

Pastor Mencarow: Job, the first chapter. This is the word of the Lord.

Pastor Mencarow: "There was a man in the land of Uz whose name was Job; and that man was perfect and upright and one that feared God and eschewed evil. And there were born unto him seven sons and three daughters. His substance also was 7000 sheep and 3000 camels and 500 yoke of oxen and 500 she-asses and a very great household so this man was the greatest of all the men of the east. And his sons went and feasted in their houses, every one his day, and sent and called for their three sisters to eat and drink with them."

Pastor Mencarow: "And it was so when the days of their feasting were gone about that Job sent and sanctified them, and rose up early in the morning, and offered burnt offerings according to the number of them all: for Job said, 'It may be that my sons have sinned, and cursed by God in their hearts.' Thus Job did continually."

Pastor Mencarow: "Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan came also among them. And the Lord said unto Satan, 'Whence comest thou?' Then Satan answered the Lord, and said, 'From going to and forth in the earth, and from walking up and down in it.' And the Lord said unto Satan, 'Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil?' Then Satan answered the Lord, and said, 'Doth Job fear God for nought? Hast thou not made a hedge about him, and about his house, and about all that he has on every side? Thou hast blessed the work of his hands, and his substance is increased in the land. But put forth thine hand now, and touch all that he hath, and he will curse thee to thy face.'"

Pastor Mencarow: "And the Lord said unto Satan, 'Behold, all that he hath is in thy power; only upon himself put not forth thine hand.' So Satan went forth from the presence of the Lord."

Pastor Mencarow: Thus far the reading of God's word. The Lord said, "Have you considered my servant Job?" God put that question to the devil himself.

Pastor Mencarow: So today first I'd like to talk about a person often ignored in churches, and that's not Job, right now. I mean Satan. Much of what is said about him even from many pulpits is well, simply not biblical. Liberal theology even denies that he exists, and if someone sins, well, they deny sin exists too. So they say something like ... When someone commits an antisocial act, or something that is not in his best interest, well, "We can't say that they were tempted by the devil, it's ..." Because he doesn't exist, according to liberal theology, "It's because this person didn't understand how to act properly, they came from a dysfunctional family, society really is to blame for their actions, and what is needed is not punishment but therapy, and of

course more tax money to study the causes so we can understand what motivates these poor, misguided people and channel that motivation positively."

Pastor Mencarow: Well as far as motivation is concerned for criminals, I think all that we need to know about motivation was told us, taught to us, by Willie Sutton, who was the famous bank robber of the 1940s and '50s. And he was asked, "Why do you rob banks?" And he looked at the questioner like he was out of his mind and said, "Because that's where the money is." That's all we need to know about the motivation of criminals. See how much tax money I would've saved you?

Pastor Mencarow: Of course those who do believe Satan really exists, many think that he and God are at war, struggling against one another. Good and evil is this struggle and we have to choose which side we're on. Many of your neighbors and friends believe that. Even many who faithfully attend church believe that. However, the Bible teaches no such thing. The belief in God and Satan, that they're in some kind of a struggle and they're pretty much equal in power, and who's gonna win, that's an ancient heresy. It's theological dualism, it's a major element of Manicheism, an ancient heresy that's been condemned by the church.

Pastor Mencarow: Please turn to Isaiah Chapter 14. Just a couple of books after Job. Isaiah Chapter 14 beginning with Verse 12. This is about Lucifer. Lucifer was Satan's name when he was an angel.

Pastor Mencarow: "How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning. How are thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations. For thou hast said in thine heart, 'I will ascend into heaven. I will exalt my throne above the stars of God. I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of north. I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High. Yet thou shall be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit.'"

Pastor Mencarow: Jesus said in Luke 10:18, "I behold Satan as lightning fall from heaven." Obvious reference to this verse. So what these verses teach is that some point, probably before the creation of the world, since the serpent was already in the Garden of Eden, an angel named Lucifer rebelled against God, and Lucifer is here in Verse 12, "O Lucifer, son of the morning," Lucifer means son of the morning, that's the translation from Hebrew, or light-bearer. And he was possibly the chief angel in heaven; we don't know that, but that's what some people think is a possibility. But in any case he was the light-bearer, a great angel.

