



Preparing for Persecution

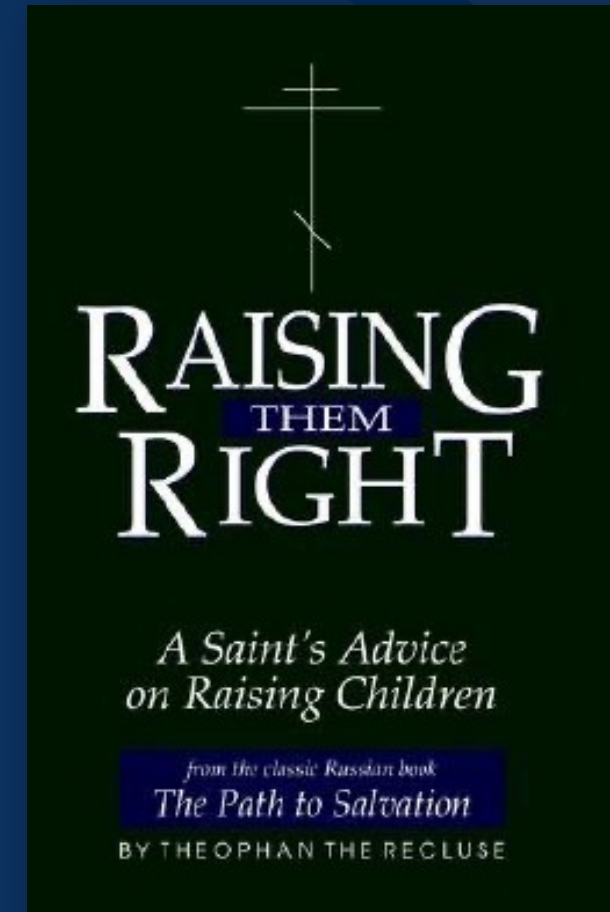
A Curriculum Proposal

Presented by Andrew Pudewa

Founder and Director of the Institute for Excellence in Writing

Conquering Corrupt Culture by Raising Christian Communicators (2005-2020)

- Education is the cultivation of appetites (attitudes).
- The appetites of a Christian should be to follow Christ.
- To follow Christ is to embrace service, selflessness, sacrifice, and suffering, even unto death.



Record Number Of Americans Report Being Unhappy

Amid ongoing COVID lockdowns, rising crime, and economic uncertainty, a new study shows Americans are less happy than they've been at any point on record.

For the past five decades, around 1 in 10 Americans said they're not happy in their day-to-day lives. However, in 2021, the number skyrocketed, with 1 in 4 Americans now saying they're unhappy. The number of Americans describing themselves as "very happy" also fell from 31% in 2018 to 19% in 2021, which is ten points lower than at any point on record.

Every demographic and age group saw a decline in happiness. From 2018 to 2021, the number of young people saying they're unhappy almost doubled, from 16% to 30%, while the number calling themselves very happy fell from 25% to 14%. Those are the worst numbers for any age group by a noticeable margin. People who were married were three times more likely to report feeling "very happy" than those who weren't.



Morning Wire, Feb. 2, 2022

COVID-19: Democratic Voters Support Harsh Measures Against Unvaccinated

... Nearly half (48%) of Democratic voters think federal and state governments should be able to fine or imprison individuals who publicly question the efficacy of the existing COVID-19 vaccines on social media, television, radio, or in online or digital publications.

47% of Democrats favor a government tracking program for those who won't get the COVID-19 vaccine.

29% of Democratic voters would support temporarily removing parents' custody of their children if parents refuse to take the COVID-19 vaccine ...



