

THE WOODLAND HILLS PROCLAIMER

"how I kept back nothing that was helpful, but proclaimed it to you"

SERVICES

SUNDAY

9:30 AM – BIBLE STUDY
10:30 AM – A.M. ASSEMBLY
6:00 PM – P.M. ASSEMBLY

WEDNESDAY

7:00 PM – BIBLE STUDY

VOLUME 2 WEEK 41

Acts 20:20

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ELDERS

WAYNE REED
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To our visitors – "WELCOME" - Thank you for choosing to visit with us

OCT 11, 2009

I Wonder

By Donnie V. Rader

Sometimes I wonder. Do you ever wonder? By wonder I mean to question and think or ponder a matter. I sometimes wonder about many things. Quite often it is about the church, about what we are doing and what the future holds. I think of the past and contrast it to the present. I sometimes wonder how we got to where we are.

I wonder whether we fully appreciate the God we serve. I wonder if we have the same concept that Nehemiah had who thought of God as the "great and awesome God" (Neh 1:5; 4:11). I wonder if we think often enough about his great power and might. I wonder if we stop to realize that He is the Almighty (Rev. 4:8). I wonder if we truly appreciate his work in creation (Gen. 1-2; Ps. 33:6-9), his wonders shown in the exodus (Exod. 11-13), his power demonstrated at Sinai (Exod. 19), and his victory displayed at Mount Carmel (1 Kings 17). I wonder if we had a better appreciation of who God is how different our lives and attitudes would be. Oh, how I do wonder at times.



I wonder if we really understand the implication of the golden rule. It says, "Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets" (Matt. 7:12). I wonder if we try as often or as much as we could to truly treat others the way we want to be treated. I wonder how often we reverse our thinking process. That is, I wonder if many of us ever look at how we are treating others and ask if that is the way we want to be treated. I wonder how different life would be if we tried harder to live by this principle. I wonder how different marriages would be if each mate treated the other the way they would want to be treated.

I wonder about the homes (families) among God's people. I don't have to wonder what the Bible says about families. Husbands are to love their wives like they love no other (Eph; 5:25-28). Wives are to love and reverence their husbands (Eph. 5:33; Tit 2:3-5) Husbands are to be leaders in the home (Eph. 5; 1 Tim. 3:4), leading with honor and esteem for the wife (1Pet. 3:1-7). Wives are to willingly obey their husband because of their fear of God (1 Pet. 3:1-6). But, now I wonder how many homes among God's people are not what they ought to be. How many homes are really led by the wife? How many families is the love and consideration what it ought to be? How many families are not what they appear on the surface?

I wonder why we don't accomplish more with all the tools we have. I think of the good that was done by the previous generations in preaching the gospel. I think about the hundreds and hundreds who were converted by men like A.C. Grinder, W. Curtis Porter, Roy Cogdill, and others. They didn't have computers, the internet, e-mail, web pages, Power Point, desk-top publishing, or air conditioned building, etc. Brother Porter used a crayon (his word for chalk). Brother Grinder used many hand painted cloth charts. Wow! Think of the tools we have today. I wonder why we don't accomplish more. I wonder if it could be that we put too much trust in the tools and less in the gospel and in the work of just getting it done.

I wonder if the church were a business how it would survive. A great number of small businesses fail because of lack of attention or they are not run properly. I have often wondered if we were a business, if we would sink. I wonder if any business could make it with the amount of attention we give to the local work. I wonder how many businesses could make it with the kind of planning and direction we often give to the church.

I wonder about those who are sick and cannot make the service. I wonder if all those who miss services because they are "sick" are always so sick that they can't come to services. I don't mean that people should attend when they are so sick they couldn't work or do anything else. If one is contagious, certainly it would be inconsiderate to others to come. I wonder if some are merely tired or have a headache or have a few pains. I wonder if those who hardly miss a service don't have the same problems and still attend. I wonder if those who are sick a lot on Sunday and Wednesday miss a lot of work or school on the days between.

I wonder what happened to using wisdom and good judgment. If wisdom or judgment were a person, I wonder if we should report him as a missing person at times. Some of the decisions we make, things we do and what we say shows that wisdom is not always with us. If we were to use wisdom we would think things through a little better. We would think about how things appear. We would think about how our statements might come across and be interpreted. We would reconsider how we are being perceived.

I wonder about the many cases of traipsing in and out during services. I know that we all have occasions where we need to go out to the restroom. We all know that parents have to take children out to see to their needs. I also know that some have medical problems that they cannot help. What I wonder about is whether all those who make their way in and out during worship really have those problems. I wonder how many of those kids who repeatedly do that are just getting a drink of water. I wonder if some help from parents could reduce the number of such cases. I wonder if there would be a better time to go out or come back in than during the invitation song. One of the most serious times of a service is when we are hoping someone may respond to the invitation. Just as we make an appeal for obedience or correction and stand to sing some youngster will make his way out to the restroom (or water fountain) and make his way all the way down the aisle – sometimes to very front row. I wonder if that is the best time for that.

I also wonder what people will think about this article. Sometimes I wonder about a lot of things. Do you ever wonder?

WOODLAND HILLS NEWS AND NOTES

Jane Zeitz was in the hospital, but has returned home.

PRAYER LIST: Janice Billeri, Mindy Blackstone, Haskell & Doris Butler, Ruby Goad, Jerry Harrell, Bill & Jo Ellen McCarty, Leola Pence, Nelva Peyton, Jerri Scott, Bertie Strokos, James & Lou Ann Webb, Jennifer West, Jane Zeitz and Cindy Kirkwood (from Southside)

SCHEDULE TO SERVE - Oct 18th

AM – Service

Announcements: Bill McCarty
Song Leader: Luis Serpas
Lord Supper Bread: Vernon Riehl
Asst: Martin Billeri
Cup: Gerald Hodges
Asst: Roy Higgenbottom
Prayer Open: David Cade
Close: Carl Scott

PM – Service

Song Leader: Jim Rains
Lord Supper: Vernon Riehl
Prayer Open: Wayne Reed
Close: James Webb

PROVERB OF THE WEEK

5:6

***SHE GIVES NO THOUGHT TO THE WAY OF
LIFE. HER WAYS ARE CROOKED, AND
SHE DOESN'T KNOW IT.***