

deeper than he was really trying to ask. So, how do I answer the question accurately, and also represent the nature and character of God while doing so?

I decided to talk about flowers, bugs and rocks. *Have you ever noticed that when God made things, he made lots of different kinds of the same thing? Like how many colors of flowers can you think of? They are all flowers, but different in size and shape. The same is true of bugs. Why is one bug born a fly, the next one a spider, and then a lady bug? How many colors are there in bugs? Rocks are the same way, God made them in all kinds of colors so that when we look at them we can really like the differences. The same is true of people, lots of differences in the same people. Some are lady people, some are men people. Some people are tall, others are short, some are skinny while others are heavy. Some have brown hair and others have red hair... God likes and knew that we would like lots of differences in things that are the same. Does that make sense?*

He got a bit of a faraway look in his eyes, I could see the wheels turning, sorting the information, cataloguing the value of both similarity and difference, seeing that God had a reason for difference and variety, knowing it was good and right. I was pretty pleased with myself as he finally formed his answer.

I think I would rather be a lady bug than a spider.

Sometimes talking to little children is frustrating. I think he may have a limited appreciation for the teleological argument for the existence of God, based on the complexity of design.

Grace and Peace,

Carl

Where belonging to God means belonging to each other.

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**St John Church of Christ
A Family of God**

June 5, 2016

Sometimes the questions of little ones are tiring. *Hey Papa, why is the sky blue? Hey Papa, why do fire ants bite you? Hey Papa, why are some kids born boys and some are born girls?*

I don't go into great detail on all of them. Oft times it is merely the child's way of making sure I am engaged with them still. But sometimes the questions can take you back, make you think about how carefully you would like to respond to things.

That intentionality in response to a question is when we are on our best game. For me, it is when my mind is signaled that this question has to do with how certain things are seen in the future. They are life shaper questions... they involve God and how he impacts the world.

During those times, I don't just want to answer the question but I also want to accurately represent God's character in the context of the question.

Papa, why does that man have a brown face? Four year olds aren't very racist. That is an attitude that is taught, it isn't naturally occurring. So, one thing important to me in a setting like that is not to convey racist overtones. Explaining about levels of melanin, the main determinant of skin pigment in darker skinned individuals is really probably a bit

SUNDAY: Leisure Homestead Service—9:30 am
Bible Study for all ages—10:00 am
Worship Service—10:45 am
Afternoon Service—1:15 pm
WEDNESDAY: Adult Bible Study—7:30 pm
Youth Group—7:30 pm (@ Carl's)
ELDERS: Richard Breensing, Teddy Gingrich, Loyd Ratts,
Terry Sallee, George Shelton
DEACONS: Jerry Kinnamon, Jon Mansel
TREASURER: Richard Breensing

WORSHIP ORDER FOR JUNE 5, 2016

SONG LEADER: Jerry Kinnamon
GATHERING SONG: No. 77—Glorify Thy Name
WELCOME: Tom Turner
SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 86:8-10 (Chase Mansel)
SONGS: No. 74—Praise the Lord
No. 76—How Great Thou Art
No. 96—I Stand in Awe
No. 68—Give Thanks
PRAYER: Richard Breensing
SONG: No. 186—Christ, We Do All Adore Thee
COMMUNION: Garland Mansel
Ben Sizemore
Orrin Feril
Joe Cornwell
MEMORY WORK: Carl Feril
SONG: No. 736—To Christ Be True
LESSON: Carl Feril (*Children's Bible Hour*)
SONG: No. 948—I Am Resolved (vs 1)
PRAYER: Terry Sallee

(CCLI #2440129)

WELCOME VISITORS

We are pleased you have joined us in worship and hope that you will come again! Please stay for our potluck lunch today.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

A big "THANK YOU" to everyone who helped with VBS this year! Lots of kids had a great time learning about Jesus because you gave of your time and energy. The family fish-fry on Friday night was a huge success, as well.

EASTWOOD CHURCH SUMMER SERIES

The Eastwood Church of Christ in Hutchinson has started their Wednesday Evening Summer Series. A list of speakers is posted on the bulletin board. Carl will be speaking this week (June 8) - services start at 7:00 pm, if you are interested in going. They have a lemonade & cookie fellowship each week after class.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Mason Sallee—June 6
Jerry Kinnamon—June 8
Marisa Mansel—June 10

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Clint & Tara Kinnamon—June 9

Church website: www.stjohnchurchofchrist.org

PRAYER REQUESTS

Vanessa Rogers—hospitalization last week
Fred Johnson—treatments on one eye
Marilyn Sprawka (Don Rujan's sister) - cancer
Jenny Walker (Carol's sister)
Gary Hornbaker
Marci Klug (Joe & Lisa's daughter)—high risk pregnancy
Annie Kent (Lupe Hudson's niece) - cancer
Glennys Sallabedra (Tom's mother) - cancer
Alex Garcia (neighbor of Stan & Orvalee) - brain cyst
Brent Monroe (Joy Monroe's grandson; Marilyn's great-grandson)
Sharon Goode Ames—lung cancer
Ty Hewitt (Baylee Sizemore's cousin) - acute leukemia
Clay Rodgers (infant son of friends of Ben & Baylee) rare birth defect
Pati Waters Risley—stroke
Roger Dick—ongoing cancer treatments
John Laudick (Marla's brother-in-law)
Jonathan Batten - cancer
Theo Birkett (Tara's mother)
Eldon Ivy (Marilyn's brother) - health concerns
Jim Soukup (Gingrich's son-in-law [Shari's husband])
Myron Breensing (Richard's father) - Leisure Homestead
Bonnie Guthrie (Kay's mother) - Leisure Homestead
Laura Wyatt—Kenwood Plaza
Vic & Phyllis Staub - Kenwood Plaza

PSALM 86:8-10

⁸ Among the gods there is none like you, Lord;
no deeds can compare with yours.
⁹ All the nations you have made
will come and worship before you, Lord;
they will bring glory to your name.
¹⁰ For you are great and do marvelous deeds;
you alone are God