

#ThatsWhatWeDo

0. Background

No movement movement // You're welcome --> "That's what we do" // The flip side--> "That's what He does" // Hashtags (computers, the internet, websites, blogs, micro-blogs, Twitter, @RickWarren) // Tonight: **#ThatsWhatWeDo** (a response to last week's talk: **#