

NORCATUR NEWS

Make Church a Part of Your Life

WEEKLY SERMONETTE

"Questioning vs Doubting"

By Mike Sander, Youth Minister, Norton Christian Church

Is there a difference between questioning and doubting? I think so. For instance in the Psalms there are many questions that plague David about how and why God does certain things. From "why do the heathen prosper" to "how long, O, Lord?" God doesn't rebuke his questions but embraces them.

Throughout the Bible serious men and women of God ask serious questions to God about the tough situations they are enduring in life without repercussion.

But doubt is a totally different animal. Doubt is an assault on the character and promises of God. When Jesus rebukes his followers again and again with phrases like, "Why did you doubt?", he is showing that he perceives doubt, as the antithesis to faith.

James sums up this same reality in the first chapter of his letter to the scattered church. James writes, "But when he asks, he must believe and not doubt, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. That man should not think he will receive anything from the Lord; he is a double-minded man unstable in all he does."

Here's how the Spirit of Jesus works through James to describe doubt:

1. Doubt is the opposite of faith. Look at the phrase, "must believe and not doubt." To doubt is not to believe. To believe is not to doubt.

2. Doubt is the enemy of prayer. When we doubt as we pray we are ensuring that our prayers will NOT get answered. Only prayers uttered

in faith have the opportunity of getting a "yes" from God.

3. Doubt is a sign of spiritual and emotional instability. James describes doubters as driven by the winds of circumstance, unstable in all they do. Only faith can bring the stability that we need to face the struggles we all

endure in this confusing life.


What's the fine line between questioning and doubting? It's the reality of whether or not we truly believe that God's intent toward us is good as we endure trials. Hebrews 11:6 describes a faith-filled person with great precision, "anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him."

I love that description! Faith is believing that God exists and that his intent is only good for those who are seeking after him. He has only good things in store!

So at the core of our questioning of "who, what, why, when and how" we must believe that God's intent toward us is only good all the time. As soon as we don't, we slide into the danger zone of doubt. We move from children of God who know they are loved by their Daddy to spoiled brats who are angry at their Fathers for not getting their own way.

So go ahead and question your Daddy, but never lose faith. Ask the tough things of God. He can take it. But don't buy the lie that you can doubt God's character or intentions and get away with it.

STOP & LOOK



A child is born with imagination, with the ability to see the wonder of the world around him. When a child examines nature, he isn't in a hurry. He takes time to study each blade of grass, to appreciate the colors of a butterfly, to marvel at a flower or the soft fur of a kitten. What happens to that keen sense of observation as we grow up? Much of that vision is lost as we grow older and the complexities of life require all our focus. How wonderful if we could keep that ability to see the world through a child's eyes, as beautiful and intricate as God created it. We can all stop once in a while, and look, feel and listen; we can be challenged as Job is, to "Stand still and consider the wondrous works of God" (Job 37:14). Visit your house of worship this week and celebrate God's creation. Stop and look. Can you remember what it is like to see Him through a child's eyes?

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Sunday John 13.21-38	Monday John 14.1-14	Tuesday John 14.15-31	Wednesday John 15.1-17	Thursday John 15.18-16.4a	Friday John 16.4b-33	Saturday John 21.1-25
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Scriptures Selected by The American Bible Society
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By NEWSLETTER VOLUNTEERS

There will be three \$400 Norcat Commercial Club scholarships awarded this year. Anyone who is furthering their education is eligible to apply. Applications are available at The Bank or Norcat City Office and may be returned to the same places. They are due on or before June 20. The winners will be notified within a few days after that date.

Memorial weekend guests of Don and Joye Hill were granddaughters, Kodi Ferguson and Leah Graham; daughter, Donna and Perry Garrison, all from Bartlesville, Okla.; daughter, Sandra, Fort Collins, Colo.; son, Steve, Denver; and son Jerry and Cheri Hill, Norcat. They attended the Memorial Day services at the Norcat Cemetery on Sunday, then drove to Cambridge, Neb. on Monday to visit family gravesites.

Betty Reid, Norton, and Wanda and Minh Nguyen, Lone Tree, Colo., visited Arlene Hix and her daughter, Marge Prince, of Liberty, Mo., who arrived May 21 to spend a month with her mother.

Happy Birthday to LaVerne Milner, May 29; Jamie Wentz, May 30; Ron Harman, June 3; Ethel Miller, June 12; Marti Matchett, June 16.

Happy Anniversaries to Ron and Renee Harman, May 29; Tad and Rebecca Hartsough, May 30; Greg and Mary Long, June 15.

Bob and Bonnie Rapp and Pastor Eric and Robin Norris attended the pinning ceremony for the Baker University, Class of May 2008, School of Nursing at Stormont-Vail Health Care, of which granddaughter, Nicole Rapp, was a member. The event was held at the Grace Episcopal Cathedral in Topeka, on May 16.

Nichole Rapp, daughter of Ben and Yvonne Rapp, a pinning recipient, also received her diploma with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree at the Baker University graduation exercises held on May 18. She will begin her nursing career at the Lawrence Memorial Hospital in June. Ben Rapp and family live in Lawrence.

The Stan Miller farm was extra lively last week. Eli, age 4, and Karyssa Applebury, 18 months, came on May 21 and stayed with Stan and Carol until their folks, Mr. and Mrs. Chad Applebury of Colby, returned May 27. Their parents were in Lubbock, Texas visiting Casey Morris and seeing his home there.