Pastor Mencarow: Well he wasn't satisfied with that. He was jealous of God. It says here he wanted to be like God. Lucifer recruited a third of the angels, approximately, in heaven, for his plot of rebellion. A third of the angels, probably numbers in the thousands. We know this from Revelation 12:4, which described him as we've been looking at as a dragon, and it says, "And his tail drew the third

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part of the stars of heaven and did cast them to the earth." Those stars are often ... Is a biblical term for angels or messengers of God, same thing, and those ... Revelation 12:9 says, "He was cast down to the earth and his angels were cast out with him." So those angels which were cast out from heaven with Lucifer became fallen angels, what we call demons. Now remember, Lucifer, or known as Satan, now that he's been cast to earth his name is Satan, since in the bible changing names are very important; names indicate character and who you are. You can think of many cases. Abram was changed to Abraham, et cetera.

Pastor Mencarow: Well, Lucifer was changed to Satan, which means the accuser. He's the accuser of God's people, as he does with Job here. Satan was cast out with his fallen angels, but Satan didn't create demons; only God creates anything. God created them as angels, and they sinned. They followed Lucifer in heaven as he tried to overthrow God, and now they were cast out on earth as they continue to obey Satan in his futile attempts to overthrow God.

Pastor Mencarow: Ezekiel, if you'd look at that please. Chapter 28. Again, just a couple of books after Isaiah. Trying to make it easy for you. Ezekiel, Chapter 28, beginning in Verse 11. "Moreover the word of the Lord came unto me, saying, 'Son of man, take up a lamentation upon the king of Tyrus, and say unto him, 'Thus saith the Lord God.' Thou sealest up the sum, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. Thou hast been in Eden in the garden of God. Every precious stone was thy covering," then he goes through the stones. "Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth, and I have set thee so. Thou wast upon the holy mountain of God. Thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire." This was talking about the origin of Satan here.

Pastor Mencarow: "Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou was created, til iniquity was found in thee. By the multitude of thy merchandise they have filled the midst of thee with violence, and thou hast sinned. Therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God, and I will destroy thee, O covering Cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire."

Pastor Mencarow: "Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness. I will cast thee to the ground. I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee." Et cetera. He promises later, bring forth a fire that shall devour you, bring your ashes on the earth in the sight of all that behold thee.

Pastor Mencarow: 2 Peter, in the New Testament, 2:4, says, "God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast them down to hell and delivered them into chains of darkness to be reserved for judgment." In Jude 6, "And the angels who did not keep their proper domain but left their own abode, he has reserved in everlasting chains

under darkness for the judgment of the great day." That's a New King James Version translation of that one. Now it says they're chained, don't be mistaken. That doesn't mean they're powerless. Their power is limited, yet like a fierce dog on a long chain they can still hurt you badly if you get too close to them.

Pastor Mencarow: In Matthew 25:41, Jesus refers to the devil having his own angels. "Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, 'Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels.'" So, this is where we understand what Satan is like, what his origins are, who these demons are. What we call demons are these fallen angels; they serve Lucifer. These demons are evil spirits. They can tempt people, they even can possess people. Jesus certainly cast out demons from people, so we know that's a reality. Now we can't see them, because they have no physical body, but apparently sometimes they're able to manipulate matter, and able to do some frankly rather cheesy parlor tricks such as moving small objects around, appear as ghosts and such.

Pastor Mencarow: I used to not believe in ghosts until I read in scripture when Jesus appeared after his resurrection. And there's an interesting verse, I just thought of it actually. It's not part of the preparation so you'll have to find it, but he says I'm ... I'm paraphrasing now, but he says I'm not a ghost, I have flesh and blood; a ghost does not have flesh and blood. He's referring to ghosts as a real entity. Interesting. So, my supposition is that demons can appear as ghosts, they can manipulate physical objects. Of course a lot of what people think are ghosts are hallucinations and not reality and are just their overactive imaginations. If you're interested in knowing more about this subject, I have a sermon on sermonaudio.com called Ghosts, Hauntings, UFOs, and the Bible. Part of the Life After Death series.

Pastor Mencarow: As a creation of God, Satan does whatever God wills him to do, as we see in this passage that we've read in Job. Satan cannot even come into God's presence without God's permission. Satan is not a God; he's a creature, and so as a creature he's limited in what he can do. He's not all powerful, he's not all knowing, although he wants you to think he's all of that and more. He doesn't know the future. He cannot read minds. He can't be in more than one place at one time, that's why he needs thousands of helpers. Fact is, like all of us, he's subject to God's will. So remember this: Satan does whatever God wills him to.

