)? It’s not hard to see where these words (and others) come from—why not use some other words that we know for sure do not profane the Lord.

Some argue that since the Bible doesn’t contain a list of prohibited words, we can’t label any particular word as sinful. On this point, we quote Wayne Jackson: “The Bible could not possibly provide a list of ‘forbidden’ words, since words come and go. Some words become obsolete, and fade from the human vocabulary with the passing of time. Too, new words are ever being born. A ‘word list’ could never be totally relevant, even if it were possible to construct such. The biblical documents deal with different abuses of language, in a general way, but there is no catalog of prohibited words...Words become ‘bad’ by virtue of their connotation, motive, etc., and such circumstances can change from time-to-time, or from place-to-place.” For example, “bloody” might mean one thing to us, but in some

parts of the world, it would be considered offensive speech.

Foul language is often directed to other people (“cussing someone out”). Would this not be an example of speaking evil of others, something the New Testament also condemns (**Titus 3:2; James 4:11-12; 1 Peter 2:1-2**). “Foul” language is an appropriate description, because it indicates language that is out of bounds—that which has “crossed the line.”

Should the same tongue that is used to bless God curse man? (**James 3:9-10**).

Foul language is often spoken during a “fit of anger,” or an “outburst of wrath.” This is certainly no excuse, because God expects us to control our temper (**Galatians 5:19-21; 2 Corinthians 12:20; Titus 1:7**). “Let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath” (**James 1:19**).

Adults are often greatly disturbed to hear small children using foul language. Guess where they learned it? In many cases, from their own parents. Surely, we can set a better example than that.

Many (especially youth) use foul language because it puts them with the “in crowd”; it makes them feel more accepted by their peers. But remember, our goal is not to please others; our goal is to please God (**Galatians 1:10**). The Lord is looking for some young people who willing to go against the crowd and stand up for what’s right. Any takers out there?

Others use foul language to add emphasis to what they’ve said. Some feel like they can get their point across better if they “cuss” (football coaches come to mind). The Oxford English Dictionary contains 295,000 words, with over 600,000 different word forms. I believe we can find a word in there somewhere to give the needed emphasis, without resorting to foul language.

### Conclusion:

Two passages very aptly express the attitude we should have toward this subject:

**Psalms 141:3:** “Set a guard, O LORD, over my mouth; keep watch over the door of my lips.”

**Psalms 19:14:** “Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my strength and my Redeemer.”