Rasmussen Reports,
January 13, 2022

Pakistani Christian Pastor Shot Dead Near Peshawar

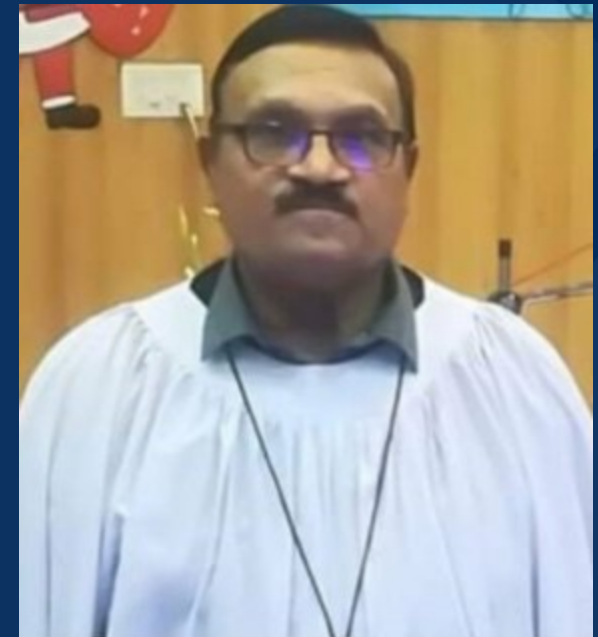
"I praise God and am so proud that I am the daughter of a martyr and the wife of a martyr too."

– the daughter of William Siraj and widow of another martyr

"I praise and thank God that I belong to a family of martyrs."

– Wilson Saraj, who has lost five relatives as martyrs including his brother, William.

William Saraj
Gunned down after
church service



Barnabas Aid, February 2, 2022

Faith of Our Fathers - 1849

Faith of our Fathers! living still
In spite of dungeon, fire, and sword:
Oh, how our hearts beat high with joy
Whene'er we hear that glorious word.

Faith of our Fathers! Holy Faith!
We will be true to thee till death.

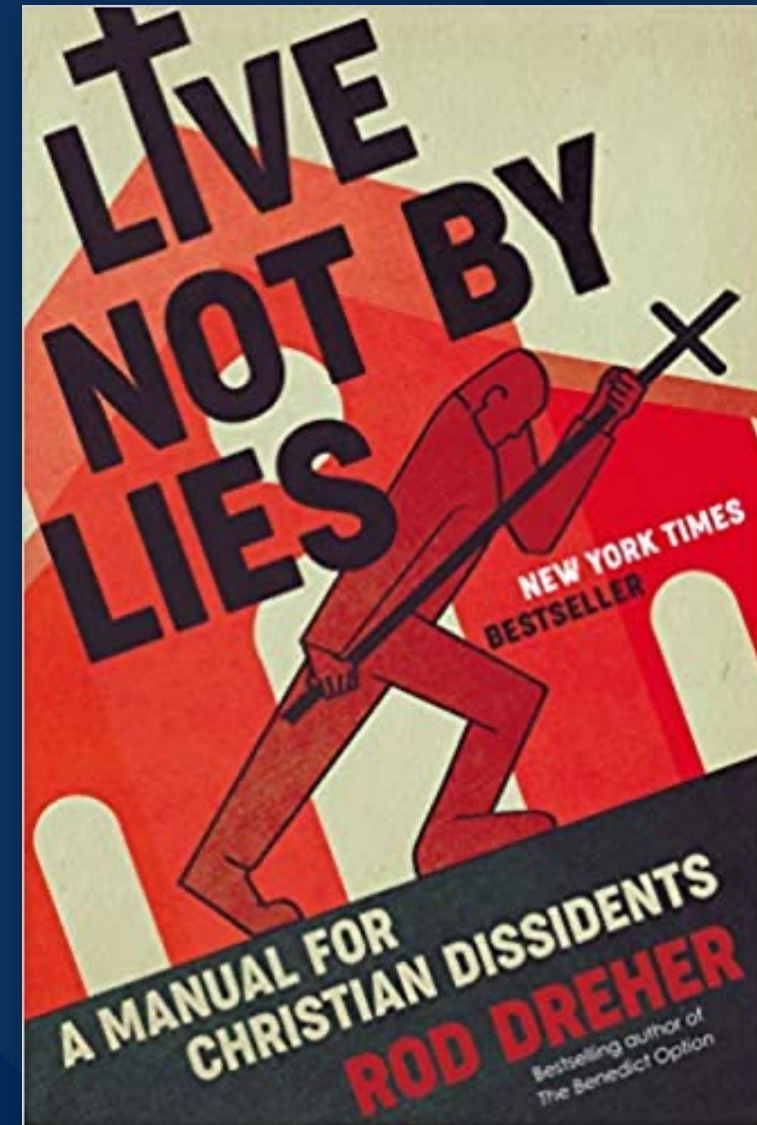
Our Fathers, chained in prisons dark,
Were still in heart and conscience free:
How sweet would be their children's fate,
If they, like them, could die for thee!