Pastor Mencarow: Now he is evil to the core. He does whatever God wills not out of his own desire to please God, but because he has to. He has no other choice. And what's Satan's purpose? Well he tries to ridicule the plan and work of God. He wants to make people think the Lord's plan and work is fake, a phony, something that could be defeated. Of course, this too is all part of God's master plan. The devil's goal is to convince the world that the word of

God is not true, and that the promises of God are not dependable. He tried it with Job, and he'll try it with you and me. That way he seduces those who are predestined to hell. That's been his attack and his motive since the fall of Adam in paradise.

Pastor Mencarow: Now Satan has a privilege that we are not granted as yet; he has access to heaven. We've read of that in Revelation 12, where he'd come to heaven to make accusation against the work of God, just as he's done in the book of Job. Satan has appeared before God; God knows exactly what Satan's intentions are, and he uses it for his own holy purposes.

Pastor Mencarow: Now in this chapter of Job, we see clearly how God controls Satan. We're given the privilege of having the curtain thrown back so we can see what happens backstage. That's a remarkable thing. This Job, Chapter 1 and other places in Job, just remarkable. No place else in the Bible except some in Revelation can you see the workings behind the scenes as it were. The devil's whole point, as I said, is to defeat ... To make people think that God's word is not true, and salvation in Jesus Christ. "Don't believe God, his word isn't trustworthy," that's what he said to Eve in the Garden of Eden. What he says will happen will not happen. He wants you to think there's no heaven, there's no hell. Do whatever you want, as long as it doesn't hurt other people, and that of course your decision, who deserves to be hurt and who doesn't. Self esteem, your self worth, that's the important thing in life. You must be the God of your life. Christianity, that's for old women and wusses.

Pastor Mencarow: Just like in Genesis 3, he said in the Garden of Eden, "Hath God said ... " We're gonna see this with our video afterwards. Charlton Heston does a great job of being the devil. God will bring rebuke to the devil, but notice the rebuke that he brings. The life of one single believer, in this case, Job, is enough to silence the devil's arguments and accusations, that's what I'm gonna focus on in the rest of the sermon.

Pastor Mencarow: Note carefully that God didn't say to the devil in what we've read in Job, "Have you considered my faithfulness?" The Lord's faithfulness. Now he could've said that. He could've, in other words he could've answered the devil with his own character. "I am God, I'm faithful. You, devil, you're a liar. You're a liar because I'm God and I say you're a liar, and you oppose me." But God doesn't say that here. Now he could've said to the devil, "Have you considered the truthfulness of my word? I said that I shall save my people in Christ, therefore you're against that, you say it's not true, therefore you're a liar." God could've said that too and it would've made sense.

Pastor Mencarow: But God didn't say that. He said, "Have you considered my servant Job?" Curious he would pick out a man on the earth in defense of his holiness. That is Job himself who had been born

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by the grace of God, who said, "I know my redeemer liveth." So he looked forward to Jesus Christ coming, so he knew something of Christ, not as much as we know, but he knew that there was a savior to come, and he believed and trusted God for that savior, just like everyone else who was saved in the Old Testament. That was enough to reply to the devil and his slanders. Job's life gave proof of his desire to please God. God is saying here that the life of Job and the lives of believers are the gospel's argument to the world and to Satan.

Pastor Mencarow: Let's think about that. Our lives are the convincing argument to the world and to Satan. Not to say God's word is not important, because God's word is what makes our lives be the testimony that they are. How would we know how to live without God's word? But the question I have for you: is the Lord saying that about you and me? Would he present your life as proof there is such thing as this work of God's grace? Would he point your life to Satan and say, "There's the evidence of my grace, and the certainty of my promises." If the Lord was writing the Bible today, would he name a book after you, like he did Job? Would he present your life as an argument of his faithfulness?

Pastor Mencarow: See, the life of a believer is to glorify God. Inwardly, we are to devote our entire being to Him, through constant prayer, immersing ourselves in his word, the Bible. Outwardly, our prayer life and immersion in his word becomes, like Job, a testimony of the power of the Lord of the gospel. The life of a believer is to be a light, the light of a holy example. A life testimony. You've been given the light of the gospel, and you're not to hide it, but let it shine. In Luke 11:33, Jesus said, "No man when he hath lighted a candle putteth in a secret place, neither under a bushel, but on a candlestick, that they which come in may see the light." So you're to glorify God by shining forth the light of the gospel in this dark world.

