



Weekly Devotion

“Be an I, not a They”

As I've gotten older, I've come to notice one consistent fact about this life.

And that fact is this: Strong and independent men intimidate lesser and weaker men.

This fact reminds me of a quote from Howard Roark, the protagonist of Ayn Rand's 1943 novel, "The Fountainhead." In that novel, Roark said this: "Notice how they will accept anything except a man who stands alone. They recognize him at once...There's a special, insidious kind of hatred for him...The independent man kills them—because they don't exist within him...Notice the malignant kind of resentment against any idea that propounds independence. Notice the malice toward an independent man."

After reading this quote, the question arises: Who are the "They" that Roark is talking about?

Here's the answer: "They" are the people who take the easy route in life. "They" are the Yes-men who are too afraid to think for themselves and too weak to support their own lives and stand on their own two feet.

You see people like this every day. "They" are the people who never accomplish anything of real value because they waste their lives settling for the safety of the status quo. Or they waste their time chasing the empty approval of others.

"They" are insecure cowards and sniveling little weasels. And "They" despise people like Howard Roark—-independent men who think for themselves. Men of integrity who, as Solomon said in Proverbs 4:11-13, have the fortitude

to walk on the upright path of wisdom and take responsibility for their own lives and go out and earn their own self-respect and their own happiness on a daily basis.

"They" are jealous of independent men because "They" can't or won't do the work necessary to earn anything of real value in their own lives. "They" lack the fortitude necessary to walk the upright path of wisdom. "They" don't care enough about their lives to make something of themselves. "They" may wish for a good life, but they'll never have one because they're too lazy or too fearful to do the work necessary to build a good life for themselves. "They" take the easy route every time. Therefore, "They" are miserable people who live miserable and empty lives.

Don't be a "They." Be an "I."

Be an independent individual. Be the person God made you to be. The kind of man who doesn't sit around with his hands out, but instead puts his hands to good use doing something productive like going out and building a meaningful life for himself. Be the kind of man who has the wisdom to set his own goals and the fortitude to achieve them. The kind of man who works hard to earn his own happiness and his own self-respect by embracing the responsibility of thinking for himself. The kind of man who's self-motivated. The kind of man who's willing to bear the burdens of being a real man, someone who's willing to work hand-in-hand with God to achieve his own destiny and create a beautiful life—a life

filled with meaningful, real-world achievements.

Independent men—they're the ones who actually earn good things for themselves. They follow God's leadership and work hard to build good lives for themselves. Lives of integrity and accomplishment. And in the process, they make the world a better place for everyone.

That kind of life is within your reach—as long as you have the mind and the heart and the spine to follow Solomon's instruction and walk the upright path of wisdom. As long as you resolve yourself to live every second of every day not as a "They," but as an "I." As an individual. As a real man who honors God with his life because he's not afraid to think for himself and support his own life and stand firm on his own two feet.

Bro. Colin Trisler

Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, Pastor

Memorial Service

Old Catahoula Church/Cemetery

Memorial Services

Will be held on **April 24, 2022**

beginning at 10:30 a.m.

Bro. Kent Nugent

will be preaching the message.

"Dinner on the ground"

to follow. Please bring your favorite dish!

Clean up days will be April 2 at 9:00

a.m. and April 9 at 9:00 a.m.

Catahoula Parish Church Directory

Aimwell Baptist Church 3592 Webb Camp Rd, Aimwell, LA 71401 (318) 992-6031	First Baptist Harrisonburg 600 Bushley St, Harrisonburg, LA 71340 (318) 744-5295	Harrisonburg United Methodist Church Located at foot of bridge (318) 339-8356	Mt Hermon Baptist Church 1319 Hwy 28, Jonesville, LA 71343-9679 (318) 339-8964	Jonesville, LA 71343 (318) 452-6605	Sunny Side Church 6569 Hwy 15 Clayton, LA 71326 318-625-2053
Anointed Hands Ministry 907 Willow St. Jonesville, LA 71343 (318) 623-6404	First Baptist Jonesville 103 Pond St. Jonesville, LA 71343 (318) 339-9062	Jonesville Church of God 152 Hwy3037, Jonesville, LA (318) 339-7807	Mt. Sinai Baptist Church 321 Willow Lake Road P.O. Box 725 Jonesville, LA 71343	Pine Hill Baptist Church 3479 Hwy 913, Sicity Island, LA 71368	The Pentecostals of J'ville 102 Lilly Street, Jonesville, LA 318-452-3287
Berean Reformed Baptist 210 Front St., Jonesville, LA 71343 318-339-8764	First Baptist Church 303 Chisum, Sicity Island, LA 71368 (318) 389-5733	Lake Lilly Baptist Church 1902 Hwy 923, Jonesville, LA 71343-8734 (318) 339-8959	New Era Baptist Church 11698 Hwy 129, Monterey, LA 71354-4638 (318) 678-3842	Pisgah Baptist Church 11432 Hwy 8, Manifest, LA 71343 (318) 339-6218	Trinity Presbyterian Church 401 3rd St Jonesville, LA (318) 339-7119
Bethel Assembly of God 507 Bushley St, Harrisonburg, LA 71340 (318) 744-1004	First Penecostal Church 601 First St, Jonesville, LA 71343 (318) 338-7389	Larto Baptist Church 107 Hwy 3102, Jonesville, LA 71343-9207 (318) 339-8345	New Life in Christ 705 Newman St, Sicity Island, LA (318) 389-0010	Pleasant Grove Baptist 385 Hwy 126, Jonesville, LA 71343 (318) 339-8347	United Pentecostal Church 100 Airport Rd, Jonesville, LA (318) 339-7390
Bird's Creek Baptist Church 8433 Hwy 8, Harrisonburg, LA 71340 318-744-0992	First United Methodist 111 Short St, Jonesville, LA (225)276-5290	Larto Pentecostal Church 125 Sanders Loop Rd. Jonesville, LA 71343 (318) 339-9497	New Life Pentecostal Church of Manifest 3190 Posey Web Camp Rd, Jonesville, LA (318) 339-8448	Prosperity Baptist Church 125 Prosperity Road, Jonesville, LA 71343	Utility Baptist Church 2230 Hwy 84, Jonesville, LA 71343 (318) 339-8734
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Faith Baptist Church 170 Jesse Jr Rd, Clayton, LA 71326-9613 (318) 389-5303	H'burg First United Pentecostal Church 741 Bushley St, Harrisonburg, LA (318) 744-5687	Moss Grove Baptist Church 247 Black River Road Jonesville, LA 71343	Parhams Baptist Church 193 Church Rd, Jonesville, LA 71343	St. Peter Baptist Church 1835 Peachland Ln, Jonesville, LA (318) 339-6339	
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