

Counsel the Word

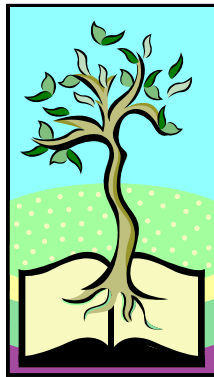
The Institute of Soteric Counseling

Roots & Fruits

by J. R. Ensey

Jesus is the fleshly manifestation of the Great Physician. He is a healer of bodies (Matthew 8:16) and a restorer of souls (Psalm 23:3). He knows us individually as persons as well as collectively as groups (Psalm 139:1-6). He ministers to all who come to Him in faith. The fruit of His ministry is wholeness (Matthew 9:22; Luke 8:48). Then, He spoke the word or touched the needy; today healing is sent to us via the Word of God (Psalm 107:20).

In Matthew 7:17-20 Jesus said, "Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither *can* a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and



cast into the fire. Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them." It is the fruit of a tree that identifies it. The root may be hidden in the ground and out of sight, but the fruit will manifest the true nature of the root.

When counselees receive the healing Word from soteric counselors, good things happen. Faith is renewed (Romans 10:17). And that renewing is the key to further progress toward spiritual wholeness. Even Carl Jung, the famed psychiatrist, had to admit that in the later years of his practice that the primary reason for mental problems and anti-social behavior was a departure from one's religious faith. He added that only those who returned to that faith were "healed." Although we disdain promoting any of Jung's skewed theories, this one sounds like it was on target.

Too many of those who turn to "professional counselors" or psychiatrists (even the "Christian" brand) have come away confused and devoid of their faith. I have still not spoken to one pastor who sent someone to them who returned whole. Most will never again be submissive to pastoral counseling. The fruit of the psychology movement is corruption—because, as Jesus indicated in the passage above, the root is "corrupt." Psychology is rooted in the philosophies of atheists, agnostics, and those who scorn biblical answers to spiritual problems. If the root is corrupt, the fruit will be "evil."

This is clearly illustrated by the continuous news stories about homicide and suicide by those who have been prescribed drugs by psychiatrists. Virtually all who see a psychiatrist are put on "medication." Just this week a ten-year old boy in the Houston, TX area shot and killed his father after being put on Prozac. (See below.) A psychiatrist who diagnosed him as "suffering from depression and anxiety" prescribed the drug. Within three weeks he had committed murder. Recently, a young college student in Indianapolis hanged herself shortly after she volunteered to be a test subject for antidepressants produced by Eli Lilly Pharmaceuticals, the maker of Prozac. How long will we tolerate such things and remain silent? The root is evil. We are destroying a generation through the greed of the drug manufacturers and the willful ignorance of society.

We know also that some can reject the Word of the Lord, refuse to submit to the Lordship of Christ and subsequently commit crimes. But we will be able to say that it was not the truth that they were given that motivated them to do evil. Truth—the

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September 1, 2004

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Events:

- The 3rd Annual ISC Training Conference will be held October 28, 29, 2004.

Mom “My Son Isn’t A Homicidal Maniac”

She says abuse, drug dosage may have driven boy to shoot his father

Sexual abuse by his father and an increased dosage of Prozac may have helped drive a 10-year-old boy to shoot and kill the father last week, the boy's mother and attorney contend.

"My son is not a homicidal maniac," said Deborah Geisler of Katy. "I knew my son was angry with his father, but I never thought my son would see this as a way to handle the hopeless situation he thought he was in."

But the attorney who represented Dr. Rick Lohstroh during a bitter divorce denied the abuse allegations. Lohstroh, a 41-year-old emergency room doctor at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston, was shot in the back Friday when he went to pick up his two sons at their mother's home in Katy.

Police say the 10-year old boy climbed into the back of his father's sport utility vehicle, fired a pistol several times through the back of the driver's seat and then ran back inside the home. Juvenile Court Judge Beverly Malazzo on Monday rejected a request from Geisler that the boy be released into her custody.

The judge ordered that the boy, whose name is not being released because of his age, re-main in the Harris County juvenile detention facility at least until a hearing on Sept. 13.

A psychiatrist prescribed Prozac for the boy in early August after he was diagnosed as suffering from depression and anxiety, his mother said Sunday. He started with a 10-milligram dose and gradually moved to higher doses, she said.

The week before the shooting, Geisler said, the boy started taking a once-a-week, time release dosage of 90 milligrams. He took his second 90-milligram pill just hours before the shooting, she said.

The sexual abuse allegations could be central to the juvenile court case ahead, a lawyer for the 10-year-old said. "I firmly believe this young man was a victim of physical and sexual abuse," said attorney Chris Tritico. "We are going to be doing some investigation, putting together evidence for the next detention hearing."

Tritico said he also, is looking into the possible impact of the medication. "I don't know enough about the effects of Prozac on a 10- year-old to know what, if any, role it played," he said. "That will certainly be one of the things well be looking into."

