

MAIORANO MINUTES

4TH QUARTER 2011

ABSENT FROM THE BODY AT HOME WITH THE LORD - II COR 5:7-9

On November 12, 2011, our very dear friend passed into the presence of the Lord after a long battle with cancer. Dick and Janice Feldkamp have been involved with our ministry for almost 20 years and had come to help at the PTC for the last six years. Dick did a wonderful job teaching physics as well as helping with math.

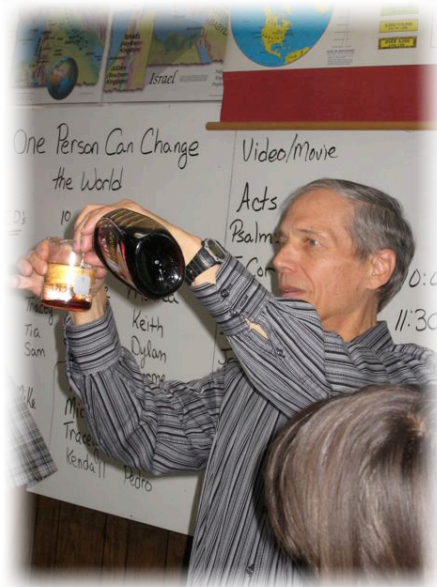
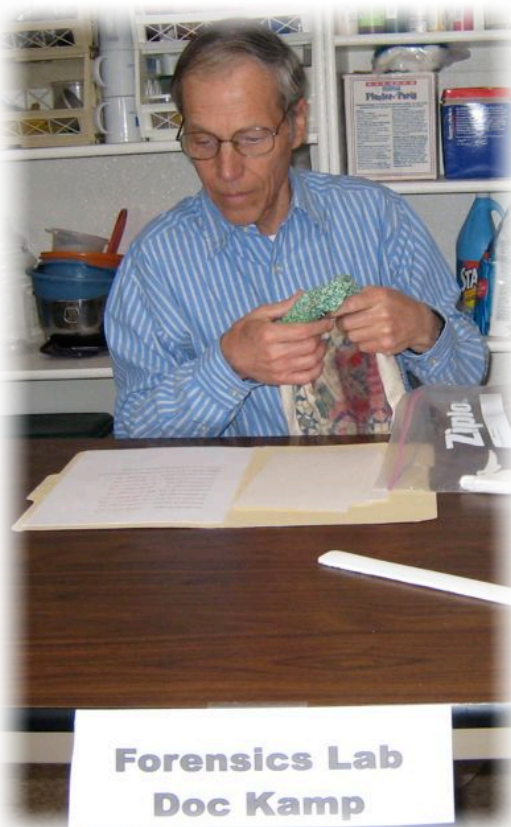
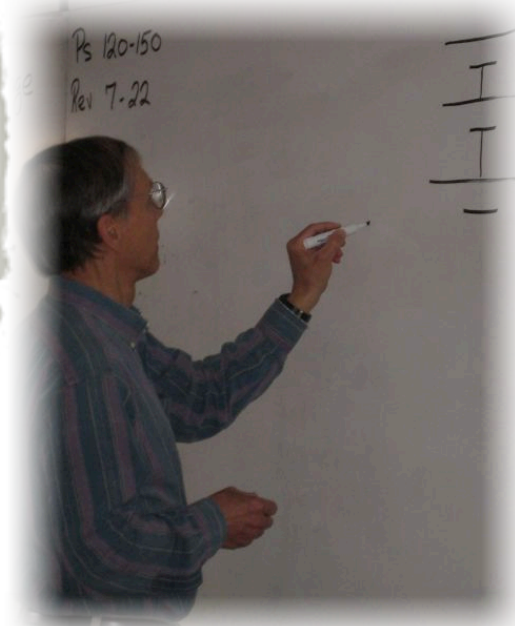
The students have been blessed for these many years by Dick's teaching, his love, and his friendship. The students aren't the only ones who will miss Mr. Kamp. Jim and I will also miss him. We had wonderful times of sharing, working, and fellowshiping together. We will miss the joy of his smile, his presence, and his love.

Janice is already planning her trip out here this spring, continuing the work that she and Dick started. However, she wasn't willing to tackle teaching physics; although, she did say that she was more than happy to help me.

Dick will be greatly missed, but his memory will live on in the many lives he touched.



IN MEMORY OF RICHARD FELDKAMP



2012 RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER

The beginning of a new year brings the end of the first half of the educational year. We had a "Christmas" program for the parents; however, I am sure that it would have been like no program you have ever seen before. It wasn't a Christmas program, but a program that focused on five Jewish feasts. Each student presented how the feast began and read the story from the Bible or from history books, explained how it was celebrated then and now, decorated a table with foods and other things that represented that feast, and then explained how that feast pictured the first or second coming of Jesus Christ. Our focus wasn't on the babe of Christmas, but on the God-man who voluntarily left His home in glory to take on the body of man, to be born of a virgin, live a life that would serve as an example to us, die an agonizing death on the cross, be buried, and rise again on the third day in order to give eternal life to all who believe in Him and obey His Word. Our goal was to celebrate all Jesus was, is, and has done for us. We have many reasons to celebrate Jesus, but not on Christmas - we need to celebrate Him 365 days a year!

