

THE WEEKLY LEDGER

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PERCEPTION, DECEPTION AND REALITY



By Ann Mayhall
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The Joyful Sound of Deliverance Ministry

When I speak with someone that is going through a difficult time, I most often find myself sharing that while perception is reality to us, perception is usually that of deception and not really the reality; therefore, we must know the Truth to ever be free.

The Mirriam-Webster Dictionary defines perception as a physical sensation interpreted through experience; meaning that we perceive things to be true

“Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost. Why spend money on what is not bread, and your labor on what does not satisfy? Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good, and you will delight in the richest of fare. Give ear and come to me; listen, that you may live. I will make an everlasting covenant with you, my faithful love promised to David. Isaiah 55:1-3



Photo by Leigh Bishop

“Love Locks” on the Robert Redden Footbridge, often referred to as “The Lock Bridge”
Couples get locks, place their initials on them and intertwine them onto the bridge fence, then they throw the keys into the water. This symbolizes that their love is unbreakable.

based off experiences in life – good and bad, up-bringing, cultural environment, beliefs, and traumatic events. Our perception is as real to us as the pain we feel when we injure ourselves, or as real as the joy we feel when we first hold a newborn baby.

Deception is defined as the act of accepting or causing someone

to accept as true or valid what is false or invalid. Just as perception is real to us, so is deception. We truly have no idea that we are deceived.

Why is perception usually deception? When we perceive something to be true, we are basing it off what we know or experienced in life prior to this

time. I will give you an example from my life. I had met a young lady that was from another country. She came here to live with her soldier husband and began going to my church. Her language was as colorful as Jacob’s Coat of Many Colors.

Alabama Waterways: Boating



By Tim Pentecost
Avid Fisherman

It seems like every year there are more and more boats and watercrafts on Alabama waterways especially in the summer months.

Recently a local guide was almost hit head on by another boat running approximately 60 mph. As he was getting his clients ready to jump overboard into 60-degree water the boat swerved and barely missed striking them.

Operating a boat or watercraft can be a lot of fun whether you are going fishing, skiing, or just enjoying an evening ride on the lake but without proper training and paying attention to your surroundings it can turn into a dangerous situation in the blink of an eye.

In 2019 Alabama had a record amount of boating related deaths in more than 20 years at a total of 28, the fourth highest in the country. Another 28 in 2020 even though usage was lower due to Covid-19 quarantine.

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Continued: Boating on Ala. Waterways

2020 combined nationwide totaled 1,380 boating related deaths.

On July 17, 1997, the Boating Safety Reform Act went into effect. It required motorized vessel operators to be a minimum of 12 years old on Alabama waterways and you also must be licensed. Under the age of 14 you must be accompanied by a vessel licensed driver that is 21 years or older. Although most Alabama boaters agree with the licensing, most don't agree that the rule only applies to Alabama citizens and not out of state visitors unless they are operating a vessel on Alabama waterways for more than 45 days.

In February Alabama State Representative Ginny Shaver of Leesburg introduced HB238 to the Alabama House of Representatives that would have increased boating safety on Alabama waters, but the bill was narrowly rejected by just four votes.

In short, the bill would have required boaters to travel at idle speed within 100 ft of a dock, (unless the body of water is less than 300 ft wide then it would drop to 50 ft) other idled or moored boats or people in the water. It would have also strengthened the drinking and driving a vessel (BUI) law to that similar to a

DUI among other things. The bill would have also required out of state operators to possess a vessel license from their home state or pass an online safety course. Representative Shaver said HB238 was patterned on Georgia's comprehensive boater safety law that was implemented in 2013 and said she started working on the legislation following the record of the 2019 boating deaths.

I'm just like most everyone when it comes to adding new laws. It tends to make me cringe. Some call it legislating common sense, but we live in a time that boats are running 80 to 100 mph, jet skis running 70 mph and pontoon boats are being equipped with 300 HP engines. The last thing any of us want is a peaceful day on the water turning into an emergency rescue. With laws there are usually fines that go with them. On our roads and highways, we have laws, that if nothing else, the fines deter people from breaking those laws.

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CONT.

*...a cord of three strands is
not quickly broken.
Ecclesiastes 4:12*



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