

Sunday School Lesson by John R. Brayboy

Salem Missionary Baptist Church Sunday School Lesson 8-28-94 Alcohol and Drugs Influence by Example Romans 13:12-14.
 14:13-21 Outline
 I. Behave decently (Rom. 13:12-14)
 II. Act in Love (Rom. 14:13-15)
 III. Recognize Priorities (Rom. 14:16-18)
 IV. Help others grow (Rom. 14:19-21)
 Behave Decently (Rom. 14: 13-15)

This week we have an alternate lesson and the regular lesson. For my lesson this week I have chosen to do the Alcohol and drugs lesson. With so many people being affected by alcohol and drugs I feel we need to be greatly concerned about it, not only from the demand side but the supply side. Sad to say we have lost a generation of our children due to these two problems. Most people have let the key source of combating these problems out of their life, and that is God. One of the reasons we have such a problem with alcohol and drugs is because many professing Christians today are condoning them or participating socially. There are even rumors that some church members are supplying drugs to our young people. The almighty dollar has gotten into the way of what is right. Our children have not got any good role models to follow. It seems that the role model our children want to follow are those that seem to be corrupt. When you tell many children or young people about doing what is right, many will reply that you can't get ahead that way. In verse 12 of this lesson the Apostle Paul says that it is time to show forth some light in this dark world we are living in. Paul goes on to say that we need to walk honestly as if it were day even in this dark hour we live. Christians ought to act like Christ as close as possible, in other words be what we profess to be. We expect the world to whore and drink and follow after the things of darkness because that is their nature. The world is following its father the devil. There ought not to be any strife or envy among the children of God. In verse 14 Paul tells us to surrender fully to Christ and we will not yield to the flesh and fulfill its desires. When God's

people set the standard and follow by example then we will be alight in this dark world. Our children need Christlike role models to look to, to keep them from being caught up in alcohol and drug abuse.
 II. Act in Love (Rom. 14:13-15)
 We are our brother's keeper whether we want to accept it or not. The way we behave can have an effect on the way a weaker brother may respond. We are not to put a stumbling block in the way of other that may cause them to fall. If a weak brother feels that partaking in something is wrong then he ought not to do it. On the other hand one who is strong who does not feel it is wrong ought not to partake if it will affect the weaker brother. Nothing that God has made is unclean, many things such as whiskey have been altered by man and caused it to be a curse on our generation. The corn, wheat, and rice from which whiskey and beer is derived is clean. The uncleanness comes when these products are altered to produce whiskey and beer. The drugs that people used today God made for good but man has managed to use them for evil.

They were provided for man to use in medicine to help people get better but now the majority of people used them to get high. Someone said if a thing is done long enough people become accustomed to it. Christians are supposed to be the role models, if we do not set the standard by God's standards then no one else will. When we lower our standard and cause a weak brother to stumble then the world looks at us with less respect. Therefore the morals of a whole society deteriorates. What we need to do is to stand against the use of alcohol and drugs. We can't stop people from using them but they will understand that we do not condone them and that God is not pleasing with people using them.

III. Recognize Priorities (Rom. 14:15-18)
 Sometimes we do things that are good, and with well intention, but somehow they get evil spoken of whatever we do must be done for God to get the glory. Every Christian needs to realize that standing for right is

more important to God and the church than to compromise. When God's people condone wrong then the world becomes more bold about doing wrong. I remember when Robeson County was dry and there were bootleggers all over the county. People wanted ABC stores and beer stores so it was put to a vote. Surprisingly it was not the bootleggers who supported this move but many of the churches. The idea was that it would do away with the bootleggers and there would be less problem with drinking, instead it created a much greater problem. When the church compromises all of mankind loses. When we stand for right we have peace and joy, and we can serve Christ and be accepted of God and have the respect of men.

IV. Help Others Grow (Rom. 14:19-21)
 When we stand firm for what is right we can be an encouragement to others. There are professors Christians who think social drinking is okay. That might be true but if it should cause someone to go to hell then evil had been committed. Let us not put stumbling blocks in the way of weak Christians or lost people. We need to recognize what happens when we abuse the liberty we have in Christ because we are setting an example for people that we are not aware of. The answer to the alcohol and drug problem is found in Christ. Christians need to stand firm on God's word and be a light to those who have a problem with alcohol and drugs. We need to learn to show forth love to those with the problem, they are crying out for help. What they need to see is the love of Christ manifested through us. Remember we were crying out for help when Christ accepted us, someone cared and paved for us, start now by setting forth an example of doing what is right. If you have an alcohol or drug problem there is hope for you. Turn to Jesus, ask Him for forgiveness, accept Him and you can be free from the bondage of alcohol and drugs. God Bless you until next week. Pray for us at Salem. If you are looking for a good church, or need to go to church we invite you to come visit us at Salem Missionary Baptist Church in the Red Hill Community.

