

# Pleasant Valley Weekly

Sing praises to God, sing praises! Sing praises to our King, sing praises! For God is the King of all the earth; Sing praises with understanding. (Psalm 47 : 6–7)

Vol. 1

April 14, 2013

Issue 15

## What happens after the ‘Amen’?

How many of us when we hear a prayer and the word ‘Amen’ is said we softly say ‘Amen’ to ourselves? Do we know what we are saying?

‘Amen’ of course means, “so be it, let it be fulfilled”. In saying ‘Amen’ we actually affirm our agreement with and utter our wishes to make the words spoken our own. Do we understand this simple truth?

When we pray for someone’s safe journey and ‘Amen’ is said, of course we all agree and want safe journey for those who are traveling. Who can’t agree with this?

When we pray for someone who is sick and ‘Amen’ is said, of course we all agree and want them to get well. But how many of us walk away with a spirit of “What can I do for them, to help them?” Do we write a note, call, make a dinner? Or just simple say ‘Amen’?

More importantly, when we pray for someone who is spiritually sick or for an open door to those we would like to reach, we all can agree that these are noble requests. However, do we “follow up” in these? Do we reach out and let them know we love them, we miss them, we would like to help them? Do we take the necessary steps to walk through the doors God opens—or is it just ‘Amen’?

## What happens after the ‘Amen’?

- \* ‘Amen’ - What does it mean?
  - So be it, may it be fulfilled
- \* ‘Amen’ - When and Why is it used?
  - At the end of a reading, a discourse, or a prayer
  - An agreement on what is said—making it your own
    - \* I Kings & I Chronicles—the people said “Amen”
- \* ‘Amen’ - When it should not be used?
  - When the prayer cannot be understood
  - When a prayer is not in agreement with God
- \* The real question is—Did these men believe
  - Not all but some—Nicodemus, Joseph, even some rulers
- \* We’ve pray for
  - \* Thanksgiving
  - \* Our congregation and the members that make it up
  - \* Wisdom, contentment, courage
  - \* Those who are sick (physically/spiritually), an open door
- \* Be Thankful, Be Grateful, Be a Doer, Be Thoughtful
  - “...And let all the people say, “Amen”...”