



æ This Issue æ

- ◆ Why can't I do too dad?
- ◆ New Classes
- ◆ Key Principle
- ◆ Predator's website
- ◆ Churches running GFI Programs in April
- ◆ www.ezzotruth.com
- ◆ Heart Hiders Flashcards
- ◆ Belonging

Singapore Newsletter

Dear GFI Family

April is here and we are glad to see the GFI programmes in many churches going into full swing. Praise God that the GFI community is indeed growing.

This month, we touch on websites for your child to avoid and website that you must visit. Also a "Capuccino Moment" that mom can appreciate. Then do the memory verse flash card with your children. It's fun. Enjoy!

Dorcas Li

Infant Way Course Toddler Way Course

27 Apr—1 Jun 2006
Every Thursday 7.30—9.30pm
FCBC Church Office
#04-01 technopark@chai chee

GFI National Leadership & Alumni Conference

Plano, Texas, USA
July 13-15, 2006
www.gfi.org

Virtuous Way Course (GKGW) Module 3

3 Jul—4 Sep 2006
Every Monday 7.30—9.30pm
IRAS Building
(opp Novena MRT)
\$180 per family

Registration
www.gfi-singapore.org

Why can't I do that too dad?

"Daddy, why the other children can run on the stage? Why can't I?"

"We don't do that because we choose to do what is right. We do not do something just because everyone is doing it. We do what is right even when no one is doing it. Just because it is the right thing to do. We are the Li Family; we are leaders not followers."

What are the values that your family vouch on? What does your family represent? Find a chance to put this virtue into your children's heart this month. Then live it out. And you will be on your way to becoming their hero. Daily put into your children's hearts virtues that will help them stand out from others. Virtues that will guide them at times when doing right is hard. Virtues that will help them steer a straight path in their lives.

Then one day... "I am successful today because my father has taught me to do what is right even when no one else is doing it, even when doing right is hard."
By Dorcas Li

**Key Principle:
Virtuous Way Session 5
Your Child's Conscience**

**The properly trained conscience knows wrong
even when there is no signpost saying it's wrong.**

Latest threat to 'Generation @'

By Chris Birke--Editor

It's a child predator's dream and a parent's nightmare. It's called Myspace.com and teenagers are into it—big time.

The website, which promotes itself as "a place for friends," is one of several online hangouts drawing millions of teens. Brett was one of them.

The 16-year-old New Albany, Ind., boy logged onto the site regularly after school, wrote a few lines in his blog (web diary) and chatted online with his "Myspace friends."

His parents were clueless.

"I thought he was doing his homework," said Brett's mom, Melanie. "Turns out he would minimize the screen just before I'd poke my head around the corner to check on him."

Melanie woke her husband at 1 a.m. when she uncovered Brett's secret blog and profile on Myspace.

"I came across soft-core pornography and vulgarities," she said. "After I saw what was on that website I wanted to throw up."

Rachel Loy, coordinator of the Conscience in the Community Ministry at Southeast, said parents are waking up to the content of websites like Myspace—laced with sexually explicit language and images.

"And then there's the added danger that many of these teens are putting information on these sites that a predator can use to track them down," she said.

The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children reports one in five children who regularly use the Internet have been solicited sexually.

Myspace is among the sites becoming known as a smorgasbord for predators, and the site already has made startling headlines.

Eight adolescent girls recently claimed they were assaulted by men they met on Myspace.



Apparently the girls, ages 12-16, revealed too much about themselves on the website. All the girls expected to meet boys their age and instead met adult men who had lied to them. One of the men travelled more than a thousand miles for the meeting.

Last month, a 16-year-old girl in Lafayette, La., was attacked by a 37-year-old man who tracked her down after reading her profile on Myspace.

In September, a 17-year-old in Vienna, Va., was killed by a man after her MySpace blog revealed how to find her.

Myspace is among a handful of networking/relationship sites now popular with teens. Other sites include Xanga.com, Friendster.com and Facebook.com.

The free sites ask users to sign up and create personal profiles complete with digital photos and answers to questionnaires.

Members of Myspace—by far the most popular of the sites—are encouraged to receive "visits" from users they don't know.

Myspace, which began as a site for musicians to market their music, has grown into the world's fifth-largest website, boasting more than 54 million users. And the site gains thousands of new members every day.

If they haven't yet, Loy said, it's time parents come to grips with dangers on the Internet, especially now as the social blog phenomena spreads like a virus among young people who some are calling "Generation@."

Melanie agrees. She said she's overheard "very dedicated Christian" teens talk about their Myspace accounts.

"They think these sites are just a way to meet people. They have no idea who they're really chatting with," Melanie said. "When I checked out the contents of Myspace, I felt like Satan had won a victory over my son. We pulled the plug on his account because we love our son. And we now monitor all of his Internet use."

Tony Gore, a counsellor in the Counselling Ministry at Southeast, said parents have a right and responsibility to monitor the media their children use and said that in extreme cases parents should take extreme measures.