Pastor Mencarow: I read about a woman who has a handmade sign above her desk which reads, "Why am I here?" This was in a newspaper article, and she said that's the burning question of her life. And I'm sure it is. It's a question we all ask until we know the answer. Question I asked for ... Until I was 27 years old. Had to major in philosophy, and psychology, and brain physiology, study brain physiology, and all these things trying to find, why am I here? What's the purpose, what's the point?

Pastor Mencarow: Well the answer is found in 1 Corinthians 10:31. Please take a look at that. Should be a familiar verse to many of you. Sure many of you can quote it from memory. See, that question ... Paul asked that question, why am I here, before the Lord saved him. Before the Lord showed him. 1 Corinthians 10 Verse 31, here's why we're here; here's the answer to that woman's question. "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God." We're here to glorify God. Your



life is to be a constant giving of Glory to the Lord, a testimony to the truth of the gospel.

Pastor Mencarow: In Job, the Lord says to Satan, the lives of those whom he has saved by grace is an argument to the truth of the gospel. Please turn to 1 Thessalonians Chapter 1. Here Paul is addressing the church in Thessalonica. He says in Verse 7, "So that ye were examples to all that believe in Macedonia and Achaia. For from you the word sounded out, the word of the Lord, not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place your faith to God word is spread abroad so that we need not speak anything." In other words, we don't have to speak anything, because your example has done the speaking for us. Now that's an amazing statement. Nobody was more motivated than Paul to preach the gospel, but he says, "You've done such a good job of preaching the gospel and living out your lives, it's not necessary for me to preach." You have to ask yourself, would Paul say the same thing about you?

Pastor Mencarow: So this verse should give you a lot of comfort if you're not one of those who are comfortable witnessing to others like some other people can. That doesn't make you a bad Christian, or somehow inferior to other people who can do it so easily. They have their gifts, and you have yours. If you have the gift of words, use it. But maybe one of your gifts is your faith that speaks with few words, but shines through your life as a holy example. You'll never know this side of heaven how many have seen your example and marveled and repented and turned to Christ, because your example has done the speaking for us, as Paul said.

Pastor Mencarow: We find the same thing in 1 Timothy 4:12, where Paul, speaking to Timothy, who is a young pastor in the Church of Ephesus ... By the way, people in Timothy's church, many of them apparently looked down on Timothy because he was a young man. They probably thought and probably said among themselves, gossip among themselves, things like, "Well how can he teach me anything? I've lived a lot longer than he has." And understandably, Timothy was very likely hurt by this, 'cause apparently Paul knew about it so Timothy must have ... Either he observed this in the church, or Timothy told him about it, or both. Maybe he thought, Timothy thought, "Well, maybe these people are right. Maybe I have no business in the pasture until I get older. Maybe I should quit and study more and get older, and then go back into it." Well wouldn't Satan have just loved that? Satan, if Timothy had quit the pasture.

Pastor Mencarow: But Paul tells Timothy in 1 Timothy 4:12, "Let no man despise thy youth, but be thou an example of the believers in word, in conversation," means behavior, "In charity," which means love, "In spirit, in faith, in purity." Paul says, "Timothy, the way to deal with this problem is not to argue with your critics, try to show

them how much more you know than they do, try to out-debate them, but rather to be an example to them, and to everyone in what you say and what you don't say, and how you behave, how you react to situations. How you show your love to others, in your demeanor, in the depth of your faith, how you exhibit it in leading a pure life. If you do this, your life will be your testimony and you'll silence your critics."

Pastor Mencarow: You know, John 17, that marvelous chapter in John, records the prayer that Jesus offered to God the night before he was to be tortured to death on the cross. Look at that please. Gospel of John, 17. If you've never sat down and studied John 17, I'd really encourage you to do so, that'd be a good thing to do today, spend your afternoon, part of your afternoon anyway with John 17. In Verse 21 after having prayed that God would sanctify his disciples through the truth, and that through their sanctified lives that the elect might be brought to believe upon him through them, he says, Verse 21, "That they all may be one, as thou, Father, art in me and I in thee, that they also may be one in us, that the world may believe that thou hast sent me." That the lives of his disciples, and all Bible believing Christians are his disciples, will change the world. "That the world may believe that thou hast sent me."

Pastor Mencarow: See, the life of the church, the body of Christ, is a testimony of the truth of the gospel to the world and the life of the believer is a testimony to the truth of the gospel to the world. Again, "Hast thou considered my servant Job?"

