

Scott's Thoughts by Scott Deneen, Pastor to Youth and Families

There is a way that seems right to a man but in the end it leads to destruction. (Proverbs 14:12) I don't know Britney Spears personally so what I am about to say is not in judgment - what I know is what I've heard or seen through the media, and so, may be erroneous. The Gossip Shows are enjoying Britney's calamity with ravenous attention. A pop queen, former Mousketeer, mother, and tabloid star has just lost primary custody of her two young children (and may lose custody altogether), and the media can't get enough! What a terrible heart-ache on one level and swift justice on another.

From what I've heard, Britney's rise to fame was accompanied by a disturbing mind-set - if anyone tried to tell her anything other than what she wanted to hear, they were soon unemployed. In other words, when her 'handlers' tried to keep things modest or at least not as risqué, Britney fired them.

Why did she fire those who had her long-term good in mind? Because she did not see *their* advice as good. In her own mind, she believed the choices she made concerning her future were the best possible ones and that people who disagreed with *her* plans could not be suffered. Therefore, she fired those who disagreed with her and hired those who did. Little did she know how things would turn out.

Our *only* hope is that God has given us His Word & Spirit by which we can navigate our lives.

Blindness can be spiritual & moral as well as physical. The problem is that we *feel* fine when we're spiritually blind. Britney felt fine about her choices (and may still today) - primarily because they were *her* choices. God's word says that we can believe with all our heart that a particular belief system, moral code, way of life, etc. is right, but in the end, our chosen way may have been a pathway to destruction. That scares me tremendously! What God is trying to tell me is that I can't trust myself to make good decision.

If I'm blind to my own sinful choices, what hope is there for me to ever make wise choices? Our *only* hope is that God has given us His Word & Spirit by which we can navigate our lives. King David asked God to "lead [him] in the path of righteousness for Thy Name's sake." That's a pretty wise prayer! Maybe it should be ours, too. "Lord, guide and direct my thoughts, choices, and actions according to Your Word alone. Amen" Now that's a prayer God delights to answer!

My prayer for Britney is that the Lord would visit her with His grace, completely change her way of thinking, and that her life would be completely transformed in the process. Christians hope for others to be made whole - heart, soul, mind, strength. What a victory for God's grace if Britney became a front page news story because of her faith in Jesus and radical transformation of character rather than some misstep of morality!

"How can a young man [or woman] keep his [her] way pure? By living according to Thy Word." (Psalm 119:9)

Praying for your blessing through Christ,
Pastor Scott

Upcoming Youth Events

Imagebearers
Sundays 6:00 - 7:30pm
1st - 5th grade

Youth Group
Sundays 6:00 - 7:30pm
Middle & High School



I Love Basketball!



Basketball News

Basketball is so much fun... to play & to watch! Players should have the basic skills of basketball by now and we'd like to help them advance to the next skill level by the end of the season.

The first few weeks of games, the referees have blown the whistle for a violation, instructed the player, and in many cases, awarded the ball back to that same player. As we begin our 4th week of games, you'll begin to notice the referees continuing to recognize violations, instruct when appropriate, but award the ball to the other team. We want your child to have a good understanding of the game.



FEET FIRST!



In basketball more than any other team sport, a number of injuries, short and long-term, can be traced back to the sneakers players wear. The demands of the sport – extreme linear and lateral movements – put particular pressure on the feet that in turn can affect ankles, knees and the lower back. Indeed, if a young player experiences foot pain, multiple ankle turns or sprains, pain or pressure in and around the knee, or complains of lower back pain, it's possible his or her sneakers are responsible. Blisters on the feet are also an indication the player's shoes are either too big, too small or have insufficient support around the foot and ankle.

1 John 4:10

This is love: not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.

Updated Team Pictures

Saturday, Oct 27th

Team #	Time
1, 2, 3, 6	8:30am
5, 7	9:00am
8, 9	9:15am
10, 11, 12	9:30am

Team #	Time
4	6:15pm

Tuesday, Oct 30th



Photos are compliments of James Guffey

REVOLUTIONARY PARENTING

George Barna
2007, Tyndale House

In his book, *Revolutionary Parenting*, George Barna provides an interesting parallel between parenting and coaching.



"Have you ever thought of yourself as your child's coach? That is essentially what you are. Coaches take the raw materials they are handed, define success, and attempt to shape the individuals being coached into topflight performers. Every champion needs a qualified coach.

The idea of coaching is consistent with the biblical notion that we are not complete and perfect on our own; we need the assistance of wise mentors and a community of people who care about us.

... what exactly does a great coach do?

Here are five tips gleaned from studying parents who have raised godly young adults.

1. Your impact on your children's lives is proportional to the depth of the relationship you have fostered with them.
2. You must wholeheartedly embrace the outcome you are pushing the child to achieve.
3. Impact is derived by coaching "in the moment".
4. Great coaches are great communicators.
5. The coach must have a comprehensive plan for reaching the "promised land".

As your child's primary coach in life and faith, you have a wonderful opportunity to add value to their lives, to society, and to the Kingdom of God. But, coaching is an intentional and strategic venture. What's your game plan?"

Games on Sat., Oct. 13th have been rescheduled as follows:

	Team #	Time
Sat., Oct 27	2 vs 6	10:15am
Tues., Oct 30	9 vs 12	7:30pm




First Presbyterian Church
 Stanley, North Carolina
 Presenting Everyone Complete in Christ

Morning Service

- 8:30 Worship Service
- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 Worship Service

Evening Service

- 6:00 Care Groups
- Image Bearers
- Youth Group

Call us at 704.263.4275

Visit us online at
www.fpcstanley.org

Team Rosters
 Game Schedule
 Parent's Corner