



NON-PROFIT



TAX-EXEMPT

“Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature” MARK 16:15

October 2018

## FROM US TO YOU

With the hot political climate present in America today, there are many things that concern us. One of them is the accusation against Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh. The recent accusation involves a woman named Christine Blasey Ford, a California professor. She accuses the judge of sexually assaulting her when they were both in high school. Judge Kavanaugh flatly denies the charges. And according to Judge Andrew Napolitano, of Fox News, men who assault women generally have a history of assaults. Judge Kavanaugh has never been accused of a crime such as this before and has a spotless record. He has been compared to a choir boy.

What’s interesting is that, until recently, Professor Ford has been trying to stay out of the media. Moreover, it is said that she passed a lie detector. So what’s the answer? We have two people who seem trustworthy, and yet they have diametrically different stories. We think we have the answer! According to Judge Napolitano, the professor had no memory of the attack for decades. Then she went to see a psychiatrist about personal problems. Napolitano stated that it was only through catharsis that the professor started remembering the assault. And we know that catharsis nearly always involves an occult practice called hypnosis. A few decades back, there were a large number of lawsuits by adult children against their parents. Some were also involving a religious leader they had known as a child. They were based on “evidence” that came about through the use of hypnosis. This took place in the office of a psychiatrist or psychologist.

The plaintiffs supposedly were able to, through hypnosis, recall deeply repressed memories from their past. [Sometime later on, a number of these lawsuits were dropped when it was proven that people were having false memories, through hypnosis, of events that never really took place.](#) We strongly believe that hypnosis is the most well respected of the occult arts! For, since it takes place in the office of an educated, state licensed individual, people believe that it must be safe. As it was with the ancient Greeks, education has achieved a status of great approval in our society. Therefore, those who are highly educated are greatly esteemed. Consequently, hypnosis has become an accepted part of psycho-therapy these days, and psycho-therapy is an established part of the medical profession, so most people do not view it with trepidation.

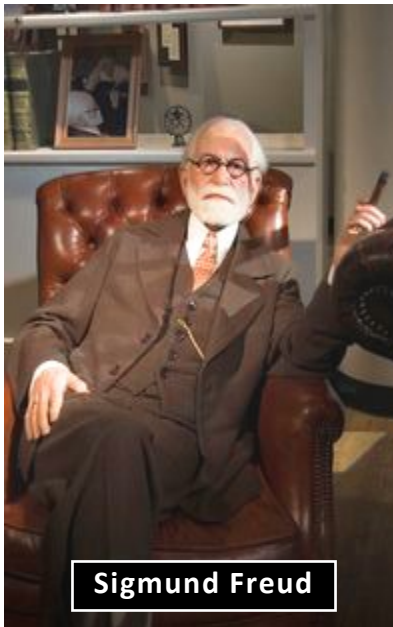
World-wide psychology and psychiatry are considered prestigious arts. Consequently, that which is associated with these fields is also respected. However, that doesn’t make it right! *“There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death”* (Proverbs 14:12 NIV). Our society has fallen to the place where, psychology is revered more than the Word of God! However, *“Do not deceive yourselves... For the wisdom of this world is foolishness in God’s sight. As it is written: ‘He catches the wise in their craftiness;’ and again, ‘The Lord*

*knows that the thoughts of the wise are futile”* (1 Corinthians 3:18-20 NIV).

Moreover, although Sigmund Freud is the father of the modern version of these arts, they did not begin with him. They began with Socrates (470?-399 B.C.), a Greek philosopher, and idol worshipper. It was Socrates who initiated the question-and-answer method of teaching as a means of achieving self-knowledge (1 Corinthians 2:14). His theories of virtue and justice have survived through the writings of Plato, his most important pupil. Socrates was tried for corrupting the minds of Athenian youth and subsequently put to death (399 B.C.). Plato passed the ideas he learned from Socrates on to his favorite student, Aristotle (384-322 B.C.). However, over the many centuries, as Christianity began to spread throughout the world, interest in the

theories of ancient Greek philosophers diminished. Then along came Sigmund Freud, and they were once again, brought back into society.

The further away Western culture fell from Christianity, the greater the interest people had in looking for an alternative method of solving the emotional disorders of mankind. Freud was an Austrian physician who lived from 1856-1939. He was a contemporary of Charles Darwin (1809-1882), who was well known for his theory of evolution, and Charles Lyell (1797-1875), who pioneered uniformitarianism. (That is the belief that the world came into being accidentally, and evolved, geologically, over billions of years.) Sigmund Freud’s ideas were considered weird and outlandish by other members of the medical community during his lifetime. However, Freud did find some foreign friends who were willing to assist him in spreading his strange philosophy. Therefore it acquired an acceptance by certain members of the academic community.



