

Think About Faith. An Update From Douglas Jacoby.

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International Teaching Ministry of
Douglas Jacoby



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The world in Florida

Hello from my home state! I'm attending a conference. It's an honor to be with passionate and insightful men and women from Singapore, Nigeria, China, Australia, Russia, the Ukraine, the Philippines, and other interesting parts of the planet. In fact, it's an electric reunion – requiring no small degree of discipline, given how enjoyable it would be to *only* savor the fellowship when we should be focused in the sessions.

Out and about

In contrast to February, when I didn't travel at all (in order to complete my book on Psalms), in March I was on the move, teaching and preaching in Atlanta, Jacksonville, and Los Angeles – besides flying to Houston (Illumination Publishers – filming) and distance teaching for two biblical training programs.

Escape

In my previous newsletter, I promised a podcast on dragons and another on marijuana. (Perhaps Puff the Magic Dragon came to mind, but that was never in my thinking.) The podcast *Dragons in the Bible* is now available – but marijuana is not. (Though it's coming to a pharmacy near you – just joking. Or maybe not.)

The more I thought about it, the more I was impressed that a number of crucial contemporary topics deserve to be developed, not just marijuana. Then I remembered that I have four Sunday school slots in June. Why stop at pot; why not explore multiple ways that people try to escape?

With this in mind, I look forward to teaching a series called ESCAPE – though I will not teach alone. I'll share the mic with a dear brother in our local church (Atlanta), Steve

Brand, who is a professional counselor and expert on addictive behaviors. Here's the provisional plan.

1. The Psychology and neurochemistry of pain, escape, and addiction. Focus: marijuana, alcohol, pain medication.
2. Alternate fictional reality. Focus: movies, novels, worlds of gaming, TV.
3. Fantasy proxy relationships. Focus: pornography.
4. Computer & internet behaviors. Focus: gaming, gambling, shopping, surfing. The importance of not being conformed to the world (Romans 12:2), or falling prey to the many tempting avenues of "escape."

The classes will be recorded; look for the CD, available from IPI, in the summer.

New podcasts

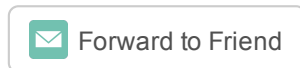
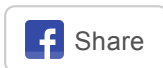
Every month there are new lessons at the website. [New podcasts](#) in March include *Mary, a Woman of Contemplation* (at the [Women's Corner](#)); *April Fools Day*; *Colossians*; *Philemon*; and *Dragons*. You will also find some of my recent sermons.

Till next time...

Next month the year's international travel begins in earnest, starting in Central America and stretching to some 20 nations by year-end. Prayers for my health, heart (spiritual), safety, and effectiveness will all be appreciated.

Yours in Him,

Douglas



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