

The Youth Quake News

June - July 05; Edition 3.2

A lot is going on at Youth Quake and we're very excited about it. Although you will not see any changes to the Youth Quake website until August, we are working very hard behind the scenes to bring you an all new Youth Quake.

Let me tell you about it. First of all, the entire website is going to be redesigned. It will represent more closely what we are about. Not only will the look change, but the entire way you interact with the website will be changing too. Youth Quake has always striven to bring young people closer together, and now we are going to do just that by making our website community based. Once you become a member, you'll be able to interact with other members. We'll achieve this not only by our already existing forums (which, I hope you'll take part), but also by giving members the ability to keep their own journal

on the site and read others'. These journals are called blogs, they are not the personal kind that you write in and then shove in a dark corner somewhere. Rather, they serve to give other people a glimpse of your life. Your day-to-day testimonies and victories, the what's going on in your life, and what interests you. To get a better understanding, take a look at my blog at the following address:
mylife-mytimes.blogspot.com/

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- YQNEWS.ORG -

You will also be able to search the teaching articles of both the old ('84 - '95) and current Youth Quake by keyword. You'll be able to add comments and post questions to articles in the archived articles department.

Now for the **big surprise** - we have scanned all the issues that were printed in the 80's & 90's and preserved them digitally online! That's right, you will be able to view and print these issues out exactly as they appeared so many years ago!

I hope this excites you as much as it does me. I also hope that you will become a member of Youth Quake once we make all this available. The cost of membership is free; however, our cost to make these new additions are not. If you would like to help out, please e-mail us at accounting@yqnews.org.

CURRENT EVENTS

...And he spake as a dragon ...

In the last article, we talked about earthquakes and pestilences. I'd like to focus on another prophecy this time that we have seen fulfilled in very recent times:

REVELATION 13:11-13

"And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon. And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed. And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men. And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by those miracles which he had power to do ..."

Brother Brahnham taught us that this beast who spoke as a dragon in this prophecy was the United States of America.

"And here the Bible speaks that the United States (We picked it up in prophecy.) come up like a lamb, freedom of religion, and directly they united those things together, and he spake like a dragon and exercised the same power the dragon had before him. That's the U.S.A. That's right." (QA, IMAGE OF THE BEAST, 05/15/54).

You may recall from my introduction in my first article for YQN that much of my professional background has been in military special operations. One highly specialized type of operation in use today is the psychological operation, or "PSYOP". The goal of the PSYOP is to change the will of the enemy to fight. Another goal of the PSYOP is to try to convince non-combatants of our good intentions

One very basic method of a PSYOP is what is called "leaflet distribution". A message is drafted and depicted in both word and pictorial form on a small piece of paper roughly the size of a dollar bill. Millions of these leaflets are then air-dropped so they flutter down over a wide area, usually a city or possibly a concentration of enemy troops. The message is then read and we hope the reader responds the way we want him to.

In 1990, I was deployed to Saudi Arabia for Operation Desert Storm. This method was used in Kuwait to try to warn

civilians to stay clear of areas where major operations were going to be conducted. It had a truly humanitarian purpose and worked extremely well. The leaflet said something like: "At 2:00 pm tomorrow afternoon a huge explosion will occur at such-and-such place. All non-combatants are to remain clear of the area." At 2:00 pm the following day, right on schedule, the U.S. would drop a special 25,000 bomb in the designated area. There wasn't anything there to blow up, but it communicated to the populace that we did what we said we would do. The explosion was so impressive that not only did the non-combatants stay clear, but the combatants surrendered by the thousands.

