

Subject: Update

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Conversation: Update

LARRY KING TONIGHT – "GOD AND GAYS"

Senior Pastor of the Cathedral of Hope, Rev. Dr. Jo Hudson, is going to appear on **Larry King Live** tonight! (**8 p.m. CT on CNN**) The topic is "**God and Gays.**"

With the recent national discussion about same-gender marriage, who better to address this topic and others concerning LGBT people of faith than the Senior Pastor of the world's largest liberal Christian church with a predominantly LGBT outreach? She will do a great job representing our church and telling our story.

Please pray for her and for the show, that people who still may not know that there is a place for them in the family of God will hear her voice.

Larry King Live - 8 p.m. CT on CNN

NEW ARTICLE - "Inclusiveness All Year Through" by Rev Father Paul Gibson, BA

Excerpt:

Let us pray: Lord, as we are acceptable to you, make us acceptable to ourselves and to each other. Help us to dare to be who we are in the knowledge that it is our faith that is making us whole. Amen.

This is the time of year - June, July, August - when people from the LGBT communities are invited to gather together to celebrate Pride. From all walks of life and from all parts of the country 'queer' people join together in shows of solidarity in places like Brighton, London and Birmingham, Moscow, Maspalomas, America

They join together to have fun, to make a statement; they join together as a sign of unity, waving flags of freedom in the face of a world that does not know how to accept the diversity of humanity - a humanity in which the world would rather tear down the colourful body of Christ than rejoice in the multi-faceted complexity of God's creation.

Once a year we are invited to belong. Once a year we are encouraged to celebrate who we are. Once a year we are allowed to prove our existence.

Well, I don't know about you, but I don't think once a year is enough! And I'm very sure that once a year isn't enough for God either!

To read the whole article, please go to <http://christiangays.com/articles/gibson.shtml>

(Thanks Paul!)

NEW YOUTH WEBSITE ADDED - "SAY" - (Support Alternative Youth) Outloud

- has published their first issue of an online magazine. Check it out!! Let the world know!

ChristianGays.com family member (and dear friend of Mary), Eric Hargreaves, is featured in this "Virgin Issue". Read "**50 questions with Eric Hargreaves: The Preacher Man Himself**".

Excerpt:

What advice would you have for gay youths in regards to coming out to their family?

That's a question we get asked lots, and there's lots of discussion around that, so I think you have to be very clear around how you feel about yourself and so I think you'd have a sense generally the way young folks do about what sort of reception they might get. Come to a group like ours and talk about it until you're comfortable to answer the questions your parents have.

Where exactly is the road less traveled?

Is it near the long and winding one? (laughs)

If God is so powerful that He can do anything, can He make a rock so big that even He can't lift it????

Ooooh... Yes and no... Okay? I guess if He decided that He wanted to. I'm not

comfortable with 'He' language. But yeah, He or She or Divine Entity.

What is a male ladybug called?

A trans-woman bug? I guess we would allow it to self-label. (laughs)

Did Adam and Eve have navels?

Oh... (laughs) Hmmm... After the apple maybe. (laughs)

If you knew that by pondering ridiculously artificial pseudo-philosophical questions you could avoid dealing with real-world decisions, would you do it?

Of course that's why I went to seminary!

*Find the link to **"SAY Outloud"** on the **Youth** page at <http://christiangays.com/youth.shtml>*

(Thanks Eric!)

USEFUL WEBSITE - "People with a History" - An Online Guide to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans* History

Excerpt:

There is no area of discussion about homosexuality which is more contentious than the interrelationship of Christianity and homosexuality. The whole issue is irretrievably bound up with modern concerns because of Christianity's continued importance.

On one hand there are conservative Christians who insist that modern Christian hostility to gays has a continuous tradition and that this is a good thing. On another hand the notion that Christianity caused homophobia was very important to early gay scholars working to explain gay oppression. But it has also turned out to be the case, in the United States at least, that the phenomenon of gay churches has been so successful that in almost every area they are the largest GLB organizations.

LGB Christians have been unwilling to surrender the comforts of their faith and LGB Christian scholars, seeking to find a space for themselves in their past have challenged the orthodoxies of both conservative Christians and radical gays.

For much more, please go to <http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/pwh/index-med.html>

(Thanks Keith!)

WORRY

Is there a magic cutoff period when offspring become accountable for their own actions? Is there a wonderful moment when parents can become detached spectators in the lives of their children and shrug, "It's their life," and feel nothing?

When I was in my twenties, I stood in a hospital corridor waiting for doctors to put a few stitches in my son's head. I asked, "When do you stop worrying?" The nurse said, "When they get out of the accident stage." My mother just smiled faintly and said nothing.