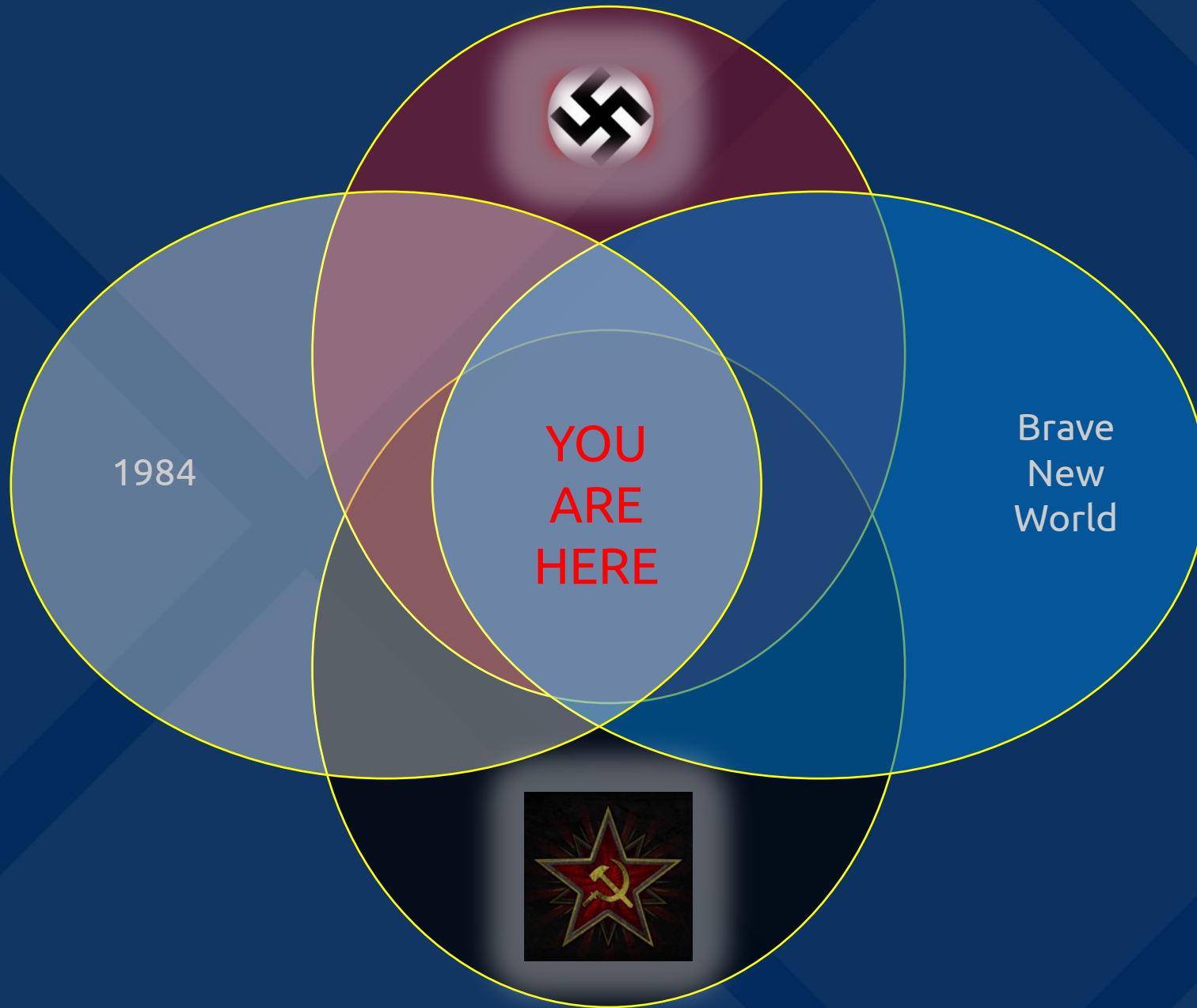
Faith of our Fathers! Holy Faith!
We will be true to thee till death.