Lohstroh's attorney, Kathleen Collins of Galveston, adamantly denied allegations of abuse. "All this stuff being said about him is untrue," Collins said. Lohstroh and his wife finalized a c

ontentious divorce in May 2003 and had joint custody of the children.

Geisler, 45, is a nurse at M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, a hospital spokesperson said. Harris County sheriff's detectives are still investigating how the 10-year-old got the gun.

By ANDREW TILGHMAN and KEVIN MORAN with Peggy O'Hare HOUSTON CHRONICLE

Ed. Note: There has been no confirmation of abuse, but there is little doubt that the drug was a factor in what happened in this case.

Rock 'em & Shock 'em

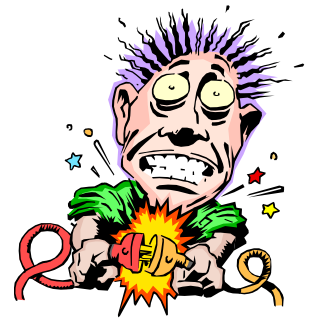
Remember those old horror stories about “shock treatment?” We often believe the doctors no longer do such things. Wrong! Read what Peter Breggin has to say about, what is officially called ECT:

“Electroconvulsive treatment (ECT) is increasingly used in North America and there are attempts to promote its further use world-wide. However, most controlled studies of efficacy in depression indicate that the treatment is no better than placebo with no positive effect on the rate of suicide.

“ECT is closed-head electrical injury, typically producing a delirium with global mental dysfunction (an acute organic brain syndrome). Significant irreversible effects from ECT are demonstrated by many studies, including: (1) Inventories of autobiographic and current events memories before and after ECT; (2) Retrospective subjective observations on memory; (3) Autopsy studies of animals and some of humans. ECT causes severe and irreversible brain neuropathology, including cell death. It can wipe out vast amounts of retrograde memory while producing permanent cognitive dysfunction.

“Contemporary ECT is more dangerous since the current doses are larger than those employed in earlier clinical and research studies. Elderly women, an especially vulnerable group, are becoming the most common target of ECT. Because of the lopsided risk/benefit ratio, because it is fundamentally traumatic in nature, because so many of the patients are vulnerable and unable to protect themselves, and because advocates of ECT fail to provide informed consent to patients – ECT should be banned.”

P.R. Breggin / Electrosbuck: scientific, ethical, and political issues



Questions & Answers

Q I have heard that those who practice biblical counseling are unsympathetic, mean-spirited, and callous. Is this true?

A Biblical counselors are certainly none of these things. In truth, they are just the opposite. Biblical counselors want to come alongside counselees in concern and love as they address the problems. They want to help individuals find biblical solutions; they encourage change for God's glory primarily but also for the counselee's own benefit.

The apostle Paul serves as a good model for biblical counselors. He reminded the elders of the church at Ephesus (Acts 20:20) how he had not held back anything in his teaching that was profitable for them. He had even gone house to house in order to minister to them. Then in verse 31 he shows the spirit of humility in his heart as he says, "Night and day for a period of three years I did not cease to admonish (*nóuthēō*) each one with tears." Even though Paul had to admonish these people and tell them the truth, he was not unsympathetic, mean-spirited, or callous with them.

Another passage illustrating Paul's compassion is 1 Thessalonians 2:7-9. There he makes the point with his readers that he was gentle with them (v. 7), and that he had imparted not only truth to them but his own life (v. 8). Paul was known for speaking the truth, but speaking it in love (Eph. 4:15, 29). And that is what a biblical counselor does. The counselor establishes involvement in the life of the counselee and gives hope that the person's problem can be overcome. Many counselees have never experienced this type of caring confrontation. They have never experienced true concern and compassion—traits that are essential prerequisites of a nouthetic [and soteric] counselor. (Carey Hardy — From *Pamweb.org*)

Training Conference in Houston

Be sure to join us at the Third Annual ISC Counseling Conference October 28-29, 2004, in Houston, Texas. Registration begins at 6:30 p.m. Thursday evening, October 28.

Subjects and Speakers:

The Counseling Process - Lynda Allison Doty
Changing Your Life by Changing Your Mind - J. R. Ensey
TBA - Nathaniel J. Wilson
Childhood Sexual Abuse - Anne Richardson

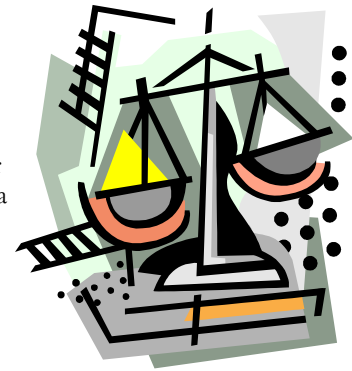
PLUS: Interviews ~ Testimonies ~ Case Studies ~
Ideas and Helpful Materials

Make plans today to attend this important training conference. For hotel reservations where the conference will be held call 281-820-5638. Request the rate for Advance Ministries/ISC Training Conference.