I'd like you to consider now the same operation that was conducted in Afghanistan after the terrorist attacks of 9/11. Below is a copy of one of the leaflets that was dropped. It is written (on both sides) in Arabic. The message was also transmitted by radio into the target areas. Here's the text of the message:

"Attention Taliban! You are condemned. Did you know that? The instant the terrorists you support took over our planes, you sentenced yourselves to death. The Armed Forces of the United States are here to seek justice for our dead. Highly trained soldiers are coming to shut down once and for all Osama bin Laden's ring of terrorism, and the Taliban that supports them and their actions. Our forces are armed with state of the art military equipment. What are you using, obsolete and ineffective weaponry? Our helicopters will rain fire down upon your camps before you detect them on your radar. Our bombs are so accurate we can drop them right through your windows. Our infantry is trained for any climate and terrain on earth. United States soldiers fire with superior marksmanship and are armed with superior weapons."

Does this sound like the language of a diplomat? During both wars the world watched our fire rain down "from heaven". CNN has placed it in the sight of all men. If the beast is the USA, exactly what power is he exercising? And how is he deceiving "them that dwell on the earth"? More on that next time...

Written by Brother Ken Hamilton






SHOULD WE TRUST OUR HEART?

Recently, in one of our Friday night youth Bible studies, we discussed "following your heart." We had a great discussion and to be honest, we ended up taking the Word and totally destroying the whole worldly concept of "just follow your heart." For many of the youth at our meeting, it was a real surprise to learn that following your heart is unbiblical. No doubt we have learned this principle from the messages the world sends us. "Do what your feel in your heart", "if it feels good then just do it", "if your heart is beating fast, it must be love", are all pretty bad ways to approach love.

Before we look at some scriptures to help see what to really do with our heart, let's look at the word "heart". Heart is used in so many different ways today and means so many things. Just like the word love. Even the Bible has different meanings to the word heart. We know we have physical part of our body that is called our heart, but sometimes "heart" is referring to our soul. The Bible tells us to hide the Word in our heart, and sometimes preachers say we need a revelation of Christ in our heart. This is certainly true and we should be led by Christ that's in our heart. The Christian should be led by the inside of the inside, which is the soul, and sometimes that is referred to as our heart.

The heart that I am writing about for our subject is not the soul or the physical heart. It is the seat of our emotions. It's the whole realm of our human spirit, feelings, and thoughts. As happy we are to have all this, I want to make it real clear. The realm of our heart is not something to be trusted. It can feel so right and convincing, sometimes that it's hard not to follow. What is bad is when young people buy into what their heart and emotions are saying so much they can ignore the still small voice of the Holy Ghost, the good godly counsel around them, and even the Bible itself, all in the name of following their heart. I have heard young people say, "Well, I know this guy is not a Christian, but I feel good in my heart about him." "I feel it's the Lord's will to move to (city) and go to college. I know there is no fellowship of believers there, but I'll be okay." These are statements from a person who is getting pretty risky following what they feel is right. Let's all remember the old saying: the will of God will never lead you where His grace cannot keep you. Gifts that come from God will always lead you closer to Him, never further away. JAMES 1:17 says Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning. A new job promotion you feel came from the Lord, but pulls you away from Lord, probably did not come from the Lord. A girl you feel God sent your way, but she continually leads you astray, probably wasn't sent by God.

Why can't we trust our heart? God gives the reasons in Jeremiah 17:9-10. These would be good scriptures to memorize. The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it? I the LORD



search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings. That word deceitful means sly or even slippery. Something God says can be sly or slippery is not a good thing to follow or base your decisions on. The heart is so unpredictable. One day it can send you a strong message one way, the next day it can send you a totally different message. Nobody can understand it or as the Bible says, "who can know it." There is only one source that can search, test, and screen the heart properly, and that's God. Just because your heart is telling you something does not mean it's right. It needs to be continually checked by the Word of God. Why? Because it is deceitful. It can lie to you. What feels so right some times can be dangerously wrong.

If we are not to follow our heart as the world teaches us, then what do we do with our heart? Besides letting the Lord always search and try it, the Bible gives us another simple principle to follow. It says in Prov. 4:23 to keep or guard your heart. "Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life." Our quality of life will be connected very much too how much we guard our heart. If you don't think the heart is tied to what issues (or springs) from our everyday life, then you have serious issues (just had to add that.) We are to put a high priority on guarding our heart because it is so much a part of our life. It can lead us astray, but when it is guarded and protected, our life can be happier and much more fulfilling. Your heart has the potential to do great damage if it is not carefully guarded.

