
Tips and Trends from ICJE

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Monthly News & Updates

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The inscription on the pedestal reads: "*We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.* - II Corinthians 5:8"

Justice consists not in being neutral between right and wrong, but finding out the right and upholding it, wherever found, against the wrong. - Teddy Roosevelt

THE THIN LINE BETWEEN ACTION AND EVIL

There is a timeless warning: "***The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing.***" Those words echoed in my mind as I read the first reports that Charlie Kirk had been shot. I was aware of him, but I didn't really know him.

Jesus Himself told His disciples, "***You will be hated by everyone because of me, but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved***" (Matthew 10:22). And as I frantically searched for clarity in the flood of news and social media, I was reminded of Paul's charge: "***Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good***" (Romans 12:21).

There was a report that Charlie Kirk had been shot. I had literally just finished the last newsletter and was about to hit "Send" when I added a quick note reflecting the news report of the shooting, then I hit "Send" on the newsletter.

Subsequently, I found myself frantically searching websites, X, Facebook, and every news site I could find. I prayed that the shooter had been stopped from killing his target, but deep down, I knew better. Within minutes, I had navigated to a video that captured the exact moment the bullet pierced his neck, and I watched a man die. Charlie Kirk, the man I knew very little about, was gone.

I've witnessed death before, as have many of you—victims of crimes, accidents, and loved ones' final moments. When tributes to Charlie Kirk began, I realized I knew little about him and quickly sought more information. I discovered he was a devoted follower of Jesus

Christ, passionately advocating Christian teachings. His views were firmly rooted in the Gospels, with biblical knowledge surpassing that of many religious leaders.

The more I discovered, the more I recognized that my walk as a Christian man, husband, and father paled in comparison to the conviction and courage he displayed and lived. Like Stephen, Kirk was fearless in his discipleship for Jesus Christ. He lived what Jesus had warned: “You will be hated by everyone because of me, but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved.”

I believe many of his detractors confused his resolute adherence to the teachings of Jesus Christ as intolerance, and in other cases manipulated comments, twisting them to fit a narrative they desired. (*See links below this article for a very small sample that represent the overall theme I discovered.)

I watched hundreds of archived videos and discovered a man who took on anyone who confronted him and challenged them with biblical truths. In this, he embodied Paul’s words: “Do not be overcome by evil but overcome evil with good.”

The inception of ICJE by visionaries Lou Harris and Bob Thetford was rooted in a profound commitment to biblical truth and the noble pursuit of justice. Their unwavering dedication to providing low- or no-cost training serves as a vital resource for law enforcement professionals who confront the challenges of evil in our communities.

This foundational principle is not just about equipping individuals; it’s about fostering a safer society for all. As we reflect on this legacy, we must remember that “the only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing.”

Let us embrace the opportunity to build upon this foundation, empowering ourselves and our colleagues through ongoing education and collaboration. Together, we can strengthen our capabilities and make a significant impact on public safety across Alabama, Tennessee, Georgia, Florida, and Mississippi.

Jim Rechel
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NOTE: In this October newsletter edition, we confront the danger of deception, the cost of standing firm, and the call to resist evil in our society, and will revert back to our category-based newsletter next month. Please feel free to email comments or suggestions anytime!

Thanks, Jim

Charlie Kirk is a Racist?

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Charlie Kirk didn't say gay people should be stoned to death - *Snopes*

The Turning Point USA co-founder and conservative commentator was fatally shot while speaking at a Utah college.

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Crossing the Line: From Falsehood to Murder



trip_planning.jpg

A young man who claimed to despise “hate” set out on a four-hour journey, rifle in hand. He followed a path he chose — one that the devil had darkly entered into his soul's GPS.

Lies whispered into his heart, twisting truth into falsehood, turning conviction into offense, and another man's words of faith into “hatred.”

His target was a disciple of Christ — unapologetic, unwavering, and willing to stand firm in the truth of the Gospel. For that faith, the enemy marked him for silence.

Deceived and enslaved by evil, the young man became the instrument of murder. The cruel irony of his act was buried in the dust the devil stirred in his mind. When asked why he killed, he answered, “I had enough of his hatred. Some hate can't be negotiated out.”

In his delusional world, he claimed “some hate can't be negotiated out.” Yet murdering an innocent person is true hate — it is deception and evil, magnified by the echo chambers of dark web and social media sites that reinforced his cognitive dissonance

Only time will tell. But just as farmers withstood the fury of unrelenting dust storms in Oklahoma in the 1930s, **we too must cultivate hearts and communities where the teachings of Christ can take root — standing firm against deception and evil.**

The Path We Choose - But the Enemy Desires to Shape

The killers in many recent shootings targeting innocent victims do  which_road_business.jpg not always come from the dysfunctional backgrounds often assumed to fuel criminal behavior. Increasingly, school shooters appear to be young people raised in seemingly stable environments, who later descend into suicidal and homicidal tendencies.

At a recent conference, I spoke with law enforcement and mental health professionals about the growing strain these crises are placing on both communities and institutions.

One psychiatrist, whom I introduced to the attendees, confided that his practice had tripled in size in just a few years—overwhelmed by the sheer number of young people facing serious mental health struggles. In 25 years of practice, he said he has never seen anything like it.

This reality underscores an urgent truth: we must provide today's youth with a model to resist the tug of Satan, who seeks to deceive and destroy.

In John 8:44, Jesus warned the Pharisees about the enemy's tactics:

"You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies."

We cannot allow the enemy to guide our steps or distort our thinking. Instead, we must guard our hearts and minds, make choices rooted in truth, and model resilience for the young people struggling with life.

As Paul exhorts us in Ephesians 6:11:

"Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes."

Lies Redefining Truth?

Isaiah 5:20 — "Woe to those who call evil good and good evil."

Over the years, some have said that culture increasingly redefine righteousness as "intolerance." Others claim that morals can be relative, with the need to adapt to the times.

In a recent conversation with an individual, I was discussing our difference of opinion on aspects of the Bible and the instructions contained within.

As I cited examples from the Bible to buttress my position, he took a position I did not anticipate. He intimated that he thinks God is wrong and will come around to his thinking.

He said:

"I think God will realize He made a mistake and recognize that when "His Love" directs certain people to engage in conduct you think is contrary to the teachings of the Bible, it is not wrong.

When people 'love' as God has instructed them to, the actions born from that love are not contrary to God's teachings.”

It was a stark reminder that we can be lulled into measuring truth by the world's labels; but we should encourage discussion to bring light to God's Word.

When we let God's Word be our guiding light, I have no doubt that, over time, behavior not aligned with His teachings will be reduced.

Domestic violence, anti-social behavior and related violence, as well as overall crime rates will be reduced. But who knows, as some of the most violent confrontations during the history of civilization have involved religion.

Only time will tell.

Decency Dies When People Cheer Assassination | Opinion

Opinion: If we can't agree that it's wrong to applaud political murder, we've lost more than civility.

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The Power of Forgiveness: 'I Forgive Him'

I don't know if I could do the same, but I know Jesus calls us to forgive. On Sunday, September 21, Erika Kirk expressed forgiveness for "that man, that young man." that killed her husband.

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2025- ICJE Training and Education

ICJE - Institute for Criminal Justice Education, Inc.

More Information and Registration at our Website

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We will return to our traditional format next month. May God's blessings be upon each and every one of you.

Note: AI used in research for this newsletter, and in editing some content.

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