

Things to Know



Musings from the Word

John Gryś, President

As I enter this new year, I ponder over the state of our world today in light of the words of YHWH in Genesis 3. “The man has now become like one of us, knowing good and evil.” It would appear the original plan of our Creator was that we not experience evil and the full trail of that evil upon the human race. And this musing about our experiencing evil and the trail of that evil forced me to consider another dimension surfacing in our lives—the capacity for us, through continuous connectivity, to not just experience evil and the trail of evil in our lives but through every space where it may be posted. Briefly, we now have the capacity of continuous, unending exposure to the fullness of evil and darkness and death. It is not just my own circle but now the outer circles of my life where “friends” post the personal tragedies of their own lives. We now have instantaneous access to heartbreak wherever and whenever it may be. And all this makes me wonder, “If we were never intended to experience the presence of evil, do we as people really have the capacity to handle all the loss and pain and suffering of the 500 or more people that I follow...in the moment?” And what is the net effect of all that suffering on my timeline and yours? Is it possible the unintended consequences of this lifelong exposure will be to protect my heart and not to feel the loss of those nearest to me in the pew? Is it possible to use up my “empathy” quotient across my timeline so as to have nothing left for the flesh-and-blood across the aisle from me at church? I wonder, not only were we never intended to experience pain and suffering (part of the trail of evil) but even more, were we not built to sustain our soul with continuous, nonstop, unending suffering and pain and loss and darkness and death—on one timeline? And in this very particular way, we experience the darkness of our planet in a godlike instantaneous moment. And because of this, I must pray for this world and seek to bring peace to our shores. If there is ever a time where our message rings so powerfully present, it is now. May this be our case in 2023.

Contact Us

Facebook
@illinoisconferencesda

Website
www.ilcsda.org

Phone Number
(630) 716 3560

egw

“

Those who have no time to give attention to their own souls, to examine themselves daily whether they be in the love of God, and to place themselves in the channel of light, will have time to give to the suggestions of Satan and the working out of his plans.

(Special Testimonies A, p. 37)

”

dyk

The first clothing fastener was invented by a Chicago resident in 1891.