Sigmund Freud

These days, however, the situation has become

much worse. The Apostle Peter warned us, of these last days, before the return of Christ, saying, *“Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings”* (1 Peter 5:8-9 NIV). With all the false doctrines going around in the church today, Satan is attempting to dilute the strength of true Christianity. He has even gone so far as to incorporate pagan philosophies packaged in the form of psychology, into the church. They do not belong there! Books on this subject are “The Seduction of Christianity” by Dave Hunt and T.A. McMahon, “Psycho Heresy” by Martin and Deidre Bobgan, and “Prophets of Psychoheresy II” by Martin and Deidre Bobgan. They should be available in your local Christian book store.

In closing, we want to remind you that Election Day is November 6th. Please remember to vote!

In the Lord’s service, *Eric and Anne Kaestner*

# The Danger of Taking Your Faith Lightly

By Anne Kaestner

There I was, driving along the parkway coming back to Staten Island after a short trip to Boston. I was only in my twenties at the time, and unmarried. So it was a long time ago. But memories of the frightening experience are still fresh in my mind. There was a lot of traffic and it was going very fast, so I had to keep up with it. I think it was the Saw Mill River Parkway. The law in New York is that when motorists plan to change lanes they are supposed to put their indicator on, letting the other drivers know. This sounds like a good idea theoretically. But when I did it on that trip, it nearly resulted in disaster. On went my indicator and I moved toward the next lane expecting to drive into it. However, the other motorists wouldn't let me in their lane. I tried to get back into my own lane, but no one would let me back in! So there I was, driving on the line between the lanes. That was scary enough. But then I saw a rocky bridge just up ahead. And the center line I was driving on was taking me right toward the part that supported the bridge. I came close to smacking right into it! Thank God, someone let me into their lane just in time, or I would have been killed!

Now I doubt that the drivers who blocked my way even gave a second thought about the danger they put me in. It was no big deal to them! People don't think of that type of thing as a sin (Luke 6:31-36). There's nothing about it in the Ten Commandments. It's just one of the many things people do every day that puts other people in danger. Another example occurred the day my mother-in-law died. I was driving on a side road heading home. The sign on the street said, "No stopping any time." It was opposite a local fire department and, if there were cars there, the fire truck wouldn't be able to get through in an emergency. A small sports car was illegally parked along the road in front of me. I didn't know anyone was in it, until it suddenly shot out in front of me. I had to swerve to miss hitting it just as oncoming traffic was turning the corner in front of me. The young woman in the sports car just drove off oblivious to the situation. However, I nearly had a head-on collision!

Every day people are so absorbed with their own problems and thoughts that they don't stop to think how their carelessness creates serious problems or danger for other people. Society has gotten so used to this attitude that it's just part of life these days. But I have a confession to make. I used to be thoughtless and selfish myself. If there was a line of people, I tried to get in the front, because I didn't want to wait. Someone who knew me back then said that the way I drove, I was an accident looking for a place to happen. Then I rededicated my life to Jesus Christ and I changed. We all need to change if we expect to please God. The Lord won't accept us in our natural state. Because "...the natural man receiver not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned" (1 Corinthians 2:14 KJV).

The Apostle Paul told those who had repented of their sins and accepted Christ, "As for you, **you were dead in your transgressions and sins**, in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath. But because of His great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions – it is by **grace** you have been saved" (Ephesians 2:1-5 NIV).

Selfishness toward other people is simply not the way those who

love the Lord should act (1 Corinthians 13:1-13, Galatians 5:17-26). I look back on my life then and am disgusted at my attitude. I was putting myself and my own convenience ahead of other people. I didn't care about their problems and needs. That is a normal part of human nature. That's why Isaiah prophesied of Christ, "We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all" (Isaiah 53:6 NIV). People think that if you do enough good works, it wipes away your sins. But, "all of us have become like one who is unclean, and **all our righteous acts are like filthy rags**; we all shrivel up like a leaf, and like the wind our sins sweep us away" (Isaiah 64:6 NIV). That's because when we choose what good works we will do, we are still trying to control our lives. And God is not in control. I'm not saying that good works are bad. God wants us to do good works. But He wants to choose what good works we do! "For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do" (Ephesians 2:10 NIV). The Lord doesn't want the leftover crumbs we give Him. He gave His own beloved Son for us (John 3:16). So He wants it all. He wants us!