What does this call for young people to do? Don't just easily give your emotions over to someone or something. Girls are a more vulnerable in this area than guys, because women are bent to being a little more emotional, but this instruction is to both. We hear how important it is to protect and save our virtue and purity till the wedding day, but not much is said about protecting and saving our emotions. Young people often guard their bodies, but give their emotions to several people before they are married. I like to tell young people that all of your sexual passions and the emotions that go with it are meant to be poured out on one person in life. Not three, not four, not ten. Just one, and that is your husband or wife after your wedding day. Often marriages have struggles because people have given pieces of their heart to so many others before marriage. This is another area to apply to "guarding your heart."

I would like to take this to a further level maybe in a future article. One of the ways to guard your heart is to stay accountable in a community of parents, believers, and good counsel. One of the biggest problems I see in many believers today is unaccountability. There is truly too many that get isolated to themselves and put themselves in dangerous situations. Perhaps we can go into this more in the future.

I pray the things I have written will cause you to think about and ponder the false idea of following your heart. There is only one true dependable leadership we need in our lives, and that is the true Holy Ghost. God Bless You.

Written by Bro. Paul LaFontaine

Question & Answers: Both Sides of the Story!

Q #1

Recently I have been hurt deeply after the ending of a relationship. After hurting so deep, I feel as if I will never love again. Can you offer me any words of comfort or wisdom?

Sis. Rebekah:

Let the Lord be your source of love and healing. Spend time with Him in prayer and in the Word. He will be your source of comfort. Also do not keep your feeling and emotions inside. Find and aged man or aged woman who can help you decipher through your thoughts and feelings. Do not allow the root of bitterness to overtake your heart. Keep love and forgiveness inside. A lot of of times after a deep hurt, we turn inward and stay to ourselves. That is the time we need encouragement from Godly parents, friends, and family. I remember when I was young and felt my heart was broke and it would never mend. Guess what? It did mend and I have no regrets. I am glad God jerked me out of some relationships so I could enjoy who He had for me. Be assured, if you're patient and seek Gods will, you will not be able to imagine the love you will feel for the one God has for you!

Brother Vince:

I hate to use this old, worn out cliché, but there is a lot of truth to it. "Time heals wounds". We could fill up this site with people telling of relationships gone bad, and then they look back and see that it was the hand of God. It is in these times you need to saturate yourself with the Word, let Christ fill the void. Above all, make sure no bitterness creeps in. Bitterness will wreck you emotionally as well as physically.

Q #2

I feel that the world has distorted and even dirtied my view of what a relationship with the opposite sex is supposed to be. Do you have any godly wisdom you could share with me on how to "cleanse the mind" and take on the mind of Christ in view of godly relations?

Sister Rebekah:

"Cleanse the mind" by allowing God to transform you mind. ([Romans 12:2](#)) Also the scripture says "Let this mind that was in Christ" ([Philippians 2:5](#)). We all had distorted views until God Shows us his way, which is within the Word. Read what the scripture says and the prophets share about the virtue and purity that can be showed between two that God has joined together. There will always be scars from your past that can't be erased, but God can give you a clean and pure view of his purpose and will.

Brother Vince:

We can not receive our cues from Hollywood, or the world for how to treat each other in a relationship. In a world where men are starting to act like women and women like men, it is apparent Satan's scheme is to distort one's view of the opposite sex. With much emphasis on the physical stature of the man and woman, this is what lures people together in today's society. Check out some of the "older" couples in your church. Notice the respect for each other. The conversation between the two is as best friends, and they are. To cleanse the mind is only a task that Jesus Christ can do. Remember, you can not keep thoughts from entering your mind, but you have to determine to not allow them to stay. Pray to the Lord for a clean heart and mind.

Q #3

Provided that one is old enough, what is the appropriate way to signal interest in a member of the opposite sex and go about building a relationship?

