

091054602

Bryan Peterson

From: [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, December 17, 2009 10:23 PM
To: Michael Fossmo; Bryan Peterson
Subject: Email #1 from Susan - Fwd: [redacted]

I've gone back through all my emails and found that I have 47 that were saved from Susan. Many were just us going back and forth about babysitting or supplements to take for this or that, but I think quite a few have significance.

I also noticed that a couple of the last ones came from a different email address through hotmail. This is one. The other will be in a separate forward.

The highlighted part below is my doing. I also underlined the last line in that paragraph. I wonder if all the financial things she was doing finally through him over the edge. He may have realized he'd never have the control he wanted over her.

I love her so much! She was working so hard to make things better and Josh just didn't care. It breaks my heart how he's acting now (and pisses me off). Maybe he's not guilty (which I'm so not convinced of), but he still acts like he doesn't care. I was talking to him on the phone a couple days ago and he was lamenting that he'd missed his chiropractor visit last week and just needed to get back into a routine again.

[redacted]

----- Forwarded message -----

From: [redacted]
Date: Mon, Jul 27, 2009 at 11:48
[redacted]

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Wow!

Does Josh ever read- besides computer programming? Maybe he would read some lighter weight classics. I don't know if it would help but they can reinforce good principles and make it more obvious that other stuff is wrong. I'm not talking self help or relationship books but classics novels that teach values through the story.

The problem is that he is allowing himself to be negatively influenced by others. I just don't know what to do about that. In Little House time it would probably have been no problem- no phones, internet, technology. He'd be more focused on his family if living significant distance from Dad. I hate to suggest backing off of family activities too. Spending time with the kids and him is what is likely to help repair your relationship. Also having dates with just him. As long as you can stay on positive ground. That's the challenge.

I don't think you should make a habit of skipping church though. That will only lead farther down the wrong road for you. What time is church now? You could still do things together after going to church with the boys. Do you bring them? They will need that exposure regularly to reinforce your values.

It's when they're teenagers that the real problem comes in. They start questioning their own value system around puberty. They are likely to look for a source outside of church and family to reinforce. If they choose the wrong group they'll be reinforced incorrectly. It's still early to worry about that yet though. Perhaps when the time comes we can have them join a TJEd scholars class. This helps them to learn to think through things in a healthy way.

I'd just keep on doing the things you were saying- prayer, family home evening, scripture story reading. Try not to fight about it while being firm with your insistence that it is going to happen. Josh may choose to stay home from church but you can still go and bring the boys. I would try not to take the easier road and leave the boys home very often- they need the experience- probably more than you do if the future is to retain hope.

I changed those settings in FB. Thanks for the warning.

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[Redacted]

Love,

[Redacted]

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PS: Can't wait to see the new deck!

[Redacted]

On Mon, Jul 27, 2009 at 11:54 AM, Susan Powell [Redacted] wrote:

so remember how i said when times are lean, the garden does well? (i guess we're ok right now) we are just barely getting zucchini and red tomatoes. we've had green onions for a while, and everything else is still small. thank goodness for our raspberries and cherries we've already enjoyed. we will be enjoying blackberries soon, and pretty soon need to net the peach tree. we've got one footing on our deck cemented, (i guess we need 4 for the big design josh wants) going 30 inches deep is painstakingly slow!!!!

we bought a zoo membership and josh took the kids on saturday and i missed church sunday to go again with them. it was pretty fun and hot and all. then we started the final digging and cemented one of the footings for the deck.

Now to JOSH:

josh has pretty much completely gone back on his word as far as, "he goes to church once a month, i miss church for a family event, once a month" and i'm so frustrated with that! (he even said to me Saturday-there's "no need to go to church" i keep getting the answer to wait, do everything i can within my control but don't expect him to even go once a month. he still wears his garments. he acts super annoyed if i want to say a prayer for dinner...seems to come up with ideas/activities to encourage me and/or the boys to miss church activities...tries to dictate which part of my callings/duties to fulfill (i put my foot down here...) almost seems to encourage NOT reading the children's picture scripture stories (as in, "let's read this instead" or just skips over that book when i put it on the pile of books to be read...)

all i can think of is try to do family home evening (a lot of times he doesn't eat with us b/c he's on the phone with his dad or brother and/or on the computer so he'll eat later when i'm trying to get the kids to bed, but then they are distracted b/c dad is eating...)

or else we are up real late (last night the kids were in bed a little after 11pm b/c of the work on the deck...) so family home evening, dinner prayer, morning/evening prayer etc will/would be hectic/rushed/or skipped. i'm not sure if i can get him to agree to reading or listening to me read scriptures-(same scenario, tv/computer or both, me running on treadmill or cleaning up the house before bed-going to bed way late...)

i know i should try harder to do family home evening and the children scriptures myself with the kids...geez, it's like i'm having a mini church lesson/discussion in my head...anyways, sorry so long but i figured since it's been a while...please feel free to give me your thoughts-i'm currently reading about ocd and re-reading the color code. (plus i've started d&c for my morning readings)

