

## The Domino Effect:

- 1854 – 17-year-old boy was working in a shoe shop in Detroit, Michigan.
- Edward Kimball, his Sunday school teacher, went to the shoe store because he was concerned about his soul.
- It was there that he led D.L Moody to Christ.
- Moody impacted F.B Meyer, an unsaved London pastor.
- Meyer reached J. Wilbur Chapman.
- Chapman reached Billy Sunday.
- Sunday reached Mordecai Ham.
- Mordecai Ham led Billy Graham to Christ in 1936.
  - Graham has preached the Gospel to 2.2 billion people
- Edward Kimball started the dominoes...

The Domino Effect can also be negative.

- Jerry Sandusky - Penn State

The “Domino Effect” is a series about our future impact, but what do you do about the dominoes that someone else knocked over and started a negative chain of events?

Before we can bring value to our future, we must make sure that we have stopped the “Domino Effect” of our past.

- 1976 – Dad leaves and the domino effect:
  - Fear became a constant companion – Run to her dad in the dark
  - Pretending to have Christmas gifts with her friends
  - Embarrassment with food stamps
  - An extremely low self image
  - An extremely low level of hope for the future
- **All of this because of the choices of a parent**
- Her mom started another domino effect in her life:
  - She didn't give up.
  - Worked hard and fought out of poverty
  - Gave her life to Christ and immersed herself in the Word of God
  - Compelled Michelle to go to church
  - Michelle gives her life to Christ and God restores her future.

There is no improving the future without disturbing the present."

- Catherine Booth

Newton's First Law of Motion: The velocity of a body remains constant unless the body is acted upon by an external force.

The Word of God is that external force that will change the direction of our lives and thereby redirect the “Domino Effect” of our lives.

## Convenience vs. Conviction

- There is nothing wrong with convenience, until you start to make life decisions based upon convenience.
- If we are not careful, putting the Word of God into our hearts will become a matter of convenience and not conviction.

**James 1:21** - So strip yourself of everything that soils you, get rid of everything in your life that you do that makes you dirty and of every evil growth and receive with meekness the ENGRAFTED WORD which is able to save your soul (the seat of decision making).

James is saying that those behaviors are like growths or rotten fruit that must be cut out.

ENGRAFTED WORD is a farming term that denotes taking something from an outside source and adds it to an existing branch.

You have to purposefully take the Word of God, which is not naturally in us and put it into our hearts.

It is THE WORD OF GOD that will empower you to “Cut Away” everything that soils you and those growths that must be removed.

**Colossians 3:16** - Let the words of Christ, in all their richness, live in your hearts and ***make you*** wise.

- The same Word of God that created the world is on loan from God for you and me.
- The same power that was unleashed in creation is standing ready to bring dramatic change in our lives.
- It changes who we are, what we believe, and our values.
- It builds in us not just *the knowledge of what we should do*, but provides “The Power,” “The Drive,” and “The Want To” to get it done.
- So, we become people of conviction, not just convenience, and the “Edward Kimball” in all us is unleashed!