

155. I WONDER - FRIDAY - SEPTEMBER 25, 2026

Good morning, Grace Harbor – it's Dan. Happy Friday!

It has been quite a week here in Grace Harbor, with the Library being the hive of activity. Ever since word got out about the "Wonder Wall" it has pretty much been non-stop.

The other night when some folks researching answers weren't responding to her announcement that the library was closing, Mrs. Rodriguez the librarian stood by the front door with her keys in her hand and joked that she was going to lock them in. *That* got them moving!

I asked her how many questions she thought we had asked and answered this week. She replied, "Many more than I expected, but I'm not keeping count. That's not the point."

Sensing that she had more she wanted to say, I asked her what she thought the point was. "I wanted to create a place where anyone felt safe asking anything. When you get that 'I wonder' feeling, you can always visit the library. And I hoped people would see that the true value of the library isn't just the books, but it's found in the ways *people* engage with the books."

"Now you're speaking *my* language," I said with a smile. "The Bible has lots of knowledge in it – information, history, poems, songs, letters. And there's always more to learn. But learning all that information isn't the point. It's meant to help us with the far more

important goal of coming to know, love, trust, and follow God.”

I’ll tell you, I am so excited to see what happens with the “Wonder Wall” this fall. I imagine the pace of questions and answers will slow down as time passes, but I doubt we’ll run out!

This week, we’ve been reflecting on what it means to love God with all our mind. It’s been a great reminder that God gave us our minds and specifically invites us to use them. But we don’t use them just to gather information and impress each other with how smart we are. Rather, we let our minds wonder, we ask questions, and we follow the trail of curiosity.

When we show an interest in this world, we show God that we care. And especially when we bring to God our hardest questions or the ones we think no one else can answer, we’re showing that we trust God to give us what we need the most, even if it isn’t an answer.

As you reflect on the week, did you ask any questions that were answered? Did you help anyone else with their questions? Do you feel more comfortable bringing your questions to God?

If you need more time, feel free to pause the podcast, and I’ll be right here when you get back.

[PAUSE]

One last thing. Yesterday, I got a text from Ella. My phone said she had sent me 2 pictures, so I figured they were pictures of the rubber plant. But when I checked the message, it wasn't that at all.

The message said, "Look what I found when I arrived this morning." The first photo was of the front door of her studio, and I could see a small sheet of paper tucked in the door frame.

The second photo was a close up of the paper. It was a poem written with a typewriter, which could only have come from one person – Ms. Carolyn.

Before we close in prayer, I'd like to read you her poem. It's called "I Wonder..."

A blank card
A rubber plant
A furrowed brow
A whispered prayer
Wonder takes many forms

I reach for the clouds
Hanging above the harbor
Like cotton candy at the fair
It feels good to stretch
It feels good to wonder

A question shared
May be a friendship strengthened
We walk farther together

Pointing out what we see
On this way of wonder

And when knowledge falls short
When there are no easy answers
Or perhaps no answers at all
May I bring it all to you
Maker of all that is seen and unseen
I wonder

[Short pause]

Dear God, we thank you for a week full of curiosity and wonder. Thank you for the people in our lives who help us track down knowledge and insight, and who sit with us when our questions have no answers. May our questions be a sign of our love for you. Amen.

Ok, Grace Harbor, have a wonder-filled weekend, and I'll see you on Monday.

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