More proof of what the psychology industry does

In a *Houston Chronicle* news article by Mike Tolson on June 6, 2004, the reporter validated what we have been saying about the psychology industry for years. Headlined "Doctor's effect on justice lingers," it also corroborates the premise of Dr. Margaret A. Hagen's book, *Whores of the Court*.

The psychiatrist in question was Dr. James Grigson who once was known to every district attorney and most of the better criminal defense lawyers in the state. In the 1980s and early '90s, he was praised, reviled, criticized, reprimanded and relied on as no other forensic psychiatrist in state history.



Nicknamed 'Dr. Death' for his willingness to testify against capital murder defendants, Grigson was a witness in hundreds of death penalty cases. His pleasant manner, down-to-earth vocabulary and air of certainty helped persuade juries that the defendant—just about every defendant—would kill again if he had the chance. That Grigson often had not met with the defendant did not deter him from forming an opinion about him and defending it to the hilt.

"He had a tremendous impact on Texas death penalty litigation," said Cynthia Orr, president of the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association. "He really provided ammunition to the state to try and establish one's future dangerousness when ordinarily it would have been pretty tough to do. He was willing to go further than anyone else and do it simpler." [End]

Please note that it did not matter that he had not even met or interviewed the defendant. Because he was a "mind doctor," his opinions and assumptions were taken as law and gospel. How sad. You may trust psychiatrists...and if you do, I have some oceanfront property in Kansas for sale. - ed.



Nathaniel Wilson
Board Member



J R Ensey
President



Lynda Doty
Secretary

Book Review

Let Them Eat Prozac

By David Healy

NYU Press; 2004
Hardcover; 29.95

I recently discovered a new book while browsing in Barnes and Noble that rocked me, not that it contained a bold confirmation of what we had been saying about the drug industry, but that someone of Healy's caliber would publish it. This book will frighten the uninitiated. However, it is not written by a wild-eyed fanatic but a former secretary of the British Association for Psychopharmacology. He is the director of the North Wales Department of Psychological Medicine. He is the author of over 120 peer reviewed articles and 12 books dealing with psychoactive drugs and their manufacturers.

Healy is thoroughly familiar with the history of psychopharmacology, sharing an informative background of how we have arrived at the current crisis in the psychology/psychiatry industry. Healy takes on the makers of drugs like Zoloft, Prozac and Paxil—known as selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs)—who sell billions of dollars worth of the drugs every year. The general public, however, is seemingly unaware of the risks involved. Focusing on Prozac in particular, he gently informs us of the dangers these drugs represent.

Let Them Eat Prozac explores the history of SSRIs—from their early development to the latest marketing campaigns—and the controversies that surround them. Initially, they seemed like wonder drugs for mild to moderate depression, one pill a day to a new you, and unlike the tranquilizers that were popular from the 1960s to the 1980s, SSRIs supposedly could not lead to addiction. When Prozac was released in the late 1980s, David Healy was among the psychiatrists who prescribed them. But he soon observed that some patients became agitated and even attempted suicide. Confirmatory studies were soon published, citing numerous cases in which patients became anxious and reported increased suicidal thoughts while taking Prozac. Could the new wonder drug actually be making patients worse?

Healy draws on his own research and expertise to demonstrate the potential hazards associated with these drugs. He intersperses case histories with insider accounts of the research leading to the development and approval of SSRIs as a treatment for depression. *Let Them Eat Prozac* clearly demonstrates that the problem goes much deeper than a disturbing side effect of a particular drug. Current FDA regulations encourage drug companies to pursue projects that will allow them to patent a specific compound and market it effectively to a large population on the basis of minimal effectiveness in a handful of trials, with no guarantees of safety.

The pharmaceutical industry would like us to believe that SSRIs can safely treat depression, anxiety, and a host of other

mental problems. But as *Let Them Eat Prozac* reveals, this “cure” may be worse than the problem it addresses.

I highly recommend this book as a valuable resource for every Christian counselor.

—JREusey

Counseling From Scripture Course

Be sure to order your Course materials today and get started on a life-changing course of study. To order: www.soteric.org



Roots & Fruits Continued

(Continued from page 1)

Word of God—is “a good tree.” The root is good and produces good fruit.

May God inspire every Christian to be renewed in their personal faith in the verity of the Word. It works. It is immutable. It is unchanging. “The word of the Lord is right; and all his ways are done in truth” (Psalm 33:4).

Book Sale!!

Couch and the Cross CD, The: \$6.95

How Christian is Christian Counseling?: \$19.95

Lord, Why am I crying: \$8.95

Maximum Victory: \$7.95

Scriptures for Counseling and Witnessing: \$2.95

Order: www.advanceministries.org

The Institute of Soteric
Counseling

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Don't Forget to Register!

The 3rd Annual ISC Training Conference will be held

October 28, 29, 2004.

Contact Lynda Doty @

info@soteric.org or call

1-888-463-2873