All the families were present with a couple extra here and there. We received some snow that day, but thankfully, God gave us a window of time that the snow stopped and everyone could travel without incident. The students were busy that week making goodies for the night which went along with their feasts. They made Challah bread, cheese blintzes, homemade filled donuts, and cookies that they could use as prizes in the dreidel game for Chanukah. It was a fun evening for everyone.

We continue on in our study of Hebrews; although, we did take off for a couple of weeks during the holidays. We plan to begin again in January. We also plan on starting another class on Marriage Tuesday evenings in January. Both of these classes will run through May.

Our Sunday study was interesting on Christmas morning. We talked about whether we could separate fact from fiction in the Christmas story we now hear and see portrayed. It is interesting to take note as to what is in the Bible and what people have added to the story over the years.

UPDATES AND TIDBITS

We are on a two week break right now. You might read that and wonder what exactly a break means. Let me tell you what those two weeks have in

store for us. Getting this letter out was on the top of the list. We have done some online shopping which has been building up, mostly reading books to add to our library and other little odds and ends that have been on our lists. I need to finish up progress reports and then prepare for the last half of the year. Cleaning house, gardening, going to the dentist, spending time with Jimmy and Angel, and trying to reclaim our lives will take up the rest of our time. Jim has been taking every opportunity to go outside and work in our 40-50 degree sunny days and fence in about 40 acres of ground for the goats to graze and dogs to run down the coyotes. About half is already done and just needs to be secured, some God did for us with steep cliffs, and the rest Jim has to pound posts and stretch fence.

The dogs have done a good job of keeping the coyotes and dogs at bay, but the critters are beginning to realize that the dogs can't get out of the goat yard.



We hope to fix that in a couple of months. We continue to praise the Lord for bringing these two beauties into our lives. Zem and

Girl continue to

earn their keep by keeping and eye on our goats. A couple of weeks ago we lost our oldest goat, Raven. She was a little over seven years. She gave us ten kids, much milk, and taught us all about taking care of goats. She was a wonderful teacher for us. Looking back over the last year or so, we don't feel that she fully recovered from the bear attack. The last couple of days, when she just wasn't herself, Zem never left her side. The night she died we heard Zem barking



about two in the morning. We believe he was watching over her and not letting any of the other goats or Girl near her. When I went out at 5 AM, Raven was dead and Zem was by her side. I had to drag him away from her. We will miss her. She was a very sweet, loving goat.

For the next couple of months, our gardening all but stops. We have some things growing, but they are growing very slowly. Very little watering needs to be done, although there is quite a bit of weeding. All the harvested things have been dried or cooked and put away for the winter. Again, we are thankful for the bounty with which the Lord has blessed us. We have been enjoying some great soups from our garden on our cold winter nights.

We have done quite a bit of traveling this year and I have one more trip planned for March, Lord willing. I flew to PA for my father's funeral in June. Then I flew to PA in November to participate in Dick Feldkamp's memorial service. Jim stayed home to hold down the fort and take care of critters for both of those trips.

In December we both flew to Wisconsin. Jim gave the message at Dick's funeral and at his internment. I spoke and sang - the first time I have sung in front of people for about ten years. Ten years ago I hardly had enough voice to teach, let alone sing. Dick and Janice were a big part of fixing that. They led us to the woman who has been able to help us with our health issues and told us that they would take care of that first visit. When I said to Dick, "How can we ever thank you?" his comment was when you get your voice back, I want you to sing "In Christ Alone" for me. Over the summer my singing voice has started to come back. I was planning to sing him his song when he came back this fall. I never got that chance, but I praise the Lord for the opportunity I had to sing it at his service.

In March, I plan on traveling to Florida to visit my sister, Bonnie. Because of her own health issues, she was not able to attend my father's funeral in June. I know she is still struggling with health issues, and I feel that it is important to go and spend some time with her just as her sister, but also to see if I can help her in any other way as well.

Many people have asked what we did on Christmas with our family. The answer to that is nothing. We have not heard from Jeremy for quite a while. Jimmy worked on Christmas day, and Angel took the girls out to Albuquerque and spent Christmas with her family. Now all the grandkids are away for the break. We will probably plan to have our family get together the weekend they all come back. We are hoping to spend some time with Jimmy and Angel over this break. We always enjoy our time with them.