Sister Rebekah:

I will answer from a girls point of view. For me I established Godly friendships with guys and girls alike and spent a lot of time in group settings. Occasionally, one may have sparked some interest and I would pray for Gods will. I would say "Lord, so and so seems like a nice young man, if it would be your will, draw us together." As a girl I knew it was choosing of a bride and not choosing of a groom so that took a lot of worry out of it for me. I could accept the invitation or reject it. Trust me, if a young man becomes interested in you, he will let you know. Bro. Paul was very bold to let me know his intentions. He said, "I am interested in you and would like to spend more time with you" I responded " I'd like that" He said "I know!" and the rest is history. Remember to include your parents and pastor in your thoughts and ask their advice.

Brother Vince:

Firstly, the father of the girl should be notified that you have an interest in her. The father can then talk to the daughter and if there is an interest he can grant permission for things to proceed. By getting the father involved, you are taking unneeded pressure off the girl in the case she is not interested. Don't send another guy or girl that just complicates matters and usually extra words will get added to the story! Bottom line...father involved at ground zero.

L **F**irst of all, let me say that I'm glad you're with us for another issue. Though I probably don't know you, I do know that you have gone through many struggles since our last issue. I know this because, in this age, it's impossible not to. Many reading these words I write have gone through trials in the time between this issue and the last that have tested the very fabric of their being. To those individuals, I want tell you to press on. You are not the weak person you see yourself as. If you have survived Satan's attacks this far, you are stronger than the million others that succumbed to those same attacks.

E As I am in battle, I want to encourage those who are in battle with me. What I tell you is not going to be as easy to carry out as it is to read. It is not an easy thing to do. It is simply this: **CONTINUE IN BATTLE!** I don't know where you are right now, but if you are at the end of you rope, I encourage you to keep fighting. Keep fighting till you can't fight any longer. Fight till you drop... till you drop to your knees. Do not be overcome easily - for remember. by what a man is overcome, he is enslaved (II Peter 2:18).

R I just felt the push to write that. Remember to encourage the ones around you. If you're not presently in battle, there is always some one near you who is. If you are in a trial yourself, look outside yourself. Encourage others anyhow. Many times by encouraging others, we and courage ourselves - and by struggling over other's trials through intercession, our own struggles diminish. I hope that helped someone - it helped me to write it.

M T H E E D I T O R



LETTER FROM T



Now, you may have noticed that we have both Brother Paul and Sister Rebekah LaFontaine writing in this issue - along with the youth group of their church. This is no coincidence, merely the beginning of a practice we hope to do more of - that is, feature a select church with articles written by the pastor and his wife as well as an introduction to “meet” the youth of that church. It’s my pleasure to begin this with my own church, of which I am very proud. I hope you’ll enjoy it!

Before I close, I’d like to share a little on the state of Youth Quake. We’ve done our math and have figured, from our given data, that these issues have reached 31 countries. Below is a world map and a list of these countries .

Singapore; Australia; New Zealand; Philippines; Norway; Poland; United Kingdom; Switzerland; Italy; Germany; Denmark; Zimbabwe; Uganda; Tanzania; South Africa; Kenya; Zambia; Nigeria; Namibia; Mauritius; Malawi; Canada; United States; Trinidad and Tobago; Senegal; Ivory Coast; Brazil; Vietnam; Venezuela; ; Czech republic; Iceland



Now, as I’m sure you have already read on our cover page, a lot is going on at Youth Quake these days. Please remember that while Youth Quake is a “not for profit” organization and while we don’t have anywhere near the expense we did when Youth Quake was printing it’s issues in hard copy (\$970 for a single issue), we do have some cost. For those who would have an interest in helping us meet our financial obligations, we have published a list of costs in the year 2005:

- Content Management Software Install: \$100
- Domain Registration (yearly expense): \$19
- Domain Hosting (yearly expense): \$120
- Website Graphics Design: \$200
- Archiving Youth ‘84 - ‘95: \$168
- Transcribing (estimate): \$300
- Miscellaneous Printing: \$56
- Community Forum: \$210
- Website Design: \$250