Reflections by Aha Nya Oramah

35 YEARS
 August 25 marks 35 years since the Tuesday evening Leon and I were married at First Methodist Church in Pembroke. Although interracial marriage was illegal at the time, we were finally able to get a marriage license by saying that I was Indian. I don't believe in lying. I WAS unofficially taken into the Blackfeet Tribe in June, 1959, by Chief Bull, also known as Dick Sanderville. His grandfather was a fur trader. Then in his eighties, Chief Bull had, as a young man, attended Carlisle Indian School in Pennsylvania, had also met many presidents, and was considered an authority on Indian sign language. He taught me a tiny segment of sign language, which my Donny, especially, enjoyed learning. This, plus my Blackfeet-made beadwork, apparently gave Donny the idea as a child that his MOTHER, not his daddy, was the REAL Indian in the family.

21 YEARS
 This week I've been thinking about a couple of things that happened on our 21st anniversary, in 1980, the first time I celebrated WITHOUT Leon. After church on the Sunday before that anniversary, Nancy Smith, whose birthday is on August 25, and her parents gave me the flower arrangement that had been presented in her honor that day. I still appreciate their thoughtfulness. (Of course I never dreamed that both Nita and Henry would also be gone in less than 14 years. When I first came to Pembroke, Nita and her sister-in-law Shirley Lowry were both students at Pembroke College. While Donny was a baby, Leon and Nita both taught at Waccamaw Indian School. Later, Leon taught at Chadbourne Indian School when Henry was the principal there. Also, I was staying with Henry's mother, Miss Letta, when Leon and I got married.)

The other memory is of trying on my WEDDING dress on August 25, 1980. I did manage to get in ON. But after 21 years, I couldn't zip it up. However, my mother, who came for the funeral and stayed for two months, and my daughter took turns taking pictures of that very special 1959 dress from the FRONT view only!

JOAN AND MELISSA RIVERS
 Although I've watched her from time to time, I've never been a fan of Joan Rivers. In the past I've always seen her as a shockingly vulgar, insensitive woman who didn't mind hurting other people's feelings. But, Sunday night I was reminded that we ought not to jump to conclusions about other people. As I watched and really listened to "Tears and Laughter," I found myself relating to what Joan and her daughter, Melissa, were struggling through after her husband, Edgar, committed suicide. Joan may not have been about to make me laugh at her sometimes naughty jokes. But she and Melissa did a GOOD job of making me CRY as I wandered through the tricky labyrinth of mourning, with them I found myself FELLING, along with Joan, when she went to her husband's closet and began running her hands over each of his jackets. How many times I've wished I could still do that with the wine-colored coat Leon wore so often those last few years. Though I never stopped to tell him, I thought it looked SO good on him! But that's the coat he was buried in! So I have to IMAGINE I'm still seeing it and FEELING the texture of the fabric with hands that would like just ONE MORE CHANCE to gently embrace a sturdy shoulder covered by that jacket!

I'm glad I can allow myself to cry from time to time these days, letting myself GET IN TOUCH with those BITTERSWEET FEELINGS Mother taught me that health apart from. When her mother and later her husband, died, she did not cry. They had been released from their suffering, she believed.
 For years, until Daddy died at the end of 1979, I wondered whether I could pass the test and be strong enough when I lost my first close loved one. In Daddy's case, it was really quite easy, because he'd been yearning to go on to be with Lord. I helped plan a service of "praise and thanksgiving" for a father who'd had to drop out of school in the sixth grade, but who inspired me to go to college and keep on learning for the

rest of my life. During his service, we celebrated a GRADUATION far better than ALL the school graduations he had missed.

Afterward my sister-in-law and I decided we ought to get together (though the lives in Denver and I in NC) and offer to help other families celebrate rather than mourn, the passing of a loved one. I did a write-up for the local "MADISONIAN" after coming back to Pembroke. I used it in my column, and contacted Mr. Sharpe about sharing it in the Robesonian. I was surprised when he said he thought funerals had gone TOO far in that direction, that friends and family are not allowed to mourn the loss of their loved ones anymore. NOW IF KNOW WHAT HE MEANT!