GOD'S ANSWERS TO PRAYER

1. With all the trips that we have taken and the miles we have traveled, we are thankful for the safety we have enjoyed.
2. We are so grateful for the privilege that we have had to know Dick Feldkamp and be a part of his and Janice's lives. We are also grateful for the opportunity we had to minister to the family and all those that attended the two memorials.
3. We stand amazed at how God brings people and things into our lives at just the right time. We have been blessed by a book that Dick and Janice had given us last Christmas, I believe. We received another book by the same author that has really been challenging us in the way we live our lives and the priorities we give to things. We pray that we maintain a godly focus in our lives and learn to trust God to work out the details in our lives.
4. We are thankful for the water and that the well will be paid in full as of the end of 2011. The well-driller told us to do what we could, but the Lord graciously supplied with gifts and excess that enabled us to pay down the amount quickly. PLT

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING . . .

1. Pray for the Feldkamp family as they adjust to their lives now that Dick is in his heavenly home. Dick left behind his wife Janice, and three children, their spouses, four grandchildren, other family, and a multitude of friends. They will all miss him greatly. We pray that they will be surrounded by God's love and that He will be their strength.
2. Please pray that the message that was brought at both of Dick's services will reach into the hearts of any who are not true believers and cause them to examine their own lives. Dick could leave this world with a calm, peaceful assurance because he knew exactly where he was going. This is true of all believers; we know what our future holds. There are many who don't have that assurance. We pray that they may find it.
3. Time and priorities, priorities and time. We all struggle with maintaining the balance in our lives.
4. Continued wisdom as we deal with students and family. May we live a godly witness before them!
5. Wisdom as we dream and plan for some upcoming renovation changes at the PTC. There is more about that on the last page.

DREAMING BIG!

Did you ever wonder where visions and ideas come from? I believe that God created each of us with a vision of what He wants us to accomplish during our short time on this earth. Each one of us is different; therefore our visions are multi-colored pieces of yarn that when put all together by God Himself are woven into a beautiful tapestry. We don't always see how important our little part had in the big picture. We are looking up at His tapestry, and we can only see the back which just looks like a tangled mess (Isn't that the way most of us feel about our life?) When viewed from God's side, however, or when we can look back on our life from a heavenly perspective, we can see God's beautiful artistic creation emerge.

Unfortunately, many of us get side-tracked in life. We forget about God's purpose and chase after our own. We then get so busy pursuing our dreams, our goals, that we lose track of God's purpose in our lives. Our busy lives begin affecting our relationships, especially with those who are closest to us. We don't have the time to invest to build our relationships with God, our spouse, our children, our friends, and with a hurting world that is just looking for someone who cares about them.

Looking back over Dick's life, we can see a man who allowed himself to be interwoven with many people's lives. His vision was to be involved with missions. He lived that mission out by being involved in missionary's lives, being involved in missions at church, and being a missionary himself as he lived his life before others being bold in his profession of Christ and being willing to invest his time and life into others.

About 13 years ago God gave us a vision to reach out to children, to ground them solidly in the Word of God, and He began to reveal to us that this goal could be accomplished by using His Word as a basis for everything that we taught. We have seen Christian schools in action. There are Bible verses written across the bottom of the worksheets. There are chapel services to attend weekly. The Bible had a part in the curriculum. Our vision was to take the Bible and teach about the world through it. The Word of God is not a piece of our curriculum, it is an integral part of all we teach and live.

Six years ago God intertwined our vision with the Feldkamp's. Because of their love of missions, Native Americans, children, teaching, and Dick's love and knowledge of science our visions became one. What a privilege it has been to serve together with a common goal over these last six years. With Dick's passing there will be a void that no one else can fill. It was his special place - God's place for him. He could teach the children physics, but most importantly he could love them with God's love. Janice wanted to see any gifts that came in Dick's memory to be passed on to the ministry and the students. She told us to dream big, so that Dick's vision could live on. We are now in the process of planning a science lab - a place where we can continue to instill in our students a love for science and an awe for the beauty of creation and the laws that make it all work. The more we look at science, the more we should stand in awe of our Creator.

There will be lots to do for the preparation of the science lab and then its construction. We hope to get the students involved with some of the demolition and planning. We want their input and excitement as we create a special place that will be a reminder to all of the students of the life of a man who loved God and followed his vision to share that love with them. It will be a place to wonder, create, and explore the world around them. The creating and building of this lab will hopefully be an educational experience in and of itself. Of course, most of the work will be done over the summer, but we are looking forward to a very different May, and maybe some adventures even before that. Please pray with us as we plan and develop this idea. We are not adding on to the building, but looking to utilize the space that we have to its maximum capacity. We will share more with you as the ideas develop.

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Check out the updated videos - there is a "In Memory" video that the students put together for Mr. Kamp. He had a chance to watch the day before he passed away.