

2017! The Brain-Storm!

Our word for 2017 is: *Intentionality*: deliberate actions taken purposely, pointedly, eyes wide open!

January is our month of vision, visioning, and, engineering our part of God's vision!

Ephesians 4.31-5.2 *"Let* all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and evil speaking be **put away** from you, with all malice, and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, **even as** God for Christ's sake has forgiven you! **Be** mimics of God as dear children **and walk** in love as Christ loved us and gave Himself for us as an offering and sacrifice to God as a fragrant scent!"

Colossians 3.12-15 *"Put on* therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humility of mind, meekness and longsuffering, forbearing one another and forgiving one another if any still has a complaint against any, **even as** Christ forgave you, **so do** it! **Above all, put on** the love, which is the bond that perfects! And **let** the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which you are also called in one body, and **be** thankful!"

Text Notes... *"Let"* all bitterness: not just unpleasant, sharp, acrid speech... But a *developed attitude* of constant antagonism that spoils our connections... Incites rejection from others... Destroys our testimony and influence! **And wrath:** *fierce responses* that come from unresolved bitterness... **Anger:** twin to hostility, punctuates with swearing, makes us unfit for service... **Clamor:** noisy, brawling... **Evil-speaking:** the assaults we make against the person and reputation of others... **With all malice:** the generator of all five evils that emerge from the spoiled soul... **Let it all be put away...!** **And be kind:** kindred, kin-ned; connected, affectioned, disposed... **Intentionality** reserved for loved ones! **Tenderhearted:** eu-splagchnos: good-compassion, [lit] "bowels" of mercies... Gut reactions of love! *Like Jesus!* **Mt 9.36** **Forgiving one another, even as God also in Christ has forgiven you!** Once you realize that ALL your sins (millions?) were directed at God... It becomes easier to forgive the one, ten, 490x a day sins directed at us! Verbs are the templates for intentionality; nouns are the results! Freedom from bad/the embrace of good!

Intentionality... Begins at home! Gen 1.26,28 Eph 4.22-5.4 Col 3.18-21 Building up your marriage, children and the environment! **Goes to work!** Eph 6.5-9 Col 3.22-4.1 Being the best workers because we work for God in the workplace! Being the best bosses because we have a Boss in our workplace! **Useful for the church!** Gal 6.9,10 1Th 5.15 Do good to all men, but especially those who are of the household of faith!

Preface to an Exercise... I am extremely sensitive to the world's view of Christians... Neither hyper-spiritual nor cultural... So when I feel compelled to deal with a topic that can be misunderstood... Want to go slow, cover the bases, minimize the abuses... misrepresentations! Provide thoughtful insight/positive action/defense! **"I think we are headed into a battle with one of the most potentially damaging enemies ever!"**

1983, Brainstorm! Movie released that opened the topic on Virtual Reality... The scene was sexual... The results to the character, devastating... The images in my mind as a man and minister, instant/indelible... Art was leading life, the technology wasn't invented... no big deal... Until last year, with the unveiling VR... Original thoughts came back in a flash... This can be the undoing of many men!

2017... Technology real, more readily available, and not just a man problem... A woman's and kids issue too... Commercials for Samsung, Astoria VR snap-ons, Oculus, HTC Vive goggles... The rollout: kids/younger gamers: *"Hi-res graphics and 4D effects..."* Men for sports immersion: *"be in the game, feel the action..."* Porn users: multi-billion dollar weapon to use against the ones paying for it!

4D Development... VR Sensory Immersion Generators, *“because 3D is commonplace and physical experiences are the goal!”* VUE VR Omnidirectional Treadmill and shoes... Samsung Entrim 4D headphones uses Galvanic Vestibular Stimulation (GVS) to trick the inner ear into thinking the body is actually moving. *This draws users even deeper into virtual reality applications and experience something even further than ever imagined.*

2016 CES, -Mashable “I’m an advocate for all new technologies that push video mediums to the next level, and after trying out VR porn, I don’t think anyone who experiences it will be able to go back to 2D porn. It’s that realistic....” “Ian Paul, NA’s chief information officer, told me they’re producing one to two new VR porn videos every week.” ***“In a different VR porn video, I dropped into a female body...”***

Results... First use addictions from instant floods of dopamine washing over your brain! Marriage integrity destroyed/privacy! VR adultery will prepare anyone for real world fornication... going to need “more.” Enemy willing to provide partners! Partners be used/abused unreal expectations! Human life/value/promises degraded! Children rent over parents choices! Door opens to experimentations... Other sex/same sex/deviant curiosity... ***JUST VR! Not real, not hurting anyone!***

Collateral damage to faith... Guilt/shame, walk away’s... Compromised people tend to empathize, compromise and then criticize! Christians living together tend to justify fornication, “if it’s love!” Pornographers tend to go light on sexual impurity! People who are comfortable in sin tend to criticize holiness! ***Many Christians will become same sex, safe sex, even abortion, proponents... By virtue of mind alterations/dopamine!***

“I would never do that...”

We can have the best intentions in the world... But without intentionality... we will!

Response... Intentionality in taking your personal stand, setting the bar! It IS just hardware! It IS amoral! “It may be lawful for you but not all things are expedient, and we shouldn’t be brought under the control of anything (but Christ)!” **1Cor6.12** “It may be lawful for you but not all things build others up!” **1Cor10.23** “Happy is the one who is not condemned by the things he allows!” **Rom 14.22** A wise man fears and departs from evil: but the fool rages, and is confident. **Pr 14.16** A wise man morally reveres and turns from evil: but the fool crosses over trusting himself. **Pr 14.16** A prudent man foresees evil and hides himself; the simple pass on and are punished. **Pr 22.3** A wise man observes little warnings and absents himself; the seducible continues and pays the penalty. **Pr 22.3**

Intentionality to “disciple” family! It IS just hardware! It IS amoral! But it will require *governance* like dealing with weapons or venomous pets! Can’t depend on “external” controls... It will require your interpretation skills! “Because I said...” won’t work! “Because the church...” worst! ***Will have to disciple w/intentionality to get to the hearts of your family members!*** Have to answer “Hard? Narrow? Out dated? Afraid? Ignorant?”

Intentionality to stand by, if you aren’t standing on, God’s word! There will be a lot of pressure on people who want to do things God’s way! We won’t always do well... **But we must decide to let God be God no matter what we do! “Let God be true and every man a liar!” R3.4** Must deliberately affirm God’s ways are right even when we are wrong! Compromises cause collateral damage!