

# View

## Please, READ ME!!!

I don't doubt that every single person here wants to get 2009 off on the right foot. There is something about a new year that causes us to take stock and evaluate where we are and where we want to go in the future.

I would like to add a few things to your list of "to do's" for 2009, if you don't mind. These are not burdensome things, but I believe they will help you grow in knowledge and maturity a little more quickly than if you don't practice these things.

### Read the View!

My observation is that many of the younger folks in our family here do not tend to read the View as often as the older

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members. I know this how? On occasion, I find myself, in response to a question, saying, "there's an article about that in the View."

I think I know why it's not read as much, at least by young parents. You are involved with trying to corral children and keep them under control for the nearly hour and a half that we are here on Sunday mornings. After the Lord's Day, you get busy and the last thing you think about doing is digging out the View to read it later.

But please, in 2009, find time to review every issue and at least scan the articles that are offered herein. I don't expect you to read every line of every article. And I don't ask this because I think the articles — especially mine — are so great or worthy of your time; I ask because this is an important part of the elders' desire to communicate with the church here — that's why we spend the money and take the time to publish it.

We cannot cover everything in sermons and classes. The View offers another opportunity to communicate truth or important information to the church here. If only half of the

### The church of Christ

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#### Services

Sunday Morning Assembly

9:30 AM

Sunday Evening: 5:00 PM

Wednesday Bible Study

7:30 PM

Classes for all ages.

Private classes arranged

at your convenience.

[www.folsomchurch.com](http://www.folsomchurch.com)

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church is reading it, though, then it fails as a method of communication. If we knew that every member was reading it — or at least looking at it to see if there is an article or information applicable to them — it would be a much more useful and powerful device for getting the word out.

So *please*, take a moment to look it over and see if there is something in here that might help you in some way. More often than not, I believe there is at least some information here that will apply. I'm going to tweak the design a bit to see if we can make it easier to identify articles and bits of information applicable to you, at your particular "stage" of life. But please do your part and take a good look at it.

Thank you!

### **Study for your classes!**

There is no debate about it — when students in a Bible class have studied their lessons, the level of participation and interest grows exponentially.

As a teacher, there have been occasions when I began to ask questions that were on the lesson sheet that was handed out at least a few days before and all I saw, with a few exceptions, were a lot of blank stares.

I always blame myself first if participation is lacking; I

always feel I could have done something better or more effectively. But students have a responsibility to prepare for a class, too. I know it is easier if you have good material that will aid you in your study. But, at a minimum, the

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student should read and study the text, if he or she knows what it is. And if he doesn't, then he should find out.

Let's determine that, in 2009, we're going to study the lesson for our particular class to the best of our ability. I'm confident that all the teachers who are teaching the adult classes this quarter are making it easy to study. If the teacher does not give you a specific assignment, then e-mail or call him ahead of time and ask what text will be covered.

I'll repeat: while the teacher has a responsibility to organize the class properly, ultimately, the onus rests upon the student to prepare.

### **Worship God, not the Babies!**

When the elders sang at the recent get-together, there was a line in the song that went like this:

*If you don't have room to wiggle,  
And the preachin' gets kind of  
long,  
Just make funny faces at the cute  
little kids,  
Until the invitation song...*

*We were kidding!* It was a spoof.

I know, by experience, how tempting it is to play with the babies during our services, especially during the preaching. These beautiful little creatures are inherently much more interesting than I am.

So, perhaps we need the reminder that we are here to worship God, not to be entertained by the children, or by any other means, for that matter.

Ultimately, it is the parent's responsibility to see that their children are not becoming a distraction from our worship and to teach them its importance. We make that job more difficult if we "make funny faces" or otherwise distract them.

Let's resolve to remember why we are here and make the most of it.

DP