Justine Tuttle of El Dorado returned home May 24, after spending a week visiting her parents, Stan and Carol Miller, and helping them with the babysitting. Justine and Casey celebrated their first wedding anniversary on May 26.

Visitors at the Stan Miller farm on May 25, were Mr. and Mrs. Rocky DeLano, Wichita; R.D. Thornton and Sharee Dempewolf, Oberlin, and Chris Dempewolf, Norcat.

Mary Lesle accompanied Wava Reames to Kearney, Neb., on Wednesday where Wava had a doctor's appointment. Wava visited her parents, Frank and Velda Ward, on Monday. She also visited Tillie Shirley and Juanita Eckhart.

Marguerite Clark spent last weekend with Janet and Gale Rippe, McCook. Janet's parents, Betty and Dick Lynch, were also there. Betty is Marguerite's niece from Iowa. The Rippe children,

Ali and Nate, had a grand time with so much attention!

Kenneth and Pansy Price observed their 65th wedding anniversary with a reception Sunday afternoon, June 8, at Whispering Pines Living Community, 200 W. Highway, 36, Norton, Kan.

Karyn James, wife of Russell James, from Jacksonville, S.C., flew into Denver and spent a week with family and friends including, Larry and Terri James.

Deb Combs and her father, Elmond Scott, Hill City, visited family gravesites at the Mount Hope Cemetery at Almena on May 24.

Virgil and Joyce Price were dinner guests of Kenneth and Pansy Price on May 21 to celebrate Kenneth's birthday.

Max Thielbar, Lincoln, Neb., was a guest of Virgil and Joyce Price from May 23 to May 26. They attended the Danbury School Reunion on Sunday. Kenneth and Pansy Price were visitors on Sunday afternoon.

Kaitlyn Stapp competed in Nationals in the heptathlon for the Colby Community College track team in Levelland, Texas. She was awarded the Most Valuable Player of the 2008 track and field at the school's Athletic Banquet.

Dave, Patty and Sam Stapp visited with Jerrod and Kortney Poire in Emporia on May 26 and 27.

A group of eight people enjoyed lunch at the Cardinal Bar and Grill on Wednesday, May 21. Included were Christine and Johnny Richards, Olathe, former residents of the Norcat, who just happened to be there, Oran and LaVerne Milner, Marguerite Clark, Deb Comes, Bee Nelson and Dorothy Ward.

There were 136 flags up at the Norcat Cemetery. Thanks to all who helped put up and take down the flags on Sunday.

Bee Nelson took Marguerite Clark, Sherree Regal and LaVerne Milner to Hastings, Neb. on May 23.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Price enjoyed eating lunch at the Cardinal Bar and Grill, on Sunday, May 25, before attending services at the Norcat Cemetery. Kenneth saw several of his classmates there.

Marlene Wolf came to the Prices on Monday, May 26, and took them to the various cemeteries where family is buried in Norcat, Clayton, Jennings, Lebanon, Neb. and Wilsonville, Neb.

Rea and Dee Magers attended the services at Lyle and also the dinner at the Community building on Sunday, then attended the Norcat services. On Memorial Day they went to Lebanon, Neb. where they attended the services with their son, Jeff, from near Cedar Bluffs. Later the three ate dinner at the VFW hall in Lebanon. On Sunday afternoon, Joe Boyles and K.C. visited at the Magers home. Joe was originally from Jennings. On Tuesday, Dee's brother, Lou and Norma Hahn, Craig, Colo., stopped by and they all enjoyed lunch at the Cardinal Cafe.

Senior Citizens met Friday, June 6, in the Educational Building. There were 12 players present. Winners were Joyce Price, Claudia Bridges and Beth Johnson. Next meeting will be 1:30 p.m., Friday, June 20.

Bev Miller DeLano turned 50 on June 14. A party is planned at the Cardinal Bar and Grill in Norcat for Saturday, June 21 to celebrate the occasion, along with karaoke.

•PUBLIC NOTICE•

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF ESTHER D. WHARTON, DECEASED

Published in The Norton Telegram on Friday, June 6, 13, 20, 2008

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF NORTON COUNTY, KANSAS
In the Matter of the Estate of ESTHER D. WHARTON, Deceased
Case No. 2008-PR-21

NOTICE OF HEARING AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:
YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on the 3rd day of June, 2008, a Petition was filed by Clarence Rima, as a beneficiary named in the Codicil to Last Will and Testament of Esther D. Wharton, deceased, praying that the Last Will and Testament, dated September 4, 1996, and Codicil to Last Will and Testament, dated December 4, 2000, filed with the petition, be admitted to probate, for the appointment of Clarence Rima as executor of the will without bond, and that he be granted Letters Testamentary.

You are hereby required to file your written defenses to the admission of the decedent's will and codicil to probate on or before June 30, 2008 at 1 o'clock p.m. in this Court in the City of Norton in Norton County, Kansas, at which time and place the cause will be heard. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the petition.

All creditors are notified to exhibit their demands against the estate within four months from the date of the first publication of this notice as provided by law, and if their demands are not thus exhibited they shall be forever barred.

Clarence Rima, Petitioner

Paula D. Hofaker #16169
Law Office of
Paula D. Hofaker, P.A.
P.O. Box 482
Logan, KS 67646
785-689-4606
Attorney for Petitioner

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