

NSD Notes

For though I be free from all men, yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more. (1 Cor. 9:19)
Volume 2 No. 6 May 10, 2009

Services

- Bible Study 10 a.m.
- Morning Service.....11 a.m.
- Evening Service.....6 p.m.
- Wednesday Meeting.....7 p.m.

News @ NSD

WELCOME VISITORS!

Prayer List

- **Ernest Peeples** - deployed in Iraq.
- **Ken Holloway** – his eye surgery was successful. He is not allowed to drive for the next 4 weeks.
- **Vicki Barton's** mother, Lisa - recovering from surgery.
- **Yedid Minjares'** mother - recovering from surgery.
- **Martha Holloway** - recurring back and heart condition.
- Jeanne Lynne - undergoing chemotherapy treatments.
- **Ken Holloway's** brother, Chuck and his niece, Nancy who is suffering from a terminal illness.
- **Daniel Hoskins'** Dad, Benjamin.

Classes

- Sunday Morning – 1 Timothy
- Wednesday – Ecclesiastes

LIVING A LIFE OF DISCOVERY

Randy Hohf

Everyone loves to discover. Whether it is discovering a hidden treasure, a new bit of knowledge, a new place to visit, or a new planet, the experience of discovery has universal appeal. In discovery there is the element of surprise, adventure, and reward. I believe that life is meant to be an adventure of discovery. As we grow we discover talents we never knew we had, foods we never knew we liked, friends we never knew existed, places we never thought we'd go.

In **Phil 1.9-11**, the apostle Paul prays (for the Philippians and for all of us) that “your love would abound still more and more in real knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve the things that are excellent, in order to be sincere and blameless until the day of Christ.” The words “approve the things that are excellent” bring out this idea of discovery. In fact, the NASB inserts a footnote for the word “approve”, suggesting the word

“discover.” The Greek word is dokimazo, normally meaning “prove”, “approve”, “put to the test”, or “discern.” But we put things to the test in order to discover whether they are genuine or not (cf. **1 Pet 1.7; 1 Jn 4.1**). So Paul wants us to have knowledge and discernment in order that we might discover the things that are excellent. That is the true adventure of the Christian life. When we are young in the faith, or in years, we seldom recognize what is genuinely excellent. Our value system is distorted, for we have not yet discovered what the most excellent things of life are. Often we think the excellent things have to do with earthly pleasures and earthly treasures. But if we are growing in knowledge and discernment, we learn →

1 John 2: 15 -17

Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world. The world is passing away, and also its lusts; but the one who does the will of God lives forever.

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All are welcome to our worship
and study meetings!

*... singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs with
thankfulness in your hearts to God. Col 3:16*

I rejoice at Your word
As one who finds great treasure
I hate and abhor lying,
But I love Your law.
Seven times a day I praise You,
Because of Your righteous judgments.
Great peace have those
who love Your law,
And nothing causes them to stumble.
LORD, I hope for Your salvation,
And I do Your commandments.
My soul keeps Your testimonies,
And I love them exceedingly.
I keep Your precepts
And Your testimonies,
For all my ways are before You.

Psalms 119:163-168

Father we thank Thee for the night
And for the pleasant morning light
For rest and food and loving care
And all that makes the day so fair

Help us to do the things we should
To be to others kind and good
In all we do, in work or play
To grow more loving every day

Rebecca Weston

[Living a Life...]

that these are not the truly excellent things after all. We discover, sometimes slowly, sometimes painfully, that the excellent things are not tangible, nor do they have to do with pleasing self.

But in order to make such discoveries, we need more than knowledge and discernment. If you look again at Paul's prayer, you will notice that he begins by praying that our "love may abound still more and more." We will never discover what is truly excellent unless we have an abounding love—a love for God, for one another, and for our fellow man; and a love for the spiritual and eternal, as opposed to the physical and temporary (**2 Cor 4.18; 1 Jn 2.15-17**). Without love, we are back to the self-seeking pleasure-hunt rather than the "other-seeking" treasure-hunt. If you wish to live the adventure that God has in mind for you, discovering the things that are truly excellent, then you must set your heart to discovery by abounding in love and growing in real knowledge and discernment. Then life will truly be an adventure of discovery. And you cannot even imagine what discoveries God has in store for you (**Eph 3.20**).

Excerpted from <http://folsomchurch.com/articles>

Learning from Noah's Ark

1. Don't miss the boat.
2. Remember, we are all in the same boat.
3. Plan ahead—it wasn't raining when Noah built the Ark.
4. Don't listen to critics; just get on with the job that needs to be done.
5. When you are stressed, float a while.
6. The Ark was built by an amateur, the Titanic by professionals.
7. No matter the storm, when you are with God, there's always a rainbow waiting.

ELDERS: Dan Austin, Robyn E. Hamilton

DEACON: Matt Wells

MINISTER: Dan Austin