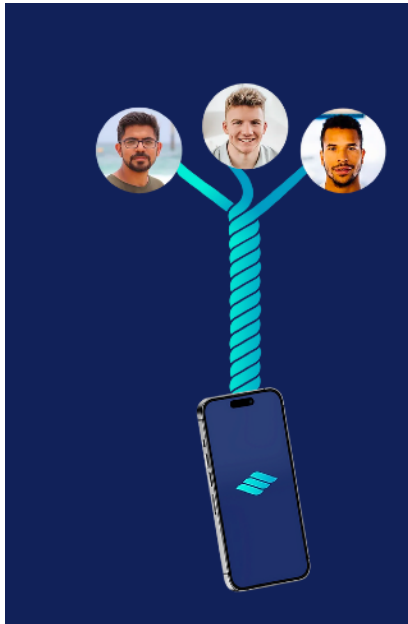

FRIDAY CHURCH NEWS NOTES

THREE-FOLD CORD: A NEW APP TO HELP PROTECT CHRISTIAN MEN FROM THE MORAL DANGERS OF THE INTERNET



In the smartphone era, wise churches will do everything they can to help protect their men (young and old) from the moral dangers of the internet and social media. The **Cord App** is a tool for this purpose. It is designed to connect three men in a partnership to help one another stay pure. It is based on the truth of Ecclesiastes 4:9-12. “And if one prevail against him, two shall withstand him; and a threefold cord is not quickly broken.” I recently learned of this app from Pastor Courtney Lewis of Cornerstone Baptist Church in Chicago. He has had an accountability program among his men for a couple of years that has had good fruit, and he is happy with this app so far. He told me that it has taken their program to a higher level. It was developed under the direction of Ryan Swanson who ministers in music and youth at Fellowship Baptist Church of Taylors, South Carolina. According to his online testimony, he was addicted to porn for 12 years before his marriage and he is passionate about helping other men. I don’t know anything else about the app developers and cannot give any further recommendation of that

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MASSIVE PRO-ISRAEL RALLY IN WASHINGTON D.C.

The following is excerpted from “Massive pro-Israel rally,” *The Washington Times*, Nov. 14, 2023: “Tens of thousands of demonstrators assembled on the National Mall in Washington on Tuesday to show support for Israel and to condemn mounting antisemitism as the Jewish state wages war against the terrorist organization Hamas in Gaza. Called the ‘March for Israel’ and organized by the Jewish Federations of North America and the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, the rally’s purpose was to show solidarity and support for Israel and its people. The gathering was in response to those still being held by Hamas since its deadly Oct. 7 attack against Israel, in which terrorists killed about 1,200 civilians and abducted about 240 hostages back to Gaza. The massive crowd waved Israeli and American flags, signs announcing their respective city’s support for Israel and laminated posters of kidnapped hostages. They chanted ‘Bring them home.’ Attendees came from all over the country and told *The Washington Times* that the recent events in Israel and attacks on Jewish Americans in the U.S. motivated them to show up.”



Massive pro-Israel rally held in Washington

THREE-FOLD CORD:

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ministry, but we are glad to see every effort to combat this wickedness.

<https://www.thecord.app>

We have not used the app in our church, but we see value in it. At the same time, a major problem is that the app requires that young men, even teens, own a smartphone in order to be in the program. In our church, we *strongly* discourage teens from having smart phones and *any* access to the internet from *any* device without adult supervision. That might sound extremely strict to this smartphone generation, but God's standard is "touch not the unclean thing" and "have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness" (2 Co. 6:17; Eph. 5:11), which is a *very* strict standard. Cord App or no Cord app, we believe that smartphones in the hands of teens is a recipe for spiritual and moral disaster. If we do use Cord App, we will use it with the older single young men and married men. See "A Church Smartphone Accountability Program,"

https://www.wayoflife.org/reports/a_church_smartphone_accountability_program.php.

BIDEN'S NEW POLICY TO MANDATE "GENDER PRONOUNS" AT HHS

The following is excerpted from "Biden's New Radical Policy Forces Federal Workers to Salute to the Rainbow Flag," *Townhall*, Nov. 9, 2023: "On Thursday, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced a new rule that will force all employees to comply with the chosen gender pronouns of people despite their biological sex. ... Speaking to *Fox News Digital*, Roger Severino, the Heritage Foundation's vice president for domestic policy and the former head of civil rights at HHS during the Trump administration, said that the 'federal government is requiring its employees to speak falsehoods.' The First Amendment, however, protects federal employees from being required to speak falsehoods. It also protects Americans from 'being compelled to adopt a state-approved ideology and requiring people to deny their own faith.' In a social media thread, Severino exposed the Biden Administration's progressive agenda, saying that the Democrat Party is forcing 'pure ideological conformity' on Americans. ... He told the outlet that the 'Orwellian' policy means that 'misgendering' someone would be considered as violating the anti-discrimination law, which can 'get you fired.'"



President Joe Biden

VATICAN COMPARES JESUS WITH BUDDHA

In its ongoing efforts to build a one-world “church,” the Roman Catholic Church has issued an interfaith statement comparing Jesus with Buddha. The objective of the Seventh Buddhist-Christian Colloquium was “Healing a Wounded Humanity and the Earth.” The Final Statement proclaimed, “As Buddhists and Christians, we see the Buddha and Jesus as Great Healers. The Buddha pointed to greed and Jesus to sin as the cause of suffering. On many levels, Jesus and the Buddha proposed love and compassion as medicine to drive out the darkness in the human heart and the world. Nourished by their respective spiritual teachings, Buddhists and Christians, for thousands of years, have adopted compassionate ways of living to address the suffering of life” (Holy See Press Office, Nov. 16, 2023). This is blasphemy. Jesus Christ is the incarnate, sinless Son of God, the Creator of all things, the only Lord and Saviour. He alone made the vicarious atonement to redeem sinners. Buddha is none of that. The Roman Catholic Church has a false gospel and a false christ and another spirit and has long played a major role in the formation of the Mystery Babylon of Revelation 17.