In Recent Years ...

- LGBTQIA agenda
- BLM violence & CRT in schools
- Cancel culture & media censorship
- COVID fears, lockdowns
- Vaccines mandates, passports
- Expansion of authoritarianism
- Economic uncertainty, inflation
- Surveillance society
- Canada
- War

What's next?



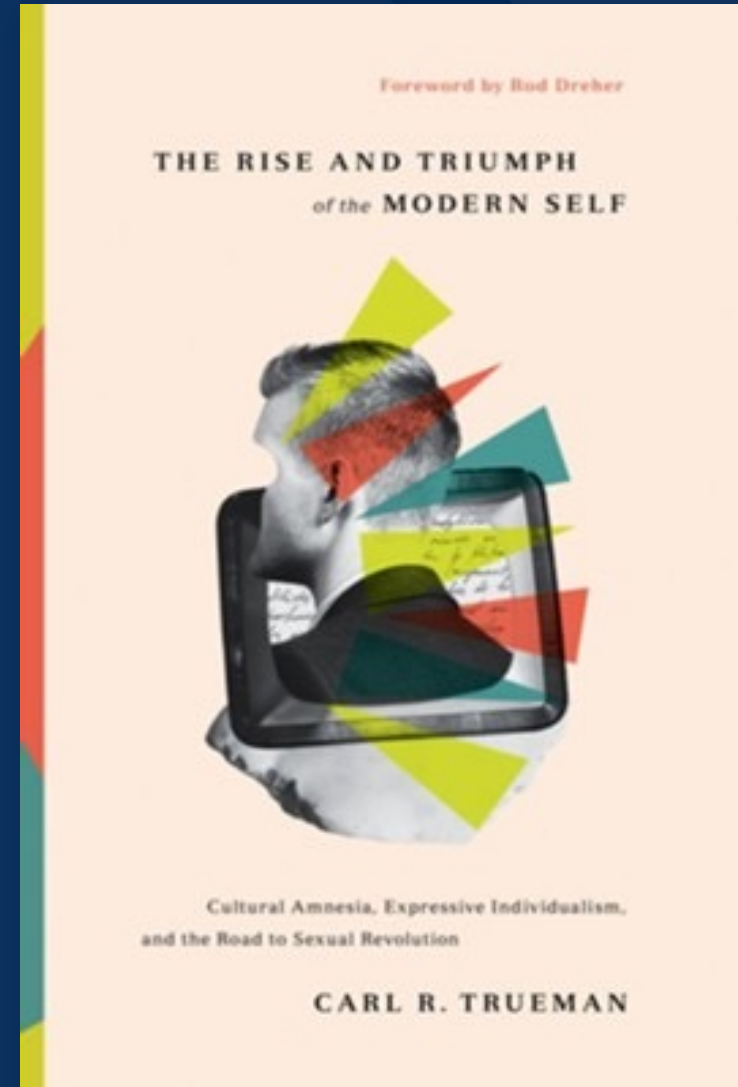




How then shall we prepare ourselves and our children?