When I was in my thirties, I sat on a little chair in a classroom and heard how one of my children talked incessantly, disrupted the class, and was headed for a career making license plates. As if to read my mind, a teacher said, "Don't worry, they all go through this stage and then you can sit back, relax and enjoy them." My mother just smiled faintly and said nothing.

When I was in my forties, I spent a lifetime waiting for the phone to ring, the cars to come home, the front door to open. A friend said, "They're trying to find themselves. Don't worry, in a few years, you can stop worrying. They'll be adults." My mother just smiled faintly and said nothing.

By the time I was 50, I was sick & tired of being vulnerable. I was still worrying over my children, but there was a new wrinkle. There was nothing I could do about it. My mother just smiled faintly and said nothing.

I continued to anguish over their failures, be tormented by their frustrations and absorbed in their disappointments. My friends said that when my kids got married I could stop worrying and lead my own life. I wanted to believe that, but I was haunted by my mother's warm smile and her occasional, "You look pale. Are you all right? Call me the minute you get home. Are you depressed about something?"

Can it be that parents are sentenced to a lifetime of worry? Is concern for one another handed down like a torch to blaze the trail of human frailties and the fears of the unknown? Is concern a curse or is it a virtue that elevates us to the highest form of life?

One of my children became quite irritable recently, saying to me, "Where were you? I've been calling for 3 days, and no one answered. I was worried." I smiled a warm smile. The torch has been passed.

(Thanks Richard!)

PERSPECTIVE

There are two ways to look at every situation in life: Is the cup half empty? Or is the cup half full?

It is amazing how our perception can be changed by our attitude. For example, think about God and then look at these letters.

N-O-W-H-E-R-E

You can assume that God is NO WHERE.

Or you can believe that God is NOW HERE!

Follow this advice and you can improve your life:

Always remember that you are loved, even when it doesn't seem like it.

Believe in yourself and your values.

Don't sell out when things go wrong.

Don't let anything get you down; always bounce back up.

Set goals for your future and never settle for anything less.

Realize that there are others in the world with much bigger problems than you.

Appreciate the good things in your life, and be thankful for the time you have with your loved ones.

Spend more time with your family and friends.

Appreciate the simple things in life, and don't get caught up in material things.

If you follow that advice you can't go wrong! So the next time you're looking at a situation in your life:

Is the cup half empty? Or is the cup half full?

Be an optimist and see the cup as being half full. Before long, your attitude will rub off on others. You can make the world a better place by simply making yourself a happier person.

If you see someone without a smile, give them one of yours.

(Thanks Jack!)

COMPUTERS AND CARS

(Although this piece now circulates as a "true" story, it really is not, but I include it for sake of the humour. It's an old one but I think is still pretty funny. Hope you enjoy.)

For all of us who feel only the deepest love and affection for the way computers have enhanced our lives, read on. At a recent computer expo (COMDEX), Bill Gates reportedly compared the computer industry with the auto industry and stated, "If GM had kept up with technology like the computer industry has, we would all be driving \$25.00 cars that got 1,000 miles to the gallon."

In response to Bill's comments, General Motors issued a press release stating: "If GM had developed technology like Microsoft, we would all be driving cars with the following characteristics

1. For no reason whatsoever, your car would crash twice a day.
2. Every time they repainted the lines in the road, you would have to buy a new car.
3. Occasionally your car would die on the freeway for no reason. You would have to pull to the side of the road, close all of the windows, shut off the car, restart it, and reopen the windows before you could continue. For some reason you would simply accept this.

4. Occasionally, executing a maneuver such as a left turn would cause your car to shut down and refuse to restart, in which case you would have to reinstall the engine.
 5. Macintosh would make a car that was powered by the sun, was reliable, five times as fast and twice as easy to drive - but would run on only five percent of the roads.
 6. The oil, water temperature, and alternator warning lights would all be replaced by a single "This Car Has Performed An Illegal Operation" warning light.
 7. The airbag system would ask "Are you sure?" before deploying.
 8. Occasionally, for no reason whatsoever, your car would lock you out and refuse to let you in until you simultaneously lifted the door handle, turned the key and grabbed hold of the radio antenna.
 9. Every time a new car was introduced car buyers would have to learn how to drive all over again because none of the controls would operate in the same manner as the old car.
 10. You'd have to press the "Start" button to turn the engine off."
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A PRAYER FOR EACH OF US TO SAY

Dear God, bless all my friends in whatever it is that you know they may be needing this day! And may their life be full of Your peace, prosperity, and power as he/she seeks to have a closer relationship with you. Amen.

(Thanks Jack!)

God bless,
Mary

Gay AND Christian? YES! It IS Possible!

<http://www.ChristianGays.com>

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Gay by God. Proud by choice!

If you have any questions or concerns, please write to mary@christiangays.com

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