Many churches organize their good works drives and emphasize specific good deeds. But that may not be what God wants from them. He may have totally different plans! Every good thing that we have was given to us by God. "Heaven is My throne, and the

earth is My footstool. What kind of house will you build for Me? Says the Lord. Or where will My resting place be? Has not My hand made all these things?

You stiff-necked people, with uncircumcised hearts and ears! You are just like your fathers: You always resist the Holy Spirit!" (Acts 7:49-51 NIV). We cannot buy our way to Heaven. "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23 NIV).

Everyone has troubles. Some of them are horrible. People have financial problems, health issues, conflicts at work, family issues, etc. And misery has no favorites. You may be rich, or poor, old or young, healthy

or sick, attractive or plain, single or married. And race and religion make no difference to your enemy, Satan. God loves you, and He wants to control your life, and solve your problems. The Lord's intelligence is so far beyond ours that "...the wisdom of this world is foolishness in God's sight. As it is written: 'He catches the wise in their craftiness;' and again, 'The Lord knows that the thoughts of the wise are futile'" (1 Corinthians 3:19-20 NIV).

Even so, He has pity on us, although He sees the sin in our lives. The Lord wants so much to deliver us from the powers of darkness (Ephesians 6:12). As Paul told the new believers in his day, "...hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out His love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom He has given us. You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:5-8 NIV). In other words, Jesus died such a horrendous death for those who hated Him. Because, "...friendship with the world is hatred toward God... Anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God" (James 4:4 NIV).

The Lord doesn't want you to be unhappy and live in turmoil. He wants to fix your problems and give you peace that the world around you cannot give. Jesus said, "Come to Me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn



from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light” (Matthew 11:28-30 NIV). Perhaps you think that God is angry at you for something you did, or didn’t do. But all He wants to do is give you joy, happiness, and peace that does not come from anything this world offers. It’s a supernatural serenity that only the Lord can give. God loves you. You can trust Him to know, ultimately, what is best for you. So, take your problems to the Lord, and ask Him to show you the way. “Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 4:6-7 NIV). He already knows about your troubles. But the carnal things you’ve been hoping for won’t last. The Lord gives a peace that will never end.

However, first you have to come to the Lord, through prayer and supplication. Let Him give you rest. David, after his terrible sin with Bathsheba, prayed “O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare Your praise. You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it; you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings. The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise” (Psalms 51:15-17 NIV). Jesus told us the story of two men who “...went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood up and prayed about himself: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other men – robbers, evildoers, adulterers – or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.’ But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, ‘God, have mercy on me, a sinner.’ I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted” (Luke 18:10-14 NIV).

Our sins have to be paid for and there are only two ways you can do that. Either you pay for your own sins. That means you die in your natural state and end up burning in Hell for all eternally along with the devil, the ruler of this world (John 12:31, Ephesians 2:2, and Revelation 20:10). Jesus said that Hell is “where ‘their worm does not die, and the fire is not quenched.’ Everyone will be salted with fire” (Mark 9:48-49 NIV). Or we repent of our sins and accept Christ as our Lord and Savior thus receiving His gift of salvation, where He paid the debt for us. Those are our only two choices!

I’ve heard people take the matter lightly, with remarks like, “If I burn, I burn.” One man I knew who said that has already died and it’s too late for him to repent now. Anyone who has doubt about the reality of Hell and the Lake of Fire should take a look at the fires that come up from the earth during volcanic eruptions. The fires that spill out of them come from the center of the earth. The Bible told us thousands of years ago that Hell is in the center of the earth (Numbers 16:32-35, Deuteronomy 32:22, Luke 16:19-31, and Ephesians 4:8-9). In modern times, scientists have proven the accuracy of it. A tool called a Seismometer measures vibrations of the earth. And it proves the validity of the Lake of Fire spoken of in the Bible.

For S-waves passing from the mantle to the core are absorbed because shear waves cannot be transmitted through liquids. This is evidence that the outer core does not behave like a solid substance. S-waves are not transmitted through the liquid outer core. As John prophesied, “...the devil, who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet had been thrown. They will be tormented day and night for ever and ever” (Revelation 20:10 NIV). Science has also proven the accuracy of the Bible in that sulfur (brimstone) is also in the center of the earth (see Revelation 20:10, 21:8). And “if anyone’s name was not found written

in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire” (Revelation 20:15 NIV).