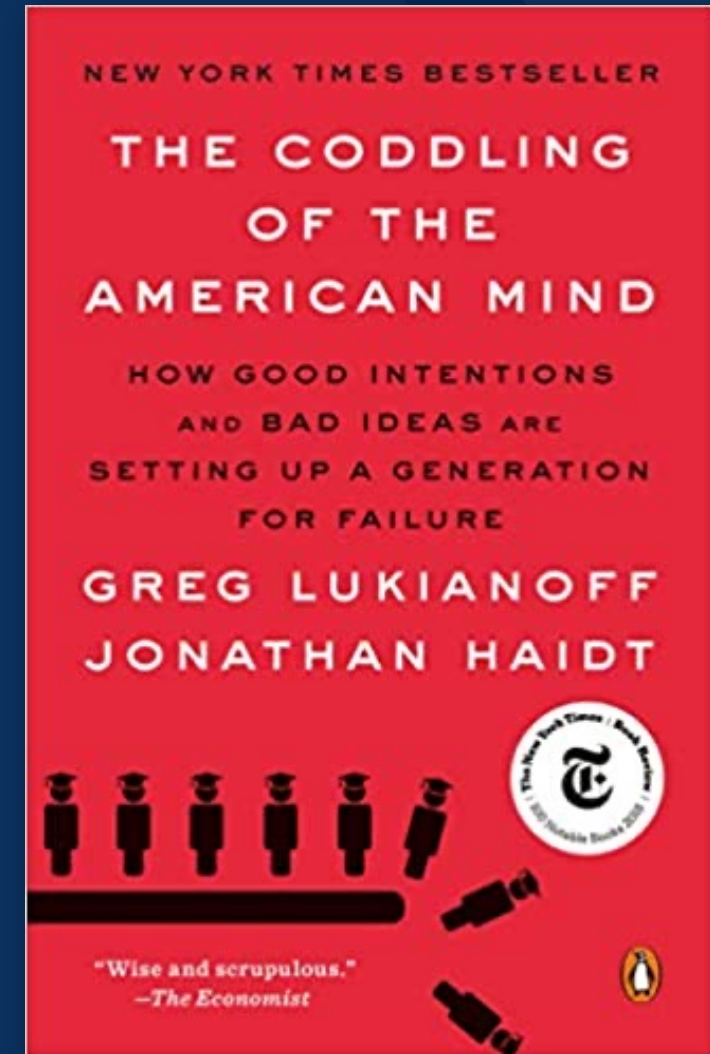
How did we get here?

- Early 19th Century Romanticism
a rejection of Judeo-Christian mores
- Nietzsche, Rousseau, & the Enlightenment
- Darwinism: the redefinition of man
- Freud: the sexualization of everything
- Marx: redefining identity as class
- The *psychological and therapeutic* self:
We don't know who we are anymore.