Pastor Mencarow: Now, we shouldn't make a mistake here; the life that Job lived was a life that he lived by the grace of God alone. Notice that God says in Job, "Hast thou considered my servant Job?" Job was God's servant, but not because of any choice that he had made. To become a member of God's family, to be saved in Christ, is not like signing up for the army. There are no volunteers in God's army. We're all drafted. We have no choice in the matter. Please turn to John 6:37. John Chapter 6, Verse 37.

Pastor Mencarow: "All that the Father giveth me shall come to me," Jesus said, "And him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out." So here you have number one, the Father gives people to Christ, and number two, you can't lose your salvation. He won't cast you out. Verse 44 in the same chapter, "No man can come to me, except the Father which has sent me draw him; and I will raise him up at the last day." The Holy Spirit has to draw a person to Christ.

Pastor Mencarow: We see this in example of dead Lazarus when Jesus called him out of the tomb. He was a dead man; he'd been dead for three days. They said he's already starting to be corrupt, his flesh was being corrupt, and Jesus called him and said, "Lazarus come forth." Now do you think that Lazarus could hear him? Course not. But the Lord had to give him ears to hear, didn't he? And



awaken him to life first, to be able to hear the call of the gospel. Well that's a picture of what we all are when we're dead in our trespasses and sins, our spiritual lives are dead. That's why when you witness to somebody, share the gospel with them, and it means nothing to them, bounces off no matter how hard you try, it's because they can't hear it. They're dead. They're spiritually dead, they don't have spiritual ears. The Lord has to give them spiritual ears. "No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him." So we're all draftees, if you will.

Pastor Mencarow: We're all conquered by the grace of God by nature; we're not the servants of God, but we're the servants of sin, as Romans 6 speaks to eloquently. But thanks be to God, we become the servants of God by a work of God's grace. So when God says, "Hast thou considered my servant Job?" He doesn't say, "Well Job is such a uprighteous guy in his own righteousness, look how he obeys me because of his own righteousness." What he means to say, what he says when he makes a child of God by grace, this is an argument for God's truth.

Pastor Mencarow: Job lived probably around the time of Abraham or thereabouts; I said, it's probably the oldest book ... Thought to be the oldest book in the Bible. He lived in a country called Uz, U-Z, or Uz. Generally, according to early tradition, Uz appears to be in the fertile triangle east of Damascus by a large lake which was later called the Sea of Galilee. Apparently there weren't very many other believers around that confessed the name of God. Ezekiel 14, the prophet says there were three men in the Old Testament who were exemplary in their holiness and he mentions Noah, Daniel, and Job.

Pastor Mencarow: Why would Job be put in with Noah and Daniel? What do they have in common? Well, the Holy Spirit says these three men are examples of holiness living in a sinful world. Remember, Noah was one of eight in the whole world that believed God. When you start feeling lonely, think about that. Eight people in the whole world who believed God. Daniel was in Babylon as a captive and he was alone, he and his three friends. Job was in a foreign land, he was virtually alone, yet God preserved him in purity. Job was an example of the truth of salvation in a dark and wicked world, and we certainly don't live in a world like Job lived in where we can think of nobody else who believes in God. How blessed we are.

Pastor Mencarow: Now, we're told he was a perfect man. Was he sinless? Of course not. He was a man. No man is without sin. "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us," 1 John 1. So how could Job be called perfect? The same way that Noah was called perfect in Genesis 6:9. David said the Lord made his way perfect in 2 Samuel 22. Asa's heart was said to be

perfect toward the lord in 1 Kings 15. Hezekiah in 2 Kings 20 said he had a perfect heart.

Pastor Mencarow: Perfect here means complete. Entire. It's clear from 1 Chronicles 12:38, it makes this very clear. "All these men of war that could keep rank came with a perfect heart to Hebron, to make David king over all Israel, and also the rest of Israel were of one heart to make David king." It says their hearts are perfect; what that means is they were completely focused, entirely agreed on one thing: to make David king. So these other cases with Job, Noah, Asa, et cetera, their hearts were complete, entirely devoted to doing God's will. Now did they always do it? No. They were men, just like we are. They fell short, we certainly know that of David, and sin. Yet God uses the word perfect to describe their true hearts toward him.