[redacted] -i wouldn't be there though (i think we can bring 6 kids and one guest, plus josh/i...or once the deck is finished...)

and don't tell josh, but i finally signed up to be a [redacted] purely so i can buy things at wholesale for myself, i'm not even buying the samples or anything for selling that isn't required-so i am so happy i've finally done that (i can easily spend \$100 a quarter so i figured i should pay myself/save myself)...josh hasn't noticed that i'm paying my parents \$100/month since Dec so obviously, this money isn't missed.

and pps, i'd take down the homehone # on your facebook profile, make sure your settings are friends only, or friends of friends... most things i choose 'my friends only' so somebody can't see my info even if they are my friend's friend...(and i suggested my 2 sisters on FB and my parents just incase you are interested in what made me, me)

[redacted]

[redacted]
Susan

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Jen

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Jen

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be)

Date: Mon, 27 Jul 2009 16:11:56 -0600

Subject: Re: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I guess you could claim too busy to do projects if he's too busy for church once a month. I don't know how well that would go over...

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On Mon, Jul 27, 2009 at 3:22 PM, Susan Powell [REDACTED] he refuses to read anything if its not related to computers or something that might improve his computer knowledge/skills. even though he is the one that chalks up any type of therapy as a waste of time- if you can read it in a book. i think he thinks nothing is wrong (or if it is, its not THAT wrong) so he doesn't pleasure/fiction read at all.

funny that you mention 'little house' times, i was just watching that yesterday and thinking of the good and the bad with all the improvements. how they didn't have to exercise b/c their work was enough and their food wasn't so unhealthy, and how a deck is a priority/necessity now, but they'd be happy with a one bedroom cabin with a dirt floor! and you could let your kid run a mile away in anger and not worry. (laura of course)

i think i'm going to have a talk with him about his family interactions, i've already told him i don't want him on the phone when he picks me up from work daily. he has an hour and a half to kill time and he can wrap up the conversation by then. and i don't call my family and just chat whenever i'm in the car with josh. i usually only talk to my family (not nearly as often as him) when its my day off and he is at work. he's doing better since i talked to him about that, but i think he thinks if its not his dad [REDACTED] (and maybe makes a point to only get off the phone with them once i've been in the car for a couple of minutes-before he disconnects)... that he can still talk business while i'm around (one of his computer geeks friends) b/c it might improve his job skills.

i think the problem is he has convinced himself that he is a work a holic and can justify anything with that arguement so that i can't argue. (can't go to church...need to build deck, have family time, read more computer books, improve his website to improve his llc etc...) not that i agree with these arguements!

it was back in March i think or maybe feb that i came up with the compromise of once a month (because other than sunday, we'd never have a day off together to do stuff like go to the zoo) and i think he went once in that month, the next month he was legitamately sick or the kids were sick so he stayed home, last month and maybe the month before he didnt' have any excuse. and just saturday he flat out said "he doesn't need to go to church" and i stopped short of saying, "then i don't need to miss church for family time"...(i'm not sure if he thinks i'm incapable of taking the kids to the zoo by myself while he works, or he doesn't want to not have the car (when he went Saturday he i think purposely tried to act nonchalant and be late with coming back from the zoo to pick

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me up on time.-he even mentioned that he has to wait for me every day -but different reason-work vs playing at the zoo?) so anyways i think i was sort of brow beaten into missing church, even though i pointed out, "when are you going to church then if i'm going to miss church?" and that was his response of 'i don't need to go-and the beginnings of an argument i didn't want to have in front of the kids...

i wanted to go to the zoo with the kids and he said wanted to take them again sunday, but normally, i always take them to church with me unless one or both are sick (like father's day-swine flu and i was giving the talk) and i've told him he needs to be encouraging with me for the boys to go to church instead of staying home to "have fun" with dad so i don't look like the boring, mean parent...

i've tried the dates thing with him and it goes to negative or now conversation...or its an obligation to him that he seems to hate, wants to go as cheap as possible (i'm talking, \$5 pizza, grabs pop from our house, parks at the local park, we eat, he barely answers on the questions/discussions we were supposed to have on our date book) and rushes home so as 1) not to have to pay the babysitter more, 2) misses our kids, or 3) wants to work on a project together...(like the deck, the cement for the water fountain we now have to return...) or 4) doesn't want to spend money at all, or not the time...

church is at 11, so by the time he gets up, 9 or 10, i'm getting ready/the boys ready...then its nap time afterwards and he's in the middle of a project...and that wouldn't work well for our zoo excursion. we planned on leaving at 3 (it was almost 4) and came home to work on the deck.

[redacted] talks regularly about Jesus and i'm so grateful, i know i need to do my part even more to keep that up, and better example etc, (biggest weakness right now is telling each other to shut [redacted] s
[redacted] but it's like i have to [redacted] 1
[redacted])

[redacted] y

[redacted] f
[redacted])
[redacted] s

have a reason why, whatever we plan to do, doesn't happen

meanwhile, my kids are growing up (and away from us) and their parents are clashing more and more. and i feel like i'm the only one to realize that.

please, your thoughts!

and ps, i didn't go to the temple last week, (fighting with josh instead so i didn't want to bring up the taking the car from him issue again.)

