

Mountviews

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How Easy It Is

I have been thinking recently about just how easy it is to sin. We sin with our mouths and we sin with our minds. We sin with the things at which we look and we sin with the things to which we listen. We sin when we do not care for the needs of others or when we take the Lord's Supper in an unworthy manner. In fact, when we harbor anger or resentment toward someone in our heart and do not confess it before both them and God, we are sinning.

Galatians 5:19–21 teaches that “The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like.” Think of how easy it is to hate someone or how easy it is to make something in our life an idol. When was the last time we were selfish, were easily angered, or were envious of someone else and what they had or the place in life they were. All easy, really easy, to do.

Hebrews 12:1 says, “Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders **and the sin that so easily entangles**, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.”

And yet, just as easy as sin manages to invade our lives and occupy room in our hearts, it can be just as easy to overcome. Sinning on the computer can be halted by just not pushing the button that turns it on. Gossip can be halted if we would just purposefully choose not to talk about someone. Careless anger can

dissipate if we would lead out with grace and understanding instead of pride and indignation.

There is part of us (the sinful, I do not really want to be released from the chains that bind me to the worldly, secular behavior part of me) that immediately tries to reason with our too often easily persuaded mind that not sinning is much, much more difficult than this. The more thought I give to the issue, the more I am convinced that it is really not.

See, if our hearts are set on bringing glory to God with our entire lives and we know God longs for us to have our heart set on “being perfect as our heavenly Father is perfect” (Matthew 5:48), then He will encourage and equip us with “His full armor so that we can take our stand against the devil's schemes” (Ephesians 6:10–18). God desires us to be victorious over the sin in our lives and will provide us with all we need to get the job done so that He might be made known through this sanctification process.

I am beginning to think that overcoming sin is not as hard as we too often give it credit for. So “let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider Him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.” (Hebrews 12:2–3)

In His Love,
Pastor Kevin

Announcements

As Easter approaches the following are days and times of worship and celebration of holy week:

Palm Sunday service

Sunday, March 28

9am & 11am

Maundy Thursday service (communion)

Thursday, April 1

7pm

Easter Sunday service (no communion)

Sunday, April 4

9am & 11am

Mission trip meeting On Sunday, March 14, for anyone signed up to go on the mission trip this summer to Thailand, we will meet in the youth center at 4:30pm. For up-to-date information and to get a copy of the information packet, please visit www.mountview.org/thailand.

Thank you

Kevin & Congregation,

Thank you for being there in our time of need. The flowers were so beautiful and your prayers were needed and greatly appreciated! It is so comforting to know that dad is in a better place, is whole again, and with his Heavenly Father. My church family has always been there for my family and I. And I can't sing their praises enough. Mountview is the most loving, caring family of people I've ever been associated with and I am so proud to be a part of such a wonderful group of Christians who are blessed to have a leader such as yourself. All glory be to God.

Bob Troll & Family

Crown financial study will begin on Sundays in April. Most Christians have only been taught God's principle of handling 10 percent of their income—the area of giving. Although this is crucial, they do not understand God's perspective of handling the other 90 percent. In the Crown study, you will learn what Scripture teaches about managing all your possessions. Weekly class preparation is required outside class. Students complete an assignment, memorize Scripture, and pray for one another daily. The entire study lasts 10 weeks and class size will be limited to 8–9 people. Please contact Justin Gardner (jusg19@lycos.com) with any questions or for more information or Lynn Swonger (office@mountview.org) to sign up.

Camp counselors are needed to serve the week of June 20–26 at Camp Koinonia for junior camp (third grade through fifth grade). We are currently looking for men and women age 16 and older to serve. If you are looking for ways that God can stretch you and grow you closer to Him this summer as you share the Good News of Jesus Christ with others this is a great place for you. Please contact Sarah Platine (children@mountview.org) for more information.

In case of bad weather please tune in to CBS, Channel 10, or check out their website (www.10tv.com) for information about cancellation of Sunday morning worship services. You can find this information on Mountview's website (mountview.org) as well. Also, as a reminder, all church day and evening programming is cancelled on days when Upper Arlington Schools are closed.

