

SOLD OUT NEWSLETTER

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INSPIRATIONAL CALENDAR OF EVENTS  BIRTHDAYS

The Purpose of this newsletter is to inform, inspire, and invite anyone seeking a loving and caring church family. All are welcome (**Adults 18 and over**) to join us in praise and worship. 9:30 am Sundays. See calendar for details.

SOLD OUT MISSION STATEMENT

We believe we are here for the purpose of praising and worshiping our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We believe in being completely Sold Out for Jesus, and we honor Him by taking to heart, His teachings and applying them to our lives. We are committed to being full time followers of Christ. We allow our light to shine brightly as a lighthouse beacon reaching out to others. We are called to be present to support each other in fellowship whether we are feeling triumphant or experiencing tribulation. We believe in praying unceasingly with and for one another offering comfort and support according to God's Word. Our mission is to take the word of God out into a broken world to those who struggle and feel lonely, hopeless and muck and mire setting the lost on a solid foundation.

FOOD PANTRY

The Food Pantry is held on the **first** and **third** Saturday of each month.

No one should go hungry. If in need, come to the coffee house.

The food pantry is supported by

Liberty Worship Center

SOLD OUT **COFFEE HOUSE**

**COME JOIN US FOR
COFFEE AND FELLOWSHIP**

**EVERY SATURDAY MORNING
8:00 am to 10:00 am**



THE SOLD OUT BAND

The Sold Out Band is the worship band for Sold Out Ministries Inc. Sold Out Ministries is an outreach ministry that provides worship and various outreach services. Currently serving in Clearwater at the Continental Inn, Sold Out reaches out to show the love of Christ to so many in great need during some of the most difficult times of their lives. Being a transitional housing facility for those recently released from jail/prison, on probation, homeless, facing addictions or other difficulties, The Continental affords Sold Out a great opportunity to serve. Whether it be the Sold Out Band playing out at a venue, or hosting a Bible Study, game night, the Saturday Morning Sold Out Coffee House, Sunday Morning Worship Service, Sports watch party, Movie Night, The Sold Out Storehouse (Thrift Store), road trips to local Celebrate Recovery programs, or BBQ/pool/picnic/baptism events in the Continental Courtyard . . . Sold Out provides a family experience full of unconditional/non-judgmental love. Sold Out is available to play at your next event. Be sure to visit our website, email us at soldoutallin@gmail.com. Or contact Dawn @ 727-458-7124



FOOD FOR THOUGHT



THE BLANK PAGE

A blank page is an artist's canvas to paint a masterpiece. It's a sculptor's lump of clay to be molded into something magnificent. It's a place for a writer to assemble the right words in the right order to create an unforgettable story. All three are gifts from God. I continue to encourage and invite anyone who wishes to contribute to this Newsletter. It matters not what you may think of your writing ability. Let God guide your pen. See Jim for details.

INDECISION

"MORE IS LOST BY INDESICION, THAN BY WRONG DECISION" (CICERO)

"No one learns to make right decisions without being free to make wrong ones."

Most everyone, I am sure, has experienced something that requires a decision. Could be something minor, for example what to prepare for dinner or what clothes to wear. Maybe a major decision needs to be made in a financial situation or it might be a life changing decision such as changing employment or relocating to a new neighborhood, a new town or even to another state. A lot of times a decision is made too quickly, without much thought. In some cases, we have little choice in the matter. God gave us the power to make those choices but it can be very difficult. I always say, the grass is never greener on the other side. Taking the wrong path without prayer, consulting someone else, plus serious thought, can be disastrous.

I recently had a conversation with someone who inspired me to choose this topic of indecision. Sometimes, torn between what someone close to us wants, and what we want for ourselves can mean a difficult, life changing decision. For example, if there is family that lives a distance away, they may want to suggest a move, a relocation to be nearer to them. But being content (Godliness actually is a means of great gain when accompanied by contentment) and happy in the present location makes it hard to know what to do. At the same time, feeling pressured to honor the request by family, or even a close friend, to relocate, may create a tug of war within, wondering what to do.

Four Principles to making difficult decisions:

- 1) Take time, when possible to consider decisions.
- 2) Seek and heed Godly counsel regarding critical decisions.
- 3) Carefully weigh the good and harmful effects of choices.
- 4) **Above all, seek to follow God's will in your decisions.**

I recall a situation some years ago which required a difficult decision. It meant staying where I was among friends and happy, or leave that safe place to care for my mother. It was an easy, but also an extremely difficult decision to make. I had to consider what was best for my mother; she was in an assisted living facility where she did not belong and was not ready for. At the same time, I had to consider what was best for me. I was living at a halfway house getting away from a life of alcohol addiction. I had to ask myself if I was ready to leave the safety of the halfway house.

I had to pray for the power to make the right decision, and seek advice from the Church and the people I lived with. "Plans fail for lack of counsel, but with many advisors they succeed." (Proverbs 15:22) I talked with many people before deciding what I should do. Yes, I had some reservations about leaving the safety of the halfway house, but the support I had would go with me.

Weighing carefully the pros and cons of this decision I could see what might happen if I did not stay focused on the reason for leaving behind, what was comfortable. I realized it was not about me or what I wanted, it was about what my mother needed. She had been there for me when I needed her help and support. Now, I knew I had the opportunity to be there for her.

As I was going through the decision making process, I could feel deep within that I was doing the right thing, and I did not regret one decision that I made. Through prayer with people that I cared about and that cared about me, I realized that I was doing the right thing, that it wasn't my will, but the will of God. ("*The safest place to be is in God's will.*" From Norm's Bits and Pieces) I knew this because every event that lead up to being a fulltime care giver fell effortlessly into place.

When faced with a difficult decision and you don't know what to do; follow those four principles above. Listen to that still small voice, "*Whether you turn to right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, 'this is the way; walk in it.'*" (Isaiah 30:21) Share with those you trust, follow your heart, and most important pray for the right decision. Chances are you already know what to do to change indecision and do what calls to you.

Jim Ellis

SPECULATION

Our thoughts flow downhill like water. If we aren't aware of what we are thinking, our thoughts wander, leading us down windy ways through dark woods. We lose perspective; we start speculating; we come to terrible conclusions in about seven seconds. The scripture urging us to. "Take every thought captive to Christ" is vital (2 Corinthians 10:5). What we think matters; our thoughts and imagination pave the way for our beliefs, and then our actions are soon to follow.

I know I'm not alone in giving way to speculation. But I want to mature in this area; to grow up. Don't you?

What I've learned the hard way is first of all not to judge motives. You don't really know another's motives. You can speculate, but you don't know why he didn't call. You don't know they forgot to invite you to the party. When we assume motives we usually assume bad motives, right? You're already mad before he walks in the door; you're already hurt before something is actually said; yet nine times out of ten there isn't a real reason behind it. You jumped to conclusions. You speculated. He didn't hang up on you, his cell battery died. They didn't invite you because you told them you were going to be out of town.

It's hard, but I'm trying these days to assume the best. I assume their heart is good, and my heart is good.

Adapted from an article by Ransom Hearts by JB

SOLD OUT EVENTS AND BIRTHDAYS

EVERY SUNDAY Sold Out Church Service doors open at 9:15 a.m.

BIBLE STUDY Every Thursday evening. Doors open at 6:15 p.m.

COFFEE HOUSE Come join us for coffee and fellowship 8:00am to 10:00am Every Saturday. Food Pantry on the First and Third Saturday. *(June 1st and June 15th during Coffee House.*

MONDAY JUNE 3 The Sold Out Band will be at Liberty Worship Celebrate Recovery 400 1st Avenue SW Largo

FATHER'S DAY JUNE 16 **MOVIE NIGHT** "COURAGEOUS" Doors open at 5:00 pm

THURSDAY JUNE 27 The Sold Out Band will be at Harborside Celebrate Recovery
2200 Marshall Street Safety Harbor

On the last Sunday of this month we celebrate three Birthdays



