

**West Valley Church of God**  
 P. O. Box 343  
 San Fernando, CA 91341

## Pastors & Elders

**Pastor:** Wayne and Patty Mitchell  
**West Valley Elders**  
 Carlton & Judy Green  
 Cornell Smith

## Quotes

### KIDS IN CHURCH...

Contributors: Jane Hickok, Susan Thompson, Lil Dratler

#### "How many women can a man marry?"

"Sixteen," the boy responded. His cousin was amazed that he had an answer so quickly.  
 "How do you know that?"  
 "Easy," the little boy said.  
 "All you have to do is add it up, like the pastor said, 4 better, 4 worse, 4 richer, 4 poorer."



**"A promise must never be broken"**  
 ~~Alexander Hamilton



A little girl became restless as the preacher's sermon dragged on and on. Finally, she leaned over to her mother and whispered, "Mummy, if we give him the money now, will he let us go?"

## Living Waters

**Mat:6:6:** But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.

## Editor's Corner

● Submissions for inclusion in "The Vine" are welcome **at any time**. We need your input! Please email to the editor (See right column) - in **10 point type, Arial font**, for easier placement.

Send submissions to:  
**TheVineEditor@aol.com** -  
*Subject Line:* Title of Article. **Time sensitive** submissions due **5th** of month for following month's issue. **News and Inspirational articles welcome any time.**

**NOTICE...** Many paintings shown in this publication are for sale. Check your old copies. Contact Editor.



"I am the Vine, you are the branches: He that abides in me, and I in him, the same brings forth much fruit: for without me you can do nothing."  
**John 15:5**

September 2019

**West Valley Church of God** -- "Come worship with us..."  
**Submissions: TheVineEditor@aol.com**  
 We meet at the Congregational Church of Northridge  
 9659 Balboa Boulevard, Northridge, CA 91325  
**Saturday Service 10:30 A.M.** - [www.westvalleywgc.org](http://www.westvalleywgc.org)

## The Desires Of Our Heart

by John Brown

**God is our father who wants us to have THE DESIRES OF OUR HEART. But He has to know what those desires are.**  
 (Specifically)

**That means we have to ASK HIM, SPECIFICALLY.**

1 Kings 3:5 In Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night: and God said, *Ask what I shall give thee.*

2 Chron 1:7 In that night did God appear unto Solomon, and said unto him, **Ask what I shall give thee.**



Is 45:11 Thus saith the LORD, the Holy One of Israel, and his Maker, **Ask me of things to come concerning my sons, and concerning the work of my**

**hands command ye me.**

Is 58:2 Yet they seek me daily, and delight to know my ways, as a nation that did righteousness, and forsook not the ordinance of their God: **they ask of me the ordinances of justice; they take delight in approaching to God.**

Matt 7:7 **Ask, and it shall be given you;**

Matt 7:11 If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, **how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?**

## Upcoming Events

● Bible Studies, Letters and other Events...see Weekly Bulletin and Bulletin Board.

## Inside This Issue

- The Desires Of Our Heart 1-2
- Tea Time 2
- Guilt Of The Moralists 3
- Quotes Back Cover
- Living Waters Back Cover
- Pastors and Elders Back Cover
- Editor's Corner Back Cover

Illustration © Sharon Mills 2019

*The Desires Of Our Heart (cont.)*

Matt 21:22 **And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive.**

Luke 11:9 And I say unto you, **Ask, and it shall be given you;** seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.

John 11:22 But I know, that even now, **whatsoever thou wilt ask of God, God will give it thee.**

John 15:7, 16 **7 If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. 16** Ye have not chosen me, but **I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.**

If it's not His will, and in our best interest, He won't give it to us.

*God has established prayer as the means by which we receive his supernatural help. And without supernatural help, we cannot live a life worthy of the gospel. Everything that distinguishes Christians from the world in a Christ-exalting way is a work of God's supernatural grace. And God has ordained that this grace flows to us through prayer. That's why prayer must be central, not peripheral, in our lives and families and ministries.*

**Desiring God**

## Tea Time

In the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century Anna, Duchess of Bedford introduced afternoon tea. British people had a hearty breakfast and light lunch and dinner at around 8 in the evening. Anna asked that her servants bring her



tea and some sandwiches (named after Earl of Sandwich) with small cakes. She invited friends to share this repast with her and the tradition of teatime was begun. It is understandable that you could be hungry at around 4 if you only had a light lunch and dinner was 8 long hours away.

The same is true with our relationship with God. Sometimes we need to stop and take a cup of tea with our Lord. It is a long time between one morning and the next if you only spend time with Him early in the day. With our busy lives we don't always stop 3 times a day to talk with our Savior, so take the time for a cup of tea with God today.

Sent in by Lil Dratler

Unto him be glory  
in the church  
by Christ Jesus  
throughout  
all ages,  
world without end.  
Amen  
Eph 3:21

## Guilt of The Moralist

b. **For in whatever you judge another you condemn yourself:** After gaining the agreement of the moralist in condemning the obvious sinner, now Paul turns the same argument upon the moralist himself. This is because at the end of it all, **you who judge practice the same things.**

i. As we judge another person, we point to a standard outside of our self – and that standard condemns everyone, not only the obvious sinner. “Since you know the justice of God, as evidenced by the fact that you are judging others, you are without an excuse, because in the very act of judging you have condemned yourself.” (Murray)

ii. **Practice the same things:** Notice that the moralist is not condemned for judging others but for being guilty of the same things that he judges others for. This is something the moral man would object to (“I’m not like them at all!”), but Paul will demonstrate this is true.



iii. Wuest, quoting Denney on **for you who judge practice the same things:** “Not, you do the identical actions, but your conduct is the same, i.e., you sin against light. The sin of the Jews was the same, but their sins were not.”

c. **According to truth:** This has the idea of “according to the facts of the case.” God will judge (and condemn) the moralist on the basis of the facts.

d. The point is made clear: if the moralist is just as guilty as the obvious sinner how will they **escape the judgment of God?**

.i. **You** is emphatic in the question, “[do you think] **you will escape the judgment of God?**”

Paul bears down here, letting his reader know that he is no exception to this principle. Paul knew how to get to the heart of his readers. “Our exhortations should be as forked arrows to stick in men’s hearts; and not wound only, as other arrows.” (Trapp)

ii. Lenski on the moralist: “Paul’s object is far greater than merely to convict also them of unrighteousness. He robs them, absolutely must rob them, of their moralism and their moralizing because they regard this as the way of escape from God’s wrath.”

“The Guilt of the Moralist” *Study of Book of Romans David Guzik*

Sent in by John Brown