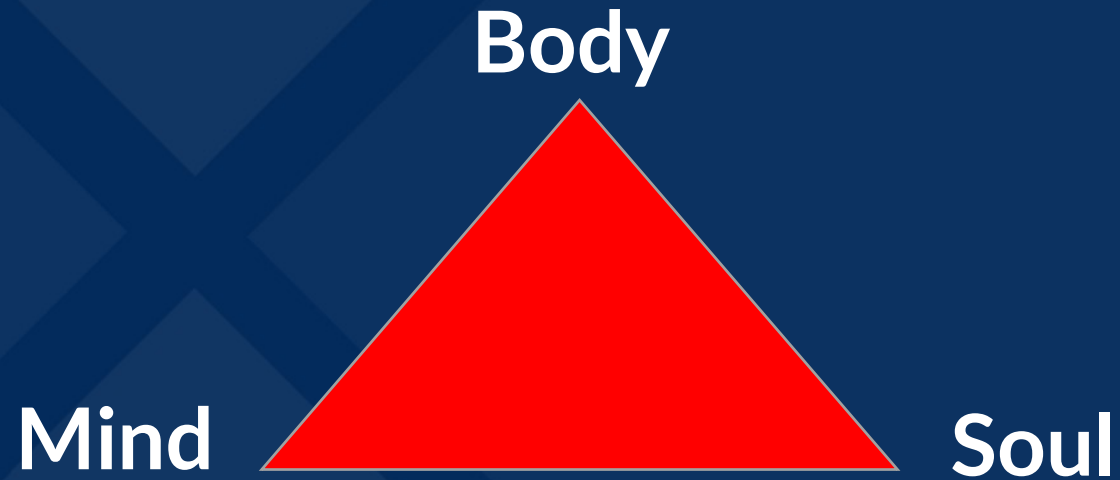


The Three Great Untruths

- Untruth of Fragility
“If it doesn’t kill you, it will make you weaker.”
- Untruth of Emotional Reasoning
“Trust your feelings.”
- Untruth of Us vs. Them
“Everyone is either good or bad.”



A Curriculum Proposal: Preparation for Persecution

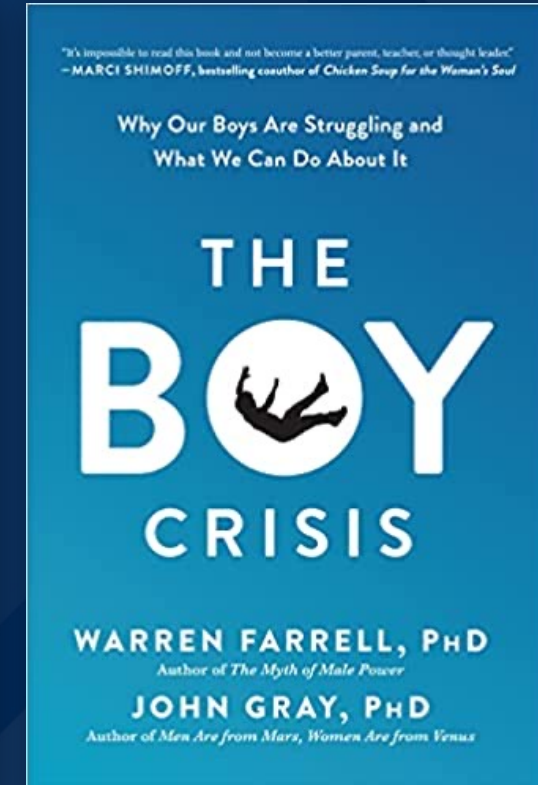
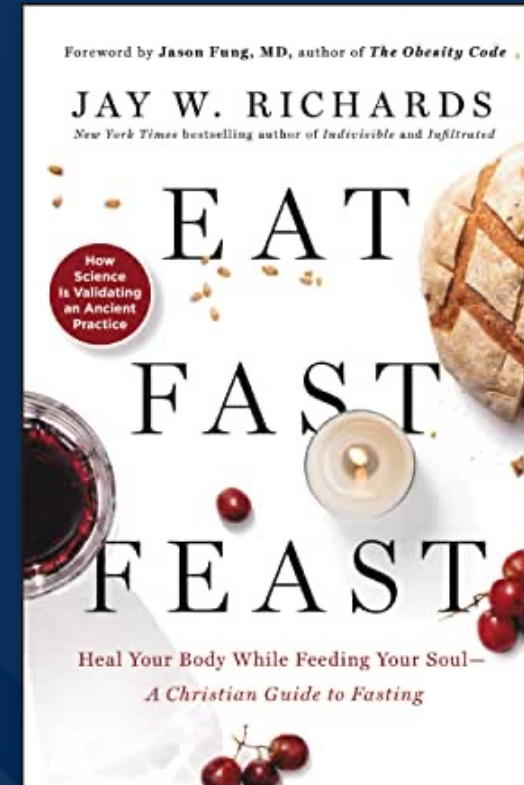


And if persecution never happens, we are better off!