"Families that are having pornography problems need to consider a variety of options, including getting rid of the Internet altogether if they can't monitor their kids' activities," he said.

The follow guidelines reduce the risk of children seeing sexually explicit material or falling victim to sexual predators.

- * Keep the computer in an area where an adult can watch where they're surfing
- * Restrict Internet use to when a parent is home

* Install software that blocks sexually explicit sites

* Warn children never to post personal information

Loy stressed that parents need to understand that allowing unrestricted Internet access to children is extremely risky.

"Giving your child access to an unfiltered Internet is like letting him wander the aisles of a department store in which a third of its shelves are stocked with pornography," she said. "They will stumble across it."

Editor's note: Some last names in this article were omitted to protect the family's privacy.

Special Note:

Shortly after this article was email to a mom: "You would not believe it but this evening, I was emptying my son's school bag when I came across a small white card, offering to "Win an IPOD" by logging on to WWW.MYSPACE.COM

My jaw hit the ground having just received your email yesterday (2 Mar 2006)!"

E-mail Chris Birke at cbirke@secc.org

The above article was published in Southeast Christian's "Outlook" newspaper

Churches Running GFI Programmes in April 2006

Infant Way

FCBC • GFI

Toddler Way

His Sanctuary • FCBC • GFI

Middle Years Way

FCBC

Innocent Way

Covenant EFC

Adolescent Way

Covenant EFC • Queenstown Baptist Church • Holy Spirit Church • Faith Methodist

Virtuous Way

Bread of Life • Bethesda Frankel Estate Church • City Missions Church • Covenant EFC • Church of S'pore • Overseas Christian Mission Fellowship • Central Christian Church • Emmanuel Evangelical Free Church • FCBC • GFI • Zion Presbyterian Church

If you have a GFI group running in your church and is not listed above, do email dorcas.li@gfi-singapore.org

Dear Ministry Partners,

We want to let you know about the new website that was launched this past weekend.

It is not new information to you that for years there are individuals and organizations that have attempted to discredit the work God has done through the GFI ministry. Many of you have experienced the first hand frustration of reading or hearing others speak of the ministry knowing full well they were not speaking truth. It was evident the person had never been through a class or read the book, only were repeating the wrong thoughts of others. If you, like us wished there was something we could do, take heart, something has finally been done.





Tom & Evangeline Reed have spent the last three years researching and putting together a website released March 4, 2006! The name of the site is www.ezzotruth.com. Please visit the site and go through each page. Your comprehensive page by page review will help make this website appear on the first page of search engines.





Thank you for your on going support, prayers and partnership.





Blessings,
Gary & Anne Marie

“You will know them by their fruits....every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit.” Matthew 7:16-18

Matthew 7:12

  everything, do  others 

  have them do  ,

 this   the  and the prophets.

HEART HIDERS Copyright © 1997 Anthony S. Thiessen

This series of flashcards is available from www.hearthiders.com (800)294-2397

Belonging

Everyone wants to belong. Tell your child their own special story—every day if they ask for it. Sit them on your knee and tell them the story of their life...where they were born...how you chose their name...what Granddad said when he first saw them and what was the funniest thing they ever did.

They will ask for it over and over again.

At the deepest level, we all need to matter. Everyone wants to be picked when teams are being called. Let your child know that you would pick her...always, no matter what!



We all have days when the hard bits about being a mother outweigh the good bits and it's often to do with our energy levels. I remember the day I had bathed, fed and dressed my four-month-old baby, then cleaned the house, including the bathroom, in anticipation of visitors expected for dinner that evening. I then dressed my two-and-a-half-year-old and went to the bedroom to get ready myself.

I emerged a few minutes later to find that my earnest toddler had scrubbed the whole of the bathroom with "Signal" toothpaste (the one that has the red stripes in it!), and my sparkling bathroom was now covered in pick swirls. So was the toddler! My frustration born of tiredness was palpable. I definitely needed a 'Cappuccino moment' just then!

However, later that day, as I tucked this little fellow into bed and we went through the bedtime ritual, he said, "Mummy tell me about when you bonded me!" As I told him his very own story, perspective returned to this role of being a mother. He listened for the familiar bits. We connected at heart-level and the frustrations of the day faded.

"It was late at night and we knew that you were coming because I had a big pain. Daddy drove me to the hospital very fast. We even went through a red light—that was a bit naughty! But we got there just in time."

"And then I was bonded!" chimed in master two-and-a-half-year-old.

"That's right: you had your fingers in your mouth and you looked around and made funny noises, and Daddy held you for ages and looked to see if you had 10 toes and 10 fingers." He giggled as we counted his fingers and toes.

Those few short moments taught me perspective. There will always be frustrations and demands on our time, but instead of dwelling on them why not accept them? Let your child help you clean up the mess he has created, and look at the motive behind the mess. The important thing is to delight in your child now...before the years and days move on and he no longer wants to sit in your lap and hear his own story.

If you have never done it before, tell your toddler his own special story. Try to remember the details and let him join in. "Did I have your hair?"

Source: "Cappuccino Moments for mothers" by Mary Grant