Total: \$1553

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MEET THE YOUTH OF

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Greetings Youth,

Amanda and I as of couple have been asked to write a few words about our involvement with the amazing youth group at LLT. I thought it would be good to break this into two parts; first I want to give you a snapshot overview of the LLT youth group. Next, because this “youth snapshot” series is meant to uplift and strengthen the youth at your church, I will talk a little about why this youth group is so successful and share a little of the philosophy behind that success. I would suggest that you could implement some of the things you will read here and experience great results with your local youth group, regardless of size.

Snapshot Overview

LLT attendance is approximately 120 people and growing at a rate of between one and three families per year (from both outreach efforts and believers relocation to this area).

Nearly 20% of the congregation are unmarried youth between 13 and 35 years old.

LLT is flexing to make the change from a small church to a medium size church and with the growth, responsibilities increase. Nearly all of the youth of LLT have responded to the need by becoming actively involved in the week-by-week administration of the church.

S.A.V.I. stands for sound, audio, video, and internet. This is literal Life’s technical group. Nine of the eleven team members are young people between 12 and 17 years old.

Winter Youth Retreat just keeps getting bigger and better every year and the youth group of LLT continues to step up when needed.

LLT youth meet every Friday night for food, fellowship, Bible study, and prayer.

The third Sunday night of every month is reserved for tri-state youth meetings. Youth from surrounding area churches come in from three states and some even come from Canada!

Kidz Dayz is like a vacation bible school on steroids! The youth busy themselves building props, writing dramas, singing, and acting as our church plays host to over a hundred of area children between the ages of 4 and 12. Horseback riding, relay races and dramatized ministry all lead the children to make a decision for Christ at the end of the two day event. The catch is that the parents must come to the final presentation to watch their children perform what they have learned. Many children have raised their hands when the invitation is given to ask Jesus into their hearts. Very exciting stuff for the past 6 years!

35 new youth will be graduating from Sunday school to the youth group (considered 13 and up) over the next five to ten years.

MEET THE YOUTH OF



As you can plainly see, the youth of Literal Life are the church of today and tomorrow! We are very proud of them

The Philosophy of the LLT Youth Group

The following things were initiated in one of our first formal youth gatherings on a Sunday afternoon a few years ago and they have had a profound effect on the group from that time. These are not rules or regulations, in fact this may be the first time they have ever been written down but these ideals are some sure ways to strengthen any youth group.

The youth group and, by extension, the body of believers at LLT is the life support of each and every one of us. Separating or distancing yourself from the body means certain spiritual death (imagine a toe separating from the body in order to claim it's own independence). Instead of independence we should seek interdependence.

Don't put each other down! In that first meeting we talked about respecting one another and agreed to support and uplift rather than criticize and tear down. Since initiating that agreement we have never encountered a more supportive group anywhere! They are very complimentary even though some well-placed sarcasm is enjoyed by most of us.

It's safe to be you here. No one has to pretend that they are something they are not. If a young person does not have the Holy Ghost yet, it is counter productive to require them to act like they do. We all know people are not born with the spirit of God but most of us who grew up in church pretended to have it at some point in our lives in order to be accepted or not embarrass our family. Unfortunately some are such good actors they actually convince themselves that they have it and go on living a lie.

Although there is quite literally a limitless supply of advise I could write about to attain a successful youth group I will only mention one more: **STAND UP FOR ONE ANOTHER.** Speak highly of one another. Always emphasizes the strong points of your fellow youth and immediately terminate conversations full of gossip and deceit. People who have not experienced or fully accepted the grace of God are quick to draw the sword on a young person that has not reached a certain level of maturity yet. If you see that happen then circle the wagons and defend that young person vigorously! I like to say it like this: My little toe is small, sometimes smelly, and not very attractive, but if you try to hurt it, you will have to deal with the other 235 pounds attached to it! That is a healthy body and that is LLT youth. Love you guys!

