

Reverse the March Toward Madness

By Flo Hubbs, Director of PFOX

This month, many people think about March Madness, the college basketball playoffs that determine the national champion.

People fill out brackets in office pools with the 68 teams, hoping they can defy the odds and pick not only the winner but the Sweet Sixteen, the Elite Eight and the Final Four teams.

If there were no rules in basketball, a player could carry the ball, not dribble it. Teammates could trip everyone on the opposing team. A guard could tackle the best shooter and sit on him—or her.

But then it wouldn't be the game of basketball, which only works because rules matter.

The Bible speaks about how rules help people thrive and what happens when the rules are ignored or removed. The short answer is that chaos reigns.

The Book of Judges recounts when Israel had no king and everyone did "what was right in his own eyes."

Samson, the strongman who famously was done in by Delilah, had an attitude that might be described as "My body. My choice!"

At the end of chapter 16, Samson realizes the hard way that he had been living only for himself. He asks God to forgive him and give him the strength for one last, self-sacrificial deed: destroying the pagan temple along with himself and 3,000 Philistines.

The point is that we are not our own:



we were created in God's image and we thrive when we live by HIS rules.

What are we experiencing today? All sorts of chaos brought about by rebellion against God.

Many young people are being lured into LGBTQ identification and behavior, prodded by a corrupt medical community and educational system that shames them if they show any natural aversion to what God clearly says is wrong.

What can a parent do in this culture?

Continue to pray, and trust God, who still delivers people from wrongful bondage.

Below are excerpts from a letter written by a former lesbian who gave us permission to share:

THE QUESTION IS, can you be gay and be saved? Should a person be in ministry that is knowingly in sin? No—a teacher and minister should hold to the teachings of Christ. We lead by walking.

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Is a person in sin simply if they have those tendencies—even though they do not act upon them? No. Everyone, as long as we are in this fleshly suit, has the tendency to sin.

Does one choose to be gay? Perhaps if they are out of their mind. You don't choose those things.

There is nature, there is mental makeup, and there is spirit. You may be delivered from a false spirit, but it takes a conscious effort to overcome rejection, fear, bitterness and loneliness. You must uproot them and instead take in what your Father God says about the real you.

A majority of homosexuals have been abused, molested and rejected. Molestation and abuse often occurs in the family. The child is told not to tell anyone because something worse would happen to them, and "besides—no one will believe you."

As these victimized children grow older, they feel the need for love and nurturing, so they seek out a partner with a common ground of hurt.

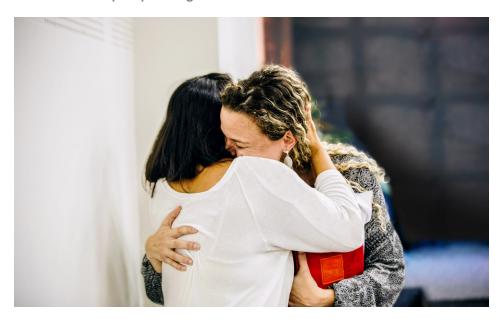
Everyone aches to be wanted, loved and appreciated . . . to belong.

I am asked why do I have to give up sexual or personal satisfaction in order to please God if we are saved by grace through faith?

My answer—Because I am saved, in love with the King. Because I am grateful and want to please and Honor Him, I put aside everything that hinders my faith. The closer I am drawn to Jesus—the more I know Him and love Him—and the more I want to please Him.

God never leaves you in the same place. He always makes you grow and makes you better, becoming more like Him. And what is the quality that is most like Him? LOVE.

In the beginning of your walk with God, it may take time to feel the



peace and freedom He is offering. But it will come.

God never takes you where you are not ready to go. He will use every circumstance as an opportunity to make you grow—to draw you closer to Him. We must open our hearts—and our eyes and our ears—to His instruction.

Some will say, "I'm a good person. I do such and such." But good works don't save. Salvation comes only by faith in Jesus and obeying Him. Without faith there is no grace, and without grace there is no forgiveness.

If You Trust in Him—then you know that He will see you through. If you begin trusting in your good works—you've missed again.

For now, let me say—there is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. Peace.—JP

God still restores broken families. He cares about your child. After all, He created him or her.

Continue to place your child in God's hands. Pray for an opened mind and heart to feel God's unmatched love. That's what conquers grief and madness and brings peace that passes all understanding.

Where to Get Help

At PFOX, we know this can be a long journey. You're not alone. Our website (pfox.org) has lots of helpful materials.

We offer a Parent Support Phone Conference call on the 2nd & 4th Mondays of each month and Zoom calls on the third Wednesday of each month. E-mail info4pfox@gmail.com for more information.

Thanks for all your support!

Flo

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