

## Only Questions Asked Get Answered

Shortly before a meeting last night, I encountered Steve at the front door. He showed me a question that had been generated from his new class, "*Putting the Pieces Together*." I read it and replied, "That is a *great* question."

We were both something short of tickled (but not much) because those kinds of questions are precisely what we hope that his new class will continue to generate. I shared with him that those are the kinds of questions I would love to tackle in newsletter articles like this one (Hint, hint reader.) I'd like to know that what I write is helpful to at least one person so that I don't fall into the pattern of feeling like I need to crank something out to meet a publication deadline.

Steve knew exactly where I was coming from, and I think he agreed so I asked him, "Can I write about this?"

He said, "No."

*Sigh ...*

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With a single word, Steve thrust me back into deadline-meeting mode, but I'll try to make the most of the tiny little bone he did throw me.

Seriously, my thoughts were turned to matters of disciple and where Bible instruction fits into that. When the Pastoral Team meets for a retreat at the end of October, it is our intention to give the lion's share of the time to what a process toward fully-formed discipleship of Christ ought to look like. We know that it will require the imparting of Bible knowledge at increasing levels of advancement, but we also know that we need to weave into the process service, the development of Christian character and spiritual disciplines. Some must even be steered the way of Christian leadership.

Our Pastoral Team retreat is October 30-31. Please pray for us bearing in mind what we will be addressing.

In the meantime, come to Bible School. Our current offerings for adults include:

*"Putting the Pieces Together"* - This class has been recently publicized. It welcomes questions, and Steve Parmer is determined to maintain a safe and trusting environment for those questions to be raised. You missed the introduction, so this week would still be a very suitable time to jump in. This class meets in the Zebulon Room.

*What Did Jesus Do?* - This study covers a number of events from the life of Christ, helping us to see how His righteousness that has been applied to us was accomplished. Karl Crouch, will spend about half the time presenting the lesson text and fleshing out its meaning. The remainder of the time will be given to Bible exploration and some discussion. This class meets in the Coffee House.

*Philippians* - Jim McKay is leading a very straightforward and thorough exploration of this Pauline letter. This class meets in the Naphtali Room.

*Bethany Class* - This class for ladies only meets in the Judah Room. Kay Burcher is currently leading lessons based on the book: *Only Angels Can Wing It - The Rest of Us Have to Practice*.

*Christian Adult Class* - This class for seniors meets in the Fellowship Hall and follows the *Standard* curriculum. Ken George leads this class.