COMMENTS ON LAST WEEK'S COLUMN
 Since my memory keeps letting me down, causing mistakes in spelling, math, etc., I used a calculator to make sure this IS our 35th anniversary. Last week I misspelled BATISTA. And, about Castro's recent trip to Colombia, I said, "I couldn't help wondering EXACTLY WHAT he was doing in the country, across the South American CONTINENT from his own island home." This week, when I got our world almanac out to check on news about Mexico, I was embarrassed to see where Colombia really is! Not WEST of Cuba, like the distorted picture I've been carrying in my mind. But SOUTH, and slightly EAST, of Cuba. How did I think I could trust my memory of geography from 30 plus years ago? What I should have said was "I couldn't help wondering EXACTLY WHAT Castro was doing in Colombia, across the Caribbean OCEAN from his island home." It does seem interesting that Castro was off visiting friends in so far away at the same time that he was making accusations and threats to the United States. Could he be trying to once more use the drug trade as a secret weapon in what appears to me to be Communism's LATEST battle against this country?

Indian Voice!

Carolina Indian Voice
 is published every Thursday by
 First American Publications
 304 Normal St. - College Plaza
 Post Office Box 1075
 Pembroke, North Carolina 28372

Subscriptions
 One year in NC, \$20.00
 Out of state, \$25.00
 Second Class Postage Paid at
 Pembroke, NC

MAKE A DIFFERENCE VOTE



J. Garth Locklear
 for
Lumbee Tribal Council
 Pembroke District 9
 Aug. 27, 1994
 Pembroke Courthouse
 6:30am-7:30pm
Your Vote Will Be Appreciated

Vote for Virginia Jacobs
 District 19
 (East and West Howellsville, Britts and Wisharts)
Lumbee Tribal Council
 Saturday, August 27, 1994
 6:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m.
"Dedicated to Serving Others"

Advertise Your Business In Our Business Directory!

Thank you for your vote for me for Chairperson. May God richly bless you!
WELTON LOWRY

OUR BUSINESS IS YOUR HEALTH AND PEACE OF MIND
 Pembroke Drug Center, 600 and W. 2nd, Pembroke, NC, Dial 971-4900
Pharmacist Howard Brooks
PEMBROKE DRUG CENTER
Prostate test
 Consider the following questions for men: Do you urinate often, especially during the night? Do you have trouble starting your urine stream? Do you have a weak or interrupted urine stream? Does it feel like your bladder isn't emptying completely?
 If you answered "yes" to any question, you may be experiencing benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH), which is an enlargement of the prostate gland caused by tightened muscles inside the prostate. Or there could be more serious problems. A medical check-up is important in either case.
 Your good health is important to us!
 call toll free 1-800
Friendly Family Pharmacist
 We Take the Time to Answer Your Questions
Your Pharmacy

Pediatric Pointers

By **JOSEPH T. BELL, MD**
 The most common thing I hear from parents and pediatricians? There are many home remedies. One of the most unusual remedies I have heard of was from an older Chickasaw man in Oklahoma. He said for teething pain his parents rubbed rabbit brain on the gums! Boy, did that catch me by surprise!
 Teething is the normal process of new teeth working their way through the gums. The first tooth usually appears some time between 3 months and 1 year of age. The front lower 2 teeth are usually the first to come through, followed by the top front 4 teeth.
 For most children, teething is painless. The common symptoms are increased drooling and a desire to chew on things. Teething occasionally causes mild gum pain, the degree of discomfort varies from child to child. Teething may occasionally cause low grade fevers also, but is not associated with temperatures over 101. If a child runs a high fever or is extremely miserable during teething, something else is likely to be causing it.
 What are some things we can do at home to help with teething? Good question! Massaging the baby's gums helps find the irritated or swollen gum and massage it vigorously with your finger for a few minutes. You can even use a piece of ice to massage the gum (be careful, baby's at this age like to bite!).
 Giving the baby something to chew on also helps. Solid teething rings and ones with liquid in the center are fine. Most children like them cold. A wet washcloth placed in a freezer for 30 minutes worked well with my own daughter when she was teething. The child may also like a piece of ice pop or frozen banana. Teething biscuits are fine, too. Choose foods that soften with chewing. Avoid hard foods that your baby might choke on, like raw carrots.
 Avoiding spicy or salty foods might help avoid increased pain in irritated gums. Tylenol for a couple of days will help relieve pain. Teething gels may be used on occasion, but should not be used in very young infants less than 4 months of age or more than 4 times a day in older infants.
 Well, that's all on teething. Remember, if the symptoms include a very high fever or a very irritable child, it may be more than ordinary teething and may need evaluation by a health provider.
 Take care, and we'll talk again next week. Remember to get out this Saturday and Vote for Tribal Chairman and Council Seats. Don't forget the Lumbee Bill. See Ya!

Dr. Thakur
 (Orthopedics)
 Accepting New Patients Now
 Also, Auto-Accdts., Work Injury Cases
 Evening Hours and Most Sat. Available
 738-1174

Elect "Dollar Bill" Oxendine
 Lumbee Tribal Council
 District 16
 Saturday, August 27, 1994
 6:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m.