Physical

Ancient traditions of fasting, spiritual exercises, sacrifices ... why?

- Enduring discomfort
 - heat, cold
 - hunger
 - going without
- Stamina and perseverance
 - physical strength
 - health
 - breathing
- Delayed Gratification
 - short term
 - long term
 - life



Questions – Mental & Spiritual

If you had to choose to suffer imprisonment, torture, or even death rather than capitulate to evil, what would strengthen you to make that choice?

If you were stripped of everything you have—everything—what would you have left?

Identity:

We must teach our children how to define who they are.



Eau Claire North High School staff member displays LGBTQ poster that states “I’m your mom now”

EAU CLAIRE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT - WISCONSIN

Who Am I? Start With the Big Questions.

- Am I a created being, or am I an accident of the universe?
- If created, by whom and for what purpose?
- What are my most important relationships?
- Knowing that, what must I do?

Which leads us to...

CODE

Rules and Precepts

CREED

Beliefs and Knowledge



Listen. Speak. Read. Write. Think!

Identity:

Always in Relationship

- Created Being
- Follower of Christ
- Church Member
- Spouse
- Son
- Parent
- Grandparent
- Citizen
- Teacher/Student
- Friend
- Contracts, Policies, Pledges
- Rights, Obligations

CODE:

Rules to Live By

- Ten Commandments
- Books of the Law
- Commands of Christ
- Precepts of the Church
- Wedding Vows
- Code of Chivalry
- Washington's Rules of Civility
- U.S. Constitution
- Scout Pledge
- School Honor Code
- Antidote to Chaos (Peterson)
- Etc.

CREED: Knowing What You Believe

Apostles' Creed

"I believe in God, the father almighty, creator of heaven and of earth ..."

Beatitudes

"Blessed are the meek..."

Catechisms (Baltimore, Westminster)

Declaration of Independence

"We hold these truths to be self-evident ..."

Pledge of Allegiance

"... one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."



Listen. Speak. Read. Write. Think!

CODE

CREED

CULTURE

Habits

Liturgy

Scripture

Songs/Poems

Traditions/
Celebrations

Stories

Prayers
(Quotes)

APPETITES

History



Listen. Speak. Read. Write. Think!

CODE

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APPETITES

History

Five Songs

“Be Thou My Vision”

“It is Well with My Soul”

“Amazing Grace”

“My Anchor Holds”

“Faith of our Fathers”

Five Scripture Selections

Beatitudes (Matt. 5:3-10)

Paul on Persecution (2 Cor.)

Matt. 10:22 “You will be hated ...”

Psalms 23 or other psalms

“Forgive them, for they know not what they do...” (Luke 23)

Five Prayers/Quotes

Lord's Prayer

Apostles' Creed

Anima Christi

Sam's speech from LOTR

Serenity Prayer (original)

Stories (for Children)

Aesop's Fables

C. S. Lewis' *Chronicles of Narnia*

The Lord of the Rings trilogy

The Green Ember series

Stories of martyrs (old & new)



Listen. Speak. Read. Write. Think!

CODE

CREED

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APPETITES

History



Listen. Speak. Read. Write. Think!

Thoughts on Cultivating a Strong Faith:

Protecting the Innocence of Children and the Practice of Charity

“Afterward he appeared to the eleven themselves as they were reclining at table, and he rebuked them for their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they had not believed those who saw him after he had risen.” (Mark 16:14 ESV)

“It is especially during the age of innocence that holy things take root.”

Fr. Zozima: “One cannot prove anything here, but it is possible to be convinced.”

The doubting woman: “How? By what?”

Fr. Zozima: “By the experience of active love. Try to love your neighbors actively and tirelessly. The more you succeed in loving, the more you'll be convinced of the existence of God and the immortality of your soul. And if you reach complete selflessness in the love of your neighbor, then undoubtedly you will believe, and no doubt will even be able to enter your soul. This has been tested. It is certain.” (from *The Brothers Karamazov*)