Student Ministries

Hey Mr. DJ put a record on

This past weekend our students spent time together on a ski trip to Seven Springs Resort in Pennsylvania. With all of the snow we've had the conditions couldn't have been better for a weekend of skiing. We took 3 large 12-passenger vans, and one cargo van full of luggage and food for the weekend. 31 students, 8 leaders, 0 injuries, and 1 bruised ego. (I fell many times trying to impress the students by joining them on several black diamonds.)

On this ski trip, we had rules for our students. They are the same rules that we have for all of our trips and events. One of those rules being that our students are not allowed to bring mp3 players, headphones, or any other electronic music or gaming device. The primary reason for this rule is that we want the students to be building relationships with one another. If students have headphones jammed in their ears and the music blasting, then it is extremely hard for them to talk, interact, and build relationships with one another. Secondly, as a youth group we embrace Philippians 4:8 which says, "Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things." By not allowing the students to bring their own iPods we can make sure that our students aren't listening to that which is not honoring God.

Does this mean you don't let the students listen to music at all? No, not at all. We bring Christian CD's for the students to listen to and also allow students to bring Christian CD's the group can listen to through the van's stereo system. I currently subscribe to a Christian music service called interline which provides us with a variety of Christian CD's on a quarterly basis with a

mix of current Christian artists. My desire for our students is that they would first and foremost learn discernment in what they allow into their heads, and secondly that they would seek to find music which is both something they enjoy and also uplifting to God.

What about you?

Do you listen to music that is honoring to God? Are you using Biblical discernment in what you allow into your head? What about in your home? Are you regulating and monitoring what your children are listening to? When I turned 16 I signed up for a music service that allowed me to get 12 CD's for 1 penny. I am sure you are familiar with the service. You think you are getting a good deal but the catch is you have to commit to buying a certain amount of CD's every month after your initial 12 at a much higher price. Of course I didn't know this at the time and was simply excited about my 12 CD's I had carefully selected. About 2 months after having my new CD's my parents asked if they could see the CD cases because they wanted to look at the lyrics for the songs. I was very reluctant but I had no choice so I handed over the CD's. After reading the lyrics for the first couple of songs they were not happy and threw every single CD away. While initially I was very upset, I knew that my parents were right and the music I had picked out was not uplifting to God. The following week my parents took me to a local Christian music store and we spent time together finding music that was my style and was also uplifting and honoring to God.

As long as the weather continues to be cloudy and cold, I would encourage you to take time and go through your own CD collection. If you are a parent, please take a few extra minutes and do the same with your entire family.

Pastor Kurt, mountview student ministries

Route 356 Traffic Report

Elementary Camp

This past weekend I got a chance to catch up with one of the campers in my cabin from the second year I counseled Elementary Camp at Judson Hills Christian Camp. She's now in college at Cedarville University and we are friends on Facebook so we can stay updated on each other's lives.

After we talked yesterday I started thinking about all the kids I've counseled at camp—both Judson Hills and our current camp, Camp Koinonia. What struck me most was how many of them I am still in contact with, and how by staying in contact with them I've gotten to see their faith grow and grow as they do. One of the girls I counseled my very first year now counsels for me at Elementary Camp. Many of our own teens and college students used to be campers and have grown up loving camp so much that they became counselors.



Camp is an amazing way for many kids to really experience God for the first time themselves—to really claim their faith as their own. I've watched countless numbers of children dedicate their lives to Jesus Christ for

the first time at camp commitment services. I've seen kids' faith renewed as God lights their hearts aflame, watched as campers entered the waters of baptism in the camp pool, and prayed with kids about all sorts of stuff going on in their lives.

If you have a child who is entering either third, fourth, or fifth grade this year, then please consider sending them to Elementary Camp and going along with them as a camp counselor. It is an incredibly rewarding experience and you will see God move in ways you never dreamed of, both in your own life and in the life of your child.