- Ike and Amanda

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Sheri LaFontaine
Age: 25

The true beauty of a youth group is having an extreme variety of personalities, looks and style, all dedicated to God. I see us as a bouquet, made up of different shapes, sizes and hues. Each completely different and though some may even look like weeds, when arranged properly, it's perfect.

I love that there's no cliques. We just accept that we're different. They don't mind that I have red hair, I'm addicted to Mt.Dew and I love to sing off key for fun. They love me for me! Strengths and weaknesses alike. I love them like my own family.



Kimberly Sinacola
Age: 13

This is my first year in being with the youth of LLT. Right away they opened right up and included me on everything they did. I love to go hang out with all of them after a long week of school. It makes me feel so much better to see everyone. Laughing together, getting along, and just always smiling. So I'd like to say thank you for being so awesome to me, being so close to God, and sharing so much love. God bless.



Tiffany Carter
Age: 18

I thank the Lord for each and everyone of the youth in our church. We have had so many good experiences in the Lord together, and with a loving pastor who has a true burden for us young people, we are always encouraged and challenged. I feel that we have all grown and learned so much under his leadership. We Love You Bro. Paul!!!

We also have some great friendships! After a few trips down to Louisiana Camp and back (over 22 hours in a vehicle together), we all have learned so much about each other. Hamaybe a little too much. Yet through all that we still love each other. The most wonderful thing to me is that with so many different ages and personality types, I love how we all fit together as true brothers and sisters in our own special way.



Brandyn Sinacola
Age: 17

Being in the Literal Life youth group is such a blessing. Being in both public school and going to work is a burden. Sometimes I feel so filthy just from being around the unbelievers - we're really fighting a battle. Being able to come to bible studies on Friday nights is such a relief. Just to hear Bro. Paul tell it like it is. We can all be open and tell what's on our hearts. It's great just to be around peers that are clean and love God.

MEET THE YOUTH OF

L I T E R A L L I F E T A B



Grace Slachta
Age: 15

I enjoy going to the youth meetings because... there is a lot of

food. (What can I say? I'm a Slachta). No, seriously. I like hangin' out with the youth because I don't have to be serious (which is pretty much impossible). I can act like myself and they like me for who I am! They like the fact that I am goofy and am always laughing. I am known for my great skills (you know, numbchuck skills... bow hunting skills...). Honestly, I appreciate my youth group and love each and every person (especially me!). Well, God bless and thanks for reading.



Melody Cornett
Age: 20

Six years ago my family began attending Literal Life Tabernacle. Before that, we'd been going to another church where there were no young people (besides my brother and I) and no

ministry aimed towards the young people's needs.

When we began attending LLT, I was delighted to see that there were actually other people my age (gasp!). Not only that, but the adults really reached out to us younger ones with encouragement and support. I had the opportunity to travel to several states with my pastor and his wife, Sister Rebekah, while babysitting for their children. As a result of these trips, I had the opportunity to have some great conversations with the two of them. It is partly due to

these conversations, and partly due to Bro. Paul's great preaching that I have, I feel, blossomed in my spiritual walk these last few years.

One day, I hope to to be as wise and beneficial a mentor as Sis. Rebekah and some of the other sisters in the church have been to me.



Judaea Carpenter
Age: 17

I am very grateful for our youth group. I'd like to thank Bro Paul for taking the time to be with us and to share what God has put on his heart. I wasn't

brought up in the Message and didn't have the opportunity to be around people my age that have so much love for God. It's great to be able to get together to share what God is doing in our lives. I'm so thankful God put me here.



Josiah Cornett
Age: 18

One thing that I can say that being around the young people has done for me is that my

social skills have dramatically improved (I used to be introvert - HA!). Anyhow, I don't want to make you jealous or anything, but our youth group is awesome! I hope you have the opportunity to come meet us personally in Toledo sometime. May God bless and keep you all. I pray that you and the youth at your church have been encouraged.