[redacted]

livingroom/kennel work?

Date: Mon, 27 Jul 2009 17:06:41 -0600

Subject: Re: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Date: Mon, 27 Jul 2009 16:44:37 -0600

Subject: Re: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

On Mon, Jul 27, 2009 at 4:27 PM, Susan Powell <[REDACTED]> wrote:
[REDACTED]

i'm hoping he won't eat the garden b/c its not raised and won't fall into the big crater holes that we are making?

[REDACTED]

Bryan Peterson

From: [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, December 17, 2009 10:58 PM
To: Michael Fossmo; Bryan Peterson
Subject: 2nd email set from Susan - Fwd: [redacted]

Did you see the email [redacted]:
[redacted] ? Just making sure. It details
where they went in the west desert.

Here's an excerpt from that attachment that I found interesting. I really didn't think he cooked when she was around. This seems to confirm it.

So that morning, we pulled out our camping gear. [redacted] had given Josh a travel case with a set of 4 dishes, cups, utensils etc.) Josh turned on the propane and grill and made us pancakes, sausage and scrambled eggs. It was nice to have Josh cook breakfast, just unfortunate that I have to be camping in order to experience it.

[redacted]

----- Forwarded message -----

[redacted]
Date: Tue, Jul 28, 2009 at 3:01 PM
Subject: Re: [redacted]
[redacted]

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[redacted]

The kennel would be ok but seems unnecessarily long in the kennel if he's there all day and all night. He'll probably become really freaked out and super high strung if he's locked up that much. He doesn't chew on things now (unless left out of the kennel while you're gone) but might start again on the sly if he's highly traumatized. Grab the water bottle on the end table by the couch and squirt him with water and say "ENOUGH" when he barks at the doorbell or knocking instead of just yelling. He's at his most obnoxious when someone comes to the door. The rest of the time he's a nice little dog- doesn't bite, or growl at the kids, doesn't shed, and is completely potty trained, he just doesn't have accidents.

[redacted] d
[redacted] y
[redacted] t
[redacted]

If you don't want him on the furniture then tell him "OFF" and he'll get down. He'll soon get the message if you don't want him on anything, and quit trying after a few attempts. And when you're gone he should be in a kennel and then there shouldn't be any issues.

On Mon, Jul 27, 2009 at 5:13 PM, [redacted] wrote:
[redacted] e
[redacted] e

095054602

Bryan Peterson

From: [REDACTED]
To: Michael Fossmo; Bryan Peterson
Subject: Re: Susan Powell

Detective Fossmo,

Since the time of our conversation on the phone, I have had a chance to read through the deposition that Susan sent me 1 1/2 years ago. It has brought back more snippets of memory for me. I recall some conversation about that time that she was somewhat concerned for her physical well being. She said that Josh had been more and more verbally abusive. They also had that one physical altercation I mentioned where she hit him and he hit her back. She called [REDACTED] that one night and I remember now talking about the hitting with Josh. He just kind of shrugged it off and said something like "If she hits me, I'm gonna hit her back." Like I said before in the statement I gave to Detective Peterson- I tried to encourage her not to get physical with him, so he wouldn't feel justified in returning with a physical response. I don't recall her saying anything more about physical altercations after that so I just completely forgot some of those details until reread the deposition she'd sent to me.

In addition, I suddenly recall that they were indeed, working with someone to complete their will. I recall that I remember feeling sorry for the guy that they had hired. He had given them a special price, I believe. Josh was telling me about all these details that he wanted him to incorporate about how to spend the insurance money (before the kids reached 25 or 35 or something like that). He was trying to control his children and his childrens' guardians from the grave. He wanted to limit what the guardians could spend on behalf of the kids to only certain things, I can't remember what now. I just remember thinking how that would be a nightmare for the executor of their estate. I also remember gently trying to encourage him to include a mission in that list of acceptable things and he just shut me down. He said if they wanted to go on a mission, they'd have to figure that out themselves. He wasn't going to pay for it.

This bothered Susan a great deal, but I told her not to stir the pot or he'd likely get it in his head to add other things that would really be a problem for their childrens' guardian. Money can always be come by in some other way to pay for a mission and other important things.

I don't know who this person was. He was in this area though, within reasonable driving distance. They were trying to finish it before they left on a trip [REDACTED] so if anything happened, the boys would be taken care of. Josh was really slowing it down with his rather extensive demands and the lawyer didn't like the terms (wording) he was trying to use. Josh was laughing about how much time he'd used up from that guy. He was trying to "get his money's worth" out of him.

[REDACTED]
12/17/2009

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On Wed, Dec 16, 2009 at 11:18 AM, Michael Fossmo <Michael.Fossmo@wvc-ut.gov> wrote:

Hello,