STREET PREACHER SHOT IN THE HEAD

23, www.wayoflife.org, fbns@wayoflife.org, 866-295-4143) - The following is excerpted from “Street Preacher,” *Church Leaders*, Nov. 17, 2023: “Hans Schmidt, a 26-year-old outreach director at Victory Chapel First Phoenix, was shot in the head while he was street preaching in Glendale, Arizona. Schmidt, who is a military veteran [medic], a husband, and a father of two young children, was on the corner of 51st Avenue and Peoria around 6 p.m. Wednesday evening and was preaching through a megaphone. According to Paul Sanchez, a nearby worker who has witnessed the outreach director street preach many times, there was a car filled with people who were screaming at Schmidt. ‘There was a lot of everything, really, hateful comments, people yelling at him, Get off the street, all sorts of mean things,’ Sanchez told a local news outlet. ... Victory Chapel First Phoenix’s website says that Schmidt is ‘in critical condition and in desperate need of a miracle.’”

BRITISH JUDGES POMPOUSLY PULL THE PLUG ON BABY INDI AND REFUSE ITALY’S OFFER OF SANCTUARY

The following is excerpted from “Indi Gregory dies,” *Christian Post*, Nov. 13, 2023: “An 8-month-old baby girl in England died early on Monday after a court ordered her off life support and transferred to an in-patient hospice last week against the wishes of her parents. Indi Gregory, who suffered from an incurable mitochondrial disease and had been in pediatric intensive care at the Queen’s Medical Centre in Nottingham since she was born in February, died at 1:45 a.m. local time, the girl’s father, Dean Gregory, said in a statement released by the family’s lawyers at the London-based Christian Concern. Lord Justice Peter Jackson, Lady Justice Eleanor King and Lord Justice Andrew Moylan shot down an appeal from Indi’s parents last Friday that sought permission for them to remove her from life support at home. Gregory said he and Indi’s mother, Claire, ‘are angry, heartbroken, and ashamed’ in the wake of her death. ‘The NHS and the Courts not only took away her chance to live a longer life,

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BRITISH JUDGES POMPOUSLY PULL THE PLUG ON BABY INDI AND REFUSE ITALY'S OFFER OF SANCTUARY

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but they also took away Indi's dignity to pass away in the family home where she belonged,' Gregory said. ... Indi's case drew the intervention of Italian political leaders, who granted her emergency citizenship on Nov. 6 and offered to provide specialist treatment at the Vatican-run Bambino Gesù Pediatric Hospital in Rome at no cost to the NHS or U.K. taxpayers. Dr. Matteo Corradini, who serves as the Italian consul in Manchester, urged British authorities to grant him jurisdiction over Indi's case under Article 9 of the 1996 Hague Convention, given her new citizenship... Shortly after news of Indi's death, Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni tweeted, 'We did everything we could, everything possible. Unfortunately it wasn't enough.'



A DESERT FULL OF FROGS

The following is from CreationMoments.com, October 31, 2023: "Even though many frogs live much of their lives out of the water, they need water to reproduce. This can be a problem since some frogs live in trees and some even live in the desert! For a tree frog, the trip from the treetops to a nearby pool is a long and dangerous journey. However, the Creator cares about all of His creatures. The leaves of the bromeliad that grows in the branches of many trees in the tropical forest form a private pool far above the ground. As a result, mama frog can raise her young without ever leaving the treetops! The desert would seem to offer an even greater challenge for a frog. However, since it pleased the Creator to place frogs in the desert--maybe to challenge the evolutionists--He has also provided for their needs. It may rain only once every two years in the deserts of central Australia. When it does rain, the water-holding frogs emerge from their underground hideaways to lay their eggs in the puddles. Before the puddles disappear, not only do the eggs hatch, but the young grow and develop into frogs that are able to store water until the next rain. As the desert again takes over, the frogs dig themselves back into the ground and go into suspended animation until the next rains come. A year or two later, the new generation will emerge after the next rain to raise their young. Neither chance nor the smartest frog in the world could design or create these abilities. Only a wise Creator could. And if the Creator has provided this much care for frogs, just think of how much more He cares about you and me in our everyday lives! Ref: Wilder, Rachel. "Flying frogs." *Science Digest*, Nov. 1983, p. 120."



INFORMATION

The Friday Church News Notes is designed for use in churches and is published by Way of Life Literature's Fundamental Baptist Information Service. Unless otherwise stated, the Notes are written by David Cloud. Of necessity we quote from a wide variety of sources, but this obviously does not imply an endorsement. We trust that our readers will not be discouraged. It is God's will that we know the times (1 Ch. 12:32; Mat. 16:3) and that we be as wise as serpents and harmless as doves. The News Notes remind us that the hour is very late, and we need to be ready for the Lord's coming. Are you sure that you are born again? Are you living for Christ? "And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light. Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying. But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof" (Rom. 13:11-14). This material is sent only to those who personally subscribe to the Fundamental Baptist Information Service mailing list. To SUBSCRIBE, go to <http://www.wayoflife.org/wayoflife/subscribe.html>. TO UNSUBSCRIBE OR CHANGE ADDRESSES, go to the very bottom of any email received from us and click "Manage My Subscription." Way of Life Literature, P.O. Box 610368, Port Huron, MI 48061, 866-295-4143, fbns@wayoflife.org.