

Refreshingly Old Fashioned



“A wife of noble character who can find? She is worth far more than rubies. Her husband has full confidence in her and lacks nothing of value.” Proverbs 31: 10-11

My wife Cathy and I recently celebrated 40 years of married life together! But what profoundly touched us both were our son Seth’s gracious written words for our big anniversary marker:

“The 40 year benchmark is impressive, yes, but what I find most delightful is that after 40 years, you continue to be each other’s biggest fans. Throughout all you have weathered, you continue to have an infatuation and commitment to each other that is refreshingly old fashioned as it is remarkable.”

For me our marriage and partnership, forged over many years in the crucible of ministry, has profoundly been a life giving gift of God to me, and to our collective ministry. One of our Genesis board members wisely called Cathy “our secret weapon” in our ministry over the years for me and our team. It is often that clients tell me, and our team, how much Cathy has connected with them over the phone and in the office. She endeavors to create an atmosphere of acceptance, warmth, and care that has helped alleviate their concerns and assists our work in soul care.

I write what currently touches my soul, so some liberty here, our marriage helps sustain me as a vital form of God’s grace. However like all marriages, it has been an unpredictable path mixed with joy and sadness, times of plenty and scarcity. We have experienced shattered dreams of personal and ministry losses. And yet amazingly God brought forth a dream from the ashes with Genesis nearly 24 years ago. Caring for the souls of others is the most rewarding and demanding of ministry endeavors. We can’t do our work without deep support from each other and from your prayers. So *many* of you have been a part of that ongoing beautiful story God continues to write in our lives, and our entire remarkable Genesis team.

And by the way, I was able to surprise her by the help of our son, with a wonderful weekend in Seattle on this 40th anniversary. And Cathy is nearly *impossible* for me to surprise. So to see the look of astonishment and joy was worth all the stealthy planning. The weekend was amazing, and we enjoyed it to the full.

As people say out with the old, and welcome the New Year...I have a slightly new take on that old saying as it applies to us. *Refreshingly old fashioned*, those words capture the commitment we have not only to each other, but even larger, God’s sustaining grace as He uses our entire amazing Genesis team to bless others in 2018!

Warmly in Christ,

Dave

Executive Director

