

Invite your Friends, Family and Neighbors!!

Crossroads Church

a ministry of the Christian Reformed Church

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Christians passionately dedicated to impacting our world with God's love, one person at a time.

If you remember, last week I requested your help by asking for your response to this question: *What in Wisconsin nature declares the praises of God?*

I heard from a number of you, and I hope to use your responses in a Wisconsin "rewrite" of Psalm 19 on Sunday. Today, however, I'm taking off on part of Mike's response for a couple of reasons.

First, any reference to snow when it is pushing 90° deserves some attention. Second, Mike's reference to the snow resonates with something going on in my life right now.

Mike writes, *"The snow. A number of years ago when I first read the book of Job . . . God shows up in Chapter 38 and asks Job question after question! One of the questions He asked Job: have you considered the mysteries of the snow? I thought about that. I had read that the formation of snow occurs when one "lost" particle of dust [or pollen] is found in the atmosphere and ice crystals are formed around it . . ."* Mike noted that this reminds him of what the Bible teaches in that you and I are *"clothed in the righteousness of Christ"*. (I delight greatly in the LORD; my soul rejoices in my God. For he has clothed me with garments of salvation and arrayed me in a robe of his righteousness. Isaiah 61:10); (You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self . . . and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness. Ephesians 4:22, 24).

Mike continues *"During the day . . . at times I see a thick blanket of pure white snow covering the filthy earth. Again, a picture of being clothed in the righteousness of Christ."*

The reason this resonates with me is recently I posted a number of "message boards" at key exit doors of our home which read, "Whose clothes are you wearing?" – meaning, "Are you walking out of this room or this house dressed in Christ or yourself?"

Lately, this has made all the difference in the world for me as I face the various circumstances God brings into my life. Being reminded that I am clothed in Christ changes my attitude as well as my behavior.

In addition, knowing that I wear the breastplate of righteousness gives me the Holy Spirit's courage to face life's temptations and battles (Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place . . . Ephesians 6:14).

Snow in the middle of August is not on many of our minds, I know. However, when that first snow falls in November or December and blankets the earth with pure white snow I will again be reminded to ask myself, "Whose clothes do you have on?"

After today, I believe you may just remember to ask yourself the same thing.

Sunday Service

Please join us for Worship at 9:30 a.m. We continue our stroll through the Psalms as we look at Psalm 19. I look forward to seeing you! **Make worship a priority this week – someone is depending on you to share this worship time with them!**

Our Offering: Gideons - "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations..." Matthew 28:19

The Gideons International is an Association of Christian business and professional men and their wives dedicated to telling people about Jesus through associating together for service, sharing personal testimony, and by providing Bibles and New Testaments.

Mission Update

Derick, Beth & daughter Maisey have been at Crossroads and shared with us God's call in their lives - to go to France and serve the Muslim people, sharing Jesus with them. Derick and Beth are leaving for language school on the 16th of this month. Their leadership has asked them to raise, in one-time gifts, "\$5,500 to ensure that we would not be on the bubble financially during our transition out of language school and into our apartment that'll be somewhere in the north of Paris. We would have to pay a realtor even for a rental and purchase furniture and appliances for our home even if it's a rental."

Many of you have been prayer partners with the Valencik's since they first shared this call of God with us. In addition, some of you have become financial supporters. On behalf of the Valencik's we wanted you to be aware of this need and provide an opportunity to help out if so called by God.

If you have any questions regarding this please talk with me or Vicki.

Get Added to the List

If someone forwarded you this e-mail, and you are not currently on our church's "e-mail list" but would like to be included in future mailings please send a return e-mail requesting this.

Have a wonderful Weekend! Enjoy the gifts God has given you. Honor Him in all you do, and I look forward to seeing you Sunday!!

May Jesus' love be your strength.

Pastor Doug