

# mercEmail

A Weekly Devotional from the  
South Green Street Church of Christ

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## Yesterday's Fringe, Today's Center

by Steve Higginbotham

**A**n evidence of our society's moral decline is when we witness behavior, that in the past was unacceptable or at best on the fringe, become behavior that is acceptable and viewed as though it were the center.

- A generation ago, people barely even spoke of homosexuality in whispered tones. Then through media exposure, it was flaunted everywhere. Today, homosexuals have been given the legal right to marry. What of tomorrow? What sexual perversion will next be mainstreamed?
- A generation ago, abortion was shameful and unthinkable. Then because of radical feminism, it became an accepted practice; a woman's right to choose. Today, through the drug RU486, it is routinely used as a form of birth control. What of tomorrow? Whose life will next be devalued?
- A generation ago, cursing on radio and television was not permitted. One curse word in "Gone With the Wind" raised objection across our nation. Then cursing slowly found its way into nearly every show on television. Just last week, the FCC ruled that the "F" word could be used on TV and radio any time, day or night, as long as it is used as an adjective or explicative. What of tomorrow? Will "vulgarity" even be recognized?

Friends, our society is on the downgrade. Immorality has the momentum. Consequently, it won't be easy to stop the moral slide and turn things around, but that's what we've been called to do. Collectively, if we all took seriously the commitment to make Jesus lord of our lives, we could make a difference. In fact, much of the immorality we are witnessing today is the result of our failure to care enough. Christians, take a stand. Be vocal, and with more commitment than you've shown in the past, live out the lordship of Jesus in your life!