



*But let all things be done properly and in an orderly manner.*

**I Corinthians 14:40**

**(NASB)**

Today is our annual Congregational Meeting. There is a considerable amount of work that goes into such a meeting. The new budget has to be decided upon (by the Budget Committee and the Elders). The new officers have to be nominated (by the Nominating Committee).

For the past several weeks, a notice has been in the Bulletin requesting that reports for various committees and groups be submitted on time - by last Sunday, January 16<sup>th</sup>. As of last Sunday night, reports had been received from Pastor Jim (Sr. Pastor's Report), Vicky Spierling and Phyllis Phillips (Deacon's Reports) and from Don Hanson (King's Kids Report) and, of course, all of the necessary Financial Reports (me). As of the time of this writing (Friday, January 21) no additional reports have been received. For this reason there will be a number of reports missing at the Congregational Meeting.

One has to wonder why other reports have not been submitted. Was it because the committee or group did nothing to report on in 1999? Was it that they felt what was done was not worth reporting on? Perhaps the assumption is that nothing is done with the reports anyway so why submit them?

As I noted in last weeks "Words," the Congregational Meeting should be a time when we get together as members of God's (local) family and have a good "family" discussion of what was accomplished for the Lord in 1999 and what we might hope to accomplish in the year 2000. It is a time when we should review the reports from 1999 and evaluate the progress made in fulfilling the Great Commission. We should consider what opportunities will be available this year to continue the fulfillment of this and who is going to be involved in it.

Berean Bible Church is, first of all, God's church. It is also your church. It will be successful in the furtherance of the Gospel only to the extent you are doing your part. Financially, the church as a whole has done very well in the furthering of the Gospel. In terms on the commitment of ones time and the fulfillment of ones responsibilities, we are lacking. There are a lot of things that are just not getting done. We have no choir - not even a small group to sing a simple hymn several times a month. To my knowledge, nothing is being done with our teenagers.

The manse is badly in need on a paint job. It is a disgrace in the neighborhood. It is not the Jessups' responsibility to paint it - it is ours. Who is going to work at getting it painted? Have you checked any of our storage areas in the church - they are in dire need to being cleaned and a large collection of junk disposed of. It takes people who will step forward and volunteer to do these things. How about you?

We have a number of people who are shut-ins and a lot of other people who are just not coming to church. Pastor Jim and Fred Reichman do what they can to call on all these people but, it takes more than two people to do this calling the way it needs to be done.

As we begin a new millenium, let us turn over a new leaf and begin to look around us to see what needs to be done and either do it ourselves or encourage someone else to do it.

**Wayne**

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