

The person who neglects his family has denied the faith and is worse than an infidel. People of the world will provide for their own. Wild animals will protect their young. The Christian who pays no attention to the needs of his family is a pathetic example before the lost of the world. He is denying the most basic elements of faith. He is not loving his own. He is worse than a person who has no belief in God at all.

People do not intend to drift away from their family. The fervent love the couple had for one another when they got married seemed effortless. They were excited by one another's presence. They could not wait to be together to share the information about what happened when they were apart for a few hours. But when we set up house with one another we start to get bombarded by other obligations. There are bills to pay, repairs to make, duties to perform. We start getting bogged down. Our energy and time is burned up on things other than our mate.

Couples may drift apart when children enter the home. These bundles of joy require a great deal of time and attention. We can easily put our spouse on hold for years as we take care of the needs of the children. In time we may discover the only thing we have in common is our children. When they leave the nest for college we have no more common interests with our mate. Sometimes one mate will spend all her time with the child while the other mate will develop new interests apart from the home. Sometimes they will hand off the baby to mom, the toddler to dad, the adolescent to the school, and the adult to the world.

May God give us the brakes. May we learn to stop the behaviors that will destroy our lives and our souls. May we wake up to how fast we are going toward the cliff that is just ahead. May we see what lies before us and have the wisdom to change the course before it is too late. Give us the brakes.

Mooreville church of Christ

720 N. Indianapolis Road

Mooreville, IN 46158

June 9, 2019

Sunday:

9:30 a.m. Bible Study

10:30 a.m. Worship

5:00 p.m. Worship

Wednesday:

7:00 p.m. Bible Study

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Announcements

Our sympathy to Glenda and her family over the passing of her daughter, Sheila, early last week.

Dewey is now in room 20 at Millers.

We will have a meeting at 4:00 for teachers, potential teachers, and other interested parties.

Braden continues to improve, but we thought it best for him to not preach tonight. He still needs rest.

Julie Galyan has begun radiation treatments this week for cancer. Keep her in your prayers.

Pray also for Jill.

Marcia Bartle continues in an assisted living home in Greenwood. She would appreciate cards. The address is on the bulletin board.

Sign up to teach Bible class.

Sign up to read to Lucille

**We can't turn
back time,
but we can
redeem it.**

“Gimme A Brake”

Ron Roberts

A popular jingle used to say, “Gimme a break, gimme a break, break me off a piece of that KitKat bar.” The phrase, “Give me (gimme) a break” usually refers to getting some sort of pause. At work we get a coffee break. When a machine quits working we call it a break down, and call for a repairman. When our mind pulls away from its sluggish state with an idea, we call it a break through. There are good breaks (like a piece of that KitKat bar), and there are bad breaks (like “Breaking Up Is Hard To Do”).

Now before you say, “*You misspelled break in the title,*” I would ask you to give me a break. The title is not referring to a pause, but a complete stop that comes when you apply the brake. Brakes are used to stop our cars, trucks, and motorcycles. We need to give certain activities in our lives the brakes.

We need to apply the brakes to **sinning**. Far too many members of the Lord’s church seem to have no desire to stop sinning in their lives. They may slow down a little. They may quit briefly. But they have no desire to stop sinning altogether. Some even act like they are entitled to keep certain sins in their lives. “*That’s just the way I am!*” When Jesus rescued the adulterous woman from her accusers He told her to “*Go, and sin no more*” (Jn. 8:11). When He healed the lame man by the pool He said, “*Behold, thou art made whole: sin no more, lest a worst thing come unto thee*” (Jn. 5:14). He did not tell them to take a break from sinning, but to apply a brake to sinning.

We also need to put the brake on **excuses**. How many times do we fail to do good because we have figured out a plausible excuse. In Jesus parable of the great supper, the guests made excuses as to why they could not attend (Luke 14:16-24). The excuses involved property, work, and family. The Master’s attitude toward them is made clear in verse 24: “*For I say unto you, That none of those men which were*

bidden shall taste of my supper.” He did not accept their excuses as legitimate reasons for forsaking His supper. We need to stop making excuses. They may get us out of certain obligations with men, but God is the one we need to be concerned about. What does He think about our failure to do good when the opportunity comes (Gal. 6:9-10)? Does He see our excuses as lies incognito? Remember all liars will burn (Rev. 21:8). Also remember what James wrote. “*Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin*” (4:17).

We also need to apply the brake to family **neglect**. Our children are being lost to the world. We are too busy to teach them the Bible, take them to church, or monitor their activities. We do not know their friends, the kind of music they listen to, or the kind of programs they watch. If they have a trunk full of violent or sexual video games we do not know about it. They are given all the privacy they want as long as they do not infringe on our special interests.

Our marriages are ending in divorce. Wives have their jobs, interests, and bank accounts. Husbands have their hobbies, man caves, and season tickets. The couples do not talk, share, or travel together. They move in different circles. They are both susceptible to affairs because of the way they live. We need to stop the activities that are done separately and start engaging in activities we can share with one another. We need to take time to talk without the distraction of the TV or the cell phone. He needs to convince her how valuable she is to him.

1 Tim. 5:8 says, “*But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel.*” Providing for our own should not be limited to financial support. We need to provide time, attention, and love in the home as well. The text refers to the treatment of aging parents as noted in verse 4. Of course, we can neglect others in our house as well. Give a break to your family by applying a brake to your extracurricular activities. The man cave may be a retreat from time to time, but if you are not careful your entire house will become a man cave when your neglected family leaves.