Jesus said, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me” (John 14:6 NIV). Jesus used the metaphor of a Vine and branches. He told His followers, “I am the true Vine, and My Father is the Gardener. He cuts off every branch **in Me** that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit He prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. Remain in Me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the Vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you **remain in Me**. I am the Vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in Me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from Me you can do nothing. If anyone does not remain in Me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned” (John 15:1-6 NIV).

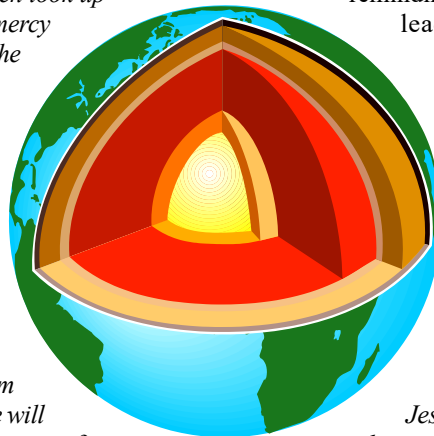
I have emphasized the words, “in Me” because God the Father is primarily concerned with His own children (John 1:12-13). Even so, He wants the unsaved to accept Him, and tries to move them in that direction. “... He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance” (2 Peter 3:9 NIV). He was patient with me. As I mentioned, forty years ago I went through a period of backsliding. It lasted about five years. The whole time I was miserable. Life is so much better when you love the Lord! He has saved my life, and my husband’s many times when we were in danger. He is a wonderful Heavenly Father. He even helps me with little things, like reminding me of something important that I forgot to do, or

leading me to locate something I lost. When I was single and prayed for God to find me the right spouse, He blessed me with a wonderful husband, someone that’s just right for me.

However, I didn’t go from where I was to where I am now in a day. And I still have a long way to go, because God’s standards are so high (see 1 Peter 4:18). When you live in darkness, you don’t have enough illumination (John 8:12) to see yourself as God sees you. But the closer you get to Christ, the more sins you will see in yourself. Jude put it this way, “Keep yourselves in God’s love as you wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to bring you to eternal life. Be merciful to those who doubt; snatch others from the fire and save them; to others show mercy, mixed with fear – hating even the clothing stained by corrupted flesh” (Jude 1:21-23 NIV).

I had to go through God’s spiritual boot camp until I learned what the Lord wanted to teach me. And it was painful! For the writer of Hebrews told the church, “...My son, do not make light of the Lord’s discipline, and do not lose heart when He rebukes you, because the Lord disciplines those He loves, and He punishes everyone He accepts as a son.” Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as sons. For what son is not disciplined by his father?” (Hebrews 12:5-7 NIV). In other words, if you’re repented of your sins and asked Jesus to come into your heart and control your life, God views you as His child. But getting your foot in the door of Heaven doesn’t mean that you’re going to stay there.

Even Paul, the great Apostle, was worried that if he backslid he could lose His own salvation! He was comparing accepting Christ as Savior and Lord to entering a human race. The Olympics started in Greece, and Paul was talking to the Greeks. He said, “Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last; but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. Therefore I do not run like a man running aimlessly; I do not fight like a man beating the air. No, I beat my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified (Continued On Page 4)



## The Danger of Taking Your... (Continued From Page 3)

for the prize" (1 Corinthians 9:24-27 NIV). People who claim that once you're saved, you cannot lose your salvation, no matter what, are deluding themselves and everyone they influence (2 Peter 2:20-22).

In His warning to the latter-day Laodicean church, Jesus said, "...I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! So, because you are lukewarm - neither hot nor cold - I am about to spit you out of My mouth. You say, 'I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.' But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked. I counsel you to **buy from Me gold refined in the fire, so you can become rich; and white clothes to wear, so you can cover your shameful nakedness; and salve to put on your eyes, so you can see. Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest, and repent**" (Revelation 3:14-19 NIV).

God likes to use many metaphors. Buying gold refined in the fire has a similar meaning to "pruning the Vine." In its natural state, gold is still attached to that worthless ore, just as new believers have a lot of the world in them. They don't know any other way to live. But now God has the task of separating them from their worldly ways. Gold cannot be used until it is separated from the ore. And it's a very painstaking process! The refiner has to heat up the gold to such a high temperature that the ore is burned up and the gold becomes fluid enough to pour into a mold. So the refining process is not easy. All the things you have put your trust in during your life may be separated from you. You may lose your job. Your family and friends might get angry at you. You may lose property and worldly possessions. Both Moses and Paul started out rich in this world, but as Paul put it, "*But whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish, that I may gain Christ and be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ - the righteousness that comes from God and is by faith*" (Philippians 3:7-9 NIV).