Elementary Camp is June 20–26 this year. I will be sending out letters and camp applications for children in Route 356 who are eligible to attend this month, so start praying now about where God wants you and your child to spend this week.

If you would like to be a counselor for Elementary Camp this year, please email to let me know (children@mountview.org). Counselors need to be at least 16 years old by the start of camp and have a desire to share Christ's love with kids while having a blast playing games, worshipping God through song, swimming, studying God's word, being silly, and sitting around campfires. All this to afford kids the opportunity to meet Jesus and grow in His likeness. Hmm, doesn't sound too bad, does it?

In Him,
Sarah Platine

Mountview Christian Preschool and Kindergarten

Children's Sunday, February 21, 2010!

I hope that you were able to be here for worship services on that day! If not, you missed the blessing and opportunity to take a peek at what goes on during the Monday through Friday preschool and kindergarten programs, as well as the Sunday children's ministry of Route 356 led by Sarah Platine, Mountview's Children's Director, and a myriad of volunteers from this church.

Thirty-two of our fifty Mountview Christian Preschool and Kindergarten families joined us for worship that day as their children participated in the service. All eight Mountview Christian Preschool and Kindergarten staff members and their families were also present and helped with the morning's activities.

It was with joy that we were able to share a little of what a day is like at preschool with the congregation. It was just as wonderful to be able to welcome preschool families to our worship service for possibly the first time and to be able to share a little of what goes on here at Mountview Baptist Church on Sundays with them.



As February ends we look forward to the coming of spring. We are anxious to be able to go outside every day. Fifty-three preschoolers really need to be able to go out and play and we can't wait for the snow to melt off the playground. Thankfully, when the weather does break we are going to be making a few improvements

to the playground. Through money that the preschool families earned with our cookie dough fund-raiser in the fall and money that was awarded when the preschool earned its quality rating through Step Up To Quality last summer, we will be extending the fence around the playground to enlarge the play area. This is the first phase of playground improvements that will happen in stages as funding becomes available.

February was community helpers' month. We are so thankful to those members of the community and our preschool families who came in to share with the children what they do for a living. The fire department came and brought the fire truck and medic. We had visits from a nurse, an opera singer, a policeman, a fireman, members of the military, a dentist, a Visiting Angels' staff member, a missionary family, and various musicians and singers. During a month when we missed school because of snow and were not able to go outside on the days when we were here, it was especially gratifying to be able to bring visitors in to share with the students to help make their school days special.

Blessings,

Pam Larson, director

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Weekly ministries

Sunday

9am	Traditional worship
9am	Middle school d-group
11am	Contemporary worship
6pm	Women's precept Bible study
6pm	Element

Monday

7pm	College d-group
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Wednesday

9am	Women's Bible study
6:15pm	Bell choir rehearsal
7pm	Men's Bible study

Thursday

6:45pm	HS boys d-group
7pm	HS girls d-group
7:30pm	Chancel choir rehearsal

Friday

6:30am	Men's Bible study
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Saturday

9am	Worship team rehearsal
10am	Prayers and squares (third Saturday)

March birthdays

Alexa Baker	01
Matthew Erenpreiss	01
Mindy Skelton	01
Alexandra Scott	04
Christian Snyder	04
George Hall	05
Brad Ankney	07
Matthew Trubee	08
Samantha O'Leary	12
Charlie Cheng	13
Betty Thomas	14
Bo Cheng	16
Bill Burks	18
Ian Craig	18
Janice Skelton	22
Grant Schick	23
Sonny Edwards	24
Scott Erenpreiss	27

Rev. Kevin A. Snyder, Senior pastor	pastor@mountview.org
Pastor Kurt Oberlin, youth and college minister	students@mountview.org
Pam Larson, preschool director	preschool@mountview.org
Dave Skelton, director of multimedia	media@mountview.org
Sarah Platine, director of childrens' ministries	children@mountview.org
Lynn Swonger, administrative assistant	office@mountview.org
Roxanne Eller, director of music	music@mountview.org
Steve Brown, worship leader	worshipteam@mountview.org
Jim Kucera, organist	organist@mountview.org

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