

Some Things You Can't Do in Church

Have you ever noticed that some bright people can say really dumb things?

When American baseball player Bill Gullickson signed a phenomenal contract to play baseball in Japan, he was asked what daily life was like in Japan. He replied that the language was the most difficult and different feature.

“It’s crazy,” he said. “The only American words I saw were Sony and Mitsubishi.” Well, I guess those are American words.

There is no limit to the foolish things people – and that can be any of us – can say. That includes legislators.

A few years back, a man named Robert W. Pelton did some research on laws that have been passed with regard to behavior in churches. Some of them are quite interesting:

- Young girls are never allowed to walk a tightrope in Wheeler, Mississippi, unless it’s in a church. I’m sure there was a good reason why this law was put on the books, although I can’t imagine what it could be.
- In Blackwater, Kentucky, tickling a woman under her chin with a feather duster while she’s in church service carries a penalty of \$10 and one day in jail.
- In Honey Creek, Iowa, no one is permitted to carry a slingshot to church except police.
- No citizen in Leecreek, Arkansas, is allowed to attend church in any red-colored garment.
- Swinging a yo-yo in church or anywhere in public on the Sabbath is prohibited in Studley, Virginia.
- Turtle races are not permitted within 100 yards of a local church at any time in Slaughter, Louisiana.



There is a lot of foolishness in the world, and – guess what? – that foolishness includes you and me. The Apostle Paul calls us foolish.

He writes in 1 Corinthians 1:26-30 (NIV): “Brothers and sisters, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. God chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things – and the things that are not – to nullify the things that are, so that no one may boast before Him. It is because of Him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God – that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption.”

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Paul is talking about us. He is saying, “Look, God hasn’t chosen celebrities or rocket scientists to proclaim His word. He’s chosen people like us – farmers, fishermen, tax collectors, housewives, electricians, plumbers, teachers and folks in health care – those who work at the bedside of residents, activities directors or associates who serve in dietary or the laundry room.

That’s who God depends on. God uses everyday people to do His bidding. So if God’s plan is to work through ordinary men and women like you and me, it means there is something for each of us to do – something He has called us to do.

– Beecher Hunter