Therefore, Jesus told His followers to count the cost before making the decision to follow Him. For it is better not to accept Christ at all than to receive His salvation then turn away from Him and become a hypocrite (Hebrews 6:4-6). There is nothing Jesus hated more than hypocrisy (Matthew 23:13)! The bad examples of those who claim to know Christ but live an evil life, turn more people away from Christ than anything else! So the Lord used the symbolism of a tower to illustrate His point. He said, "...*Anyone who does not carry his cross and follow Me cannot be My disciple. Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Will he not first sit down and estimate the cost to see if he has enough money to complete it? For if he lays the foundation and is not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule him, saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish'*" (Luke 14:27-30 NIV). To "carry your cross" means being willing, if necessary, to suffer for Christ as many have (2 Corinthians 11:25-28, Hebrews 11:35-38).

As for the pruning process, that only happens to those who are already living for Christ. In order to bring them closer, God uses a type of "Bow and Arrow" technique. In order to push the arrow forward the archer has to first place it against the bow and move it backward. That gives it the speed and thrust to propel the arrow through the air and hit its target. It means to decrease, or humble the person so that they will draw closer to Christ. That way they are more receptive to His direction. Joseph and Daniel were good examples. Joseph was separated from his family and made a slave (Psalm 105:17, Acts 7:9).

Then, when the Lord wanted to refine him even more, He allowed Joseph to become an imprisoned slave. Now there's nothing as low socially as an imprisoned slave. From that low point, God raised him up to become the second most powerful man in all Egypt (see Genesis 41:39-40).

Likewise, Daniel was pruned when he became a prisoner of war (Daniel 1:1-6). Then, as if that wasn't humbling enough, he was put under the authority of the head eunuch (Daniel 1:3-18 KJV), and probably made a eunuch himself (2 Kings 20:18). We know that Daniel never had a wife. However, God used Daniel in a mighty way! He gave him spiritual insight few people have had, even in the Bible. Daniel also was given tremendous prophecy. Some of the prophetic events have already occurred and some have not yet happened! Daniel was humbled first, but God eventually used him in a mighty way! Our Lord, "...*God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble*" (James 4:6 NIV).

There's also a social kind of pruning, that everyone God wants to use will encounter (Psalm 34:19). I went through it. The strange thing is that when I was selfishly living for myself I had more friends. I was also closer to my relatives, because I had more in common with them. However, when I started living for Christ and trying to please Him, I didn't seem to fit in as well with worldly society, or especially the backslidden church. That's the most painful part. You go to church hoping to find others who love Christ as much as you do. But Satan has infiltrated parts of the church too (Acts 20:29-31, 2 Corinthians 11:12-15)! Jesus had major problems with the religious leaders of His day! The Pharisees and Sadducees were the elitists of His time (see Luke 20:46). They were arrogant, sanctimonious, and hypocritical (Luke 13:13-15). They hated Jesus so much they were intent on killing Him (John 7:1).

If you've been trying to grow closer to the Lord and have been ostracized and rejected by other church members, you are not alone. Jesus went through it. So don't be discouraged. Read your Bible and seek the Holy Spirit in prayer,

*"for evildoers shall be cut off: but those that wait upon the LORD, they shall inherit the earth"* (Psalms 37:9 KJV). You may not inherit the earth in this realm, "*but in keeping with His promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness*" (2 Peter 3:13 NIV). One would think that being more thoughtful and considerate would make you more popular. However, darkness hates light. So those who live in darkness don't want the light of Christ to shed illumination on all the dark areas of their lives. That's why, in this world, "*Truth is nowhere to be found, and whoever shuns evil becomes a prey. The LORD looked and was displeased that there was no justice*" (Isaiah 59:15 NIV).

Lastly, this reminds me of a job I had when I was a teenager. I briefly worked as a cashier in a supermarket while I was attending school at night. When I wouldn't steal gum from the checkout area, and refused to accept a stick of gum someone had just stolen, I became unpopular with the other cashiers. It made them conscious of their own sin. And those who live in darkness hate the light that exposes them. They remain in the darkness, so that they won't have enough illumination to see themselves as they really are. Jesus said, "*This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that his deeds will be exposed. But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what he has done has been done through God*" (John 3:19-21 NIV).