Pastor Mencarow: A sign of a perfect heart is that you, like Job, are not hypocritical. You don't say one thing and secretly do the opposite. What you see on the outside is what is on the inside. Jesus said in Matthew 12:34, "For out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks. A good man out of the treasure of the heart brings forth good things, and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things." Job is called upright; that means he has integrity. Not integrity in himself, but integrity from the Lord, and by faith he held onto that integrity and faith of course as we know from Ephesians is a gift of God.

Pastor Mencarow: He feared God, and we talked about this last week. The fear of God, a reverence of God with a Godly fear, Hebrews 12:28, "Serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear." He lived in profound humility knowing himself as a sinner, and knowing the grace of God that had loved him and promised to save him through Jesus Christ. He eschewed evil it says in Job 1, he kept himself from evil. He wanted to live a life that pleased the Lord, he'd flee from evil. He was an example of holiness in a wicked world; he was an example of the power of God's grace that out of a fallen, sinful world, God could create in the heart of a man holiness and a desire to please God. And of course the lesson is, is that true of you? Is that true of me?

Pastor Mencarow: Job was not only an example of holiness, he was an example of patience; as we all know the phrase, "The patience of Job," is still with us today. The purpose of the Book of Job is to teach us that God orders our lives and directs them according to his will, and we are to submit in humility when God sometimes tries, tests us, afflicts us with his own judgments and under those judgments we are to confess that God is good, just like Job did.

Pastor Mencarow: Now Job was a sinful man, as I said, yet the grace of God worked in him and produced a holy life and a life of patient endurance. God said to Satan, "That life of Job is enough to shut your mouth when you come with derogatory judgments. You come to ridicule my work, to slander and blaspheme me; I respond to you

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Satan, have you considered my servant Job?" The life of a true believer is a convincing argument that silenced the devil himself.

Pastor Mencarow: Again, is that true of your life? Are you an example to your son of sexual purity? Are you an example to others of what it means to belong to Jesus Christ, body and soul? To keep yourself pure? I wanna talk to the young people for a minute ... Younger, I prefer that. Is your life an example of holiness? In honesty, that you don't cheat or lie? Even when you know if you tell the truth it's gonna get you in trouble, you tell the truth anyway, because telling a lie will get you in bigger trouble because you'll be in trouble with God. Is the way you act, is that a testimony that you worship and serve the God who knows your heart, and he knows the truth? Are you an example of the love of God? Is your life different than the lives of many of your friends, maybe most of your friends? Is your life selfless? Are you gentle, is an example of what it means to love God, to keep the sabbath day, to show respect for authority for God's sake. Are you an example in the music that you listen to, or the movies that you watch, or the TV shows? In the choices of friends?

Pastor Mencarow: And to the adults, to the married adults, is it an example, is your life an example of what it means to keep the vows of marriage? Is your life an example of the love of God in issues such as modesty of dress and places you'd go, and how you speak to each other, and what you put in your body, and how you speak about other people, and how you spend your money, and how you behave at work, and how you raise your family, and all these other things, whether we eat or drink, or whatever we do, do all to the glory of God.

Pastor Mencarow: What about your patience? Job was an incredible example of patience, and he's an example to us. The world complains and grumbles and groans; I'm chief of the complainers and grumblers. I have a testimony over here saying that's true. That's a problem I deal with. The child of God has to look to the salvation of the Lord, so Job is a great example for that.

Pastor Mencarow: The example that we leave is critically important. Sometimes all ... Now this is something to think about. Sometimes all that a unbeliever will see of the work and word of God is what is written in the life of God's people, and maybe you will be the only real Christian that person will ever meet. What are you gonna leave them with?

Pastor Mencarow: I wanna finish by again saying something again to the younger people today. Your speech and your behavior, as you know, is a powerful example of the world, we talked about that, to your friends, whether good or bad. But think about this: what an incredibly powerful example it is to your brothers and sisters and to the younger people than you in the church. In the church. Little boys and little girls wanna follow an example, don't they?

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They copy. And we're all examples of something. What are you an example of? What do they learn from you? 'Cause they're gonna copy you. Is that something you can think about and be happy about? If not, change it. And if not you, who's going to serve as examples to the children of the church? To your younger brothers and sisters? Now I can't be nearly as effective in that job as you can be. You have to do that.

Pastor Mencarow: And to all of us young and old, does God say of you, "Have you considered my servant? Have you considered my servant," put your name in there. Does God call Satan and all who would ridicule his word, and his truth, to witness the truth of the gospel as it's seen in your life? Let's pray.