

This weekly column will feature confessions of a Southern religious studies major. Each week, Jonathan will offer a light-hearted look at the little things in life that can make a big difference.

IT'S THE *Little* THINGS...

8 a.m. Terror

"Silence is golden" - Proverb

Jonathan Chapman
Columnist

I have a question. Who is there to talk to at 8 am?



Jonathan Chapman

My mother, I'm sure, would love to hear from me, but I'm not sure even she would be too fond of a pre-8 a.m. call and chat. My roommates wouldn't be too excited to hear my chipper voice that early, and even my best friends would laugh, hang up and go back to sleep.

Every Tuesday and Thursday, I walk from the Moseley Center parking lot to my 8 a.m.

Christian history class in Alamance. It's not even 8 a.m. yet, and who do I get stuck behind without fail?

You guessed it, someone yakking on a telephone while walking to class—at 8 in the morning.

I've heard about Rolling Stones tickets, about group projects gone wrong, too much reading, etc. But the one thing that I want to hear, is the one thing that I can't get. Quiet. That's what I want.

The day before classes began, I was walking to Moseley from Powell with an admissions counselor. We were attempting to hold a conversation. Which even-

tually became just a chat because of the student in front of us practically included all of Elon in her phone conversation. About halfway through our talk, I looked at my traveling companion and said "Welcome Back to Elon."

Cell phones aren't all bad. They provide people with emergency help, mobility and the ability to stay in touch with people. In fact, my roommates and I don't even have a ground line in our apartment. We use cell phones.

But here's the secret. When you use your cell phone before 8 a.m., it is no longer a useful tool, but rather the spawn

of Satan. Well, maybe not the spawn of Satan, but slightly demonic at least.

My point is, you go to Elon. We are known for our hospitality (which I'm sure you are thinking I just exhibited by equating cell phones to Satan). Truthfully, Elon is an amazingly kind campus.

So, how about this? Instead of walking across campus clamoring away on a phone just because we feel slightly awkward about walking alone, we put away the cell phones and say "hey" to someone who passes by. Let's make that what we are known for—not our cell phone use.

Contact Jonathan Chapman at opinions@elon.edu or 278-7247.

Life lessons from someone who knows

Julie Fogt
Columnist

I am currently a senior at Elon University and as many of us upperclassmen are told each year the freshmen seem to be getting smarter. Is this being book smart mostly or do they come with common sense also? We will all see soon enough after the fraternities hold their first house parties. Men seem to carry more common sense than women do in this society, especially when it comes to the college life. I admit I was not the smartest freshman going out for my first time at college away from parents and answering to my roommate who was a total hippy. I also knew no-one else from my high school would be going there with me, so it was a new start completely.

Here is some advice ... have fun but be careful. Around fall break there are couples everywhere around campus. I wonder how many couples are from random hook-ups dating back to the first two weeks of

school. What actually constitutes a hook-up though? Common sense would say it is a one night stand (which is not really a smart idea). Some people

say it is okay and not a hook-up if you know the person. Others are totally against them and still others do not care and do it all the time. This leaves yourself wide open, and if you do it once have you lowered yourself to do it again? What are your standards? We all know and have lived the story of the crazy roommate. You come back from class and are locked out of your room and can definitely tell what is going on inside. You may also have the drunk roommate that makes your room smell like alcohol all of the time, or the roommate who constantly blasts her music. How rude can you be? Are you this roommate? We all have these actions inside of our mind, but it is whether or not you choose to pursue.

Men seem to carry more common sense than women do in this society, especially when it comes to college.

Many people seem to think hooking up with someone or getting drunk is something to boast about. This is seen in the addition of the common words of 'slutty' and 'pimpin' being part of this generations' vocabulary. Honestly to me the word hook-up is a nice way of putting in words an experience that others will not be so nice about.

And if it happens you cannot hide it in a dorm of seven other girls, especially your roommate. It's your own life so have fun but do use common sense. To the upper classmen: show the freshmen a good time. and try not to embarrass them too bad!

Contact Julie Fogt at opinions@elon.edu or 278-7247.

Do you have an opinion?

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Write a column for the Pendulum.
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