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National Center of Health Statistics

- i. 18% of Americans have had sex before age 15
- ii. As of 2002, 29% of men and 9% of women had more than 15 sex partners
- iii. Average is 9 partners for men, 4 for women
- iv. 98% of Americans have had sex before marriage
- v. One-third of Americans have lived with a partner before marriage

Do you suppose that the statistics are different for those who follow Jesus? Do we rise above what is ordinary and live lives that are extraordinary? Do we believe the calling of Jesus to “set our minds on things that are above”? Do we take seriously the instruction to avoid “conformity with the world” and embrace “transformation by renewing our minds”?

There is a challenge before us, a challenge to embrace new life in Jesus. We live in a more restrictive behavior system, but freed from the burdens of sin. I want to be like Jesus, I want to live an extraordinary life. I pray you desire it as well.

*Grace and Peace,
Carl*

Where belonging to God means belonging to each other.

**St John Church of Christ
609 N Pearl
St John, KS 67576
620-549-6146**



The Today Show had Desmond Tutu's daughter on this week. She and her father have written a book including stories of incredibly forgiving acts due out this month. Mpho Tutu was asked by Ann Curry on the Today Show whether incredibly forgiving acts can only be done by extraordinary people. Tutu responded, "It does take an extraordinary person to do something like that, yet every person has the capacity to be extraordinary."

When the Bible gives us difficult tasks, forgiving our enemies, turning the other cheek, or returning a blessing for a curse, we all recognize that these are acts of extraordinary people. The average person seeks revenge, looks to retaliate, or tries to find a way to escalate the damage. It is normal, natural, and sinful.

Scripture makes an assumption that those who follow Jesus will attempt to rise above the ordinary, focusing their eyes on Jesus. I read some new statistics this week. In the

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SUNDAY: Leisure Homestead Service—9:30 am
 Bible Study for all ages—10:00 am
 Worship Service—10:45 am
 Afternoon Service—1:15 pm

WEDNESDAY: Adult Bible Study—7:30 pm
 Youth Group—7:30 pm (@ Feril's)

ELDERS: Richard Brensing, Teddy Gingrich, Loyd Ratts,
 Terry Sallee, George Shelton

DEACONS: Jerry Kinnamon, Jon Mansel

TREASURER: Richard Brensing

Worship Order for March 9, 2014

SONG LEADER: Richard Brensing
 GATHERING SONG: No. 103—He Has Made Me Glad
 WELCOME: Tom Turner
 SCRIPTURE READING: 1 John 1:7 (Cole Kinnamon)
 SONGS: No. 702—Fellowship Medley
 -No. 703—I Love You with the Love of the Lord
 -No. 704—Bind Us Together
 -No. 705—A Common Love
 No. 709—How Sweet, How Heavenly
 No. 781—Thank You, Lord

PRAYER: Jerry Kinnamon
 SONG: No. 287—There Is a Redeemer
 COMMUNION: Tom Turner
 Clint Kinnamon
 Ben Sizemore
 Jon Mansel

MEMORY WORK: Carl Feril
 SONG: No. 96—I Stand in Awe
 LESSON: Carl Feril (*Children's Bible Hour*)
 SONG: No. 738—Take the Name of Jesus with You (vs 1)
 PRAYER: Chris Mansel

(CCLI #2440129)

Welcome Visitors

We are pleased you have joined us in worship—please come again!
 We also invite you to stay for potluck lunch today.

Baptism

We rejoice in the baptism of **Baylee Sizemore** on Tuesday, February 25th, by George Shelton.

Update

Michael Thys is planning on being here next Sunday for dinner and will be giving a report in the afternoon.

Ladies Bible Study

The next ladies Bible Study is scheduled for Saturday, March 22 at 9:30 am. Study the lesson on Hagar in preparation.

VBS—Save the Date!

Vacation Bible School is being planned for May 27, 28, 29 (6:30 pm), with a picnic on Friday, May 30.

Thank You

Rick Owens recently sent us a thank-you note for the many years of support of the work in Mexico. Please read the note posted on the bulletin board.

Memory Work for 2014—Mark 4:21-25

Church Website - www.stjohnchurchofchrist.org



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Meagan Feril 3/12
Misty Blakeslee 3/13
Maddy Lippoldt 3/14
Gary Hornbaker 3/15
Joe Cornwell 3/15

Prayer Requests

Bonnie Guthrie (Kay's mother) - fell at Kenwood Plaza last week and broke her shoulder
Nick & Kara Neidig—expecting a baby in May; a heart malformation has been found in the baby—they are seeing doctors at Children's Mercy in Kansas City
Carol Gingrich—recently spent some time in Hays Medical Center
Vernon Bartlett (Vicky & Lory's father) - in Hutchinson Regional Medical Center a week ago; home & improving
Phyllis Staub—back at Kenwood Plaza after a stay in the hospital at Pratt for treatment of infection
Marilyn Thornburg—recovering from hand surgery
Diane Manilla (Meagan's sister-in-law's mother) - cancer
Marilyn Thornburg's daughter, Joy
Baylee Sizemore's Aunt Suzanne—chemo
Danny Ivy (Marilyn's brother) - health concerns
Eldon Ivy (Marilyn's brother) - improving
Vic Staub—Kenwood Plaza
Laura Wyatt—Kenwood Plaza
Dorothy McIntire—Pratt Care Center
Wilbur Kinnamon—Leisure Homestead—Stafford
Theo Birkett—Tara's mother
Margaret Marks (Ned's mother) - declining health
Rebecca Hunley—cancer
Barbara Schuette—Marla's half-sister
Jim Sorensen—Tara's brother-in-law; brain tumor
Jim Soukup—Gingrich's son-in-law (Shari's husband)
Eunice Rice—long term care in Stafford Hospital
Heather, Dixie Hornbaker's granddaughter in England
Jack McCawley—long time friend of Garland, who participated in the mission work in Mexico; in Rehab in Pratt
Willie Reed (Director of the Recovery Program at the church where Dennis Rosenbaum preached in New York); Willie had a massive heart attack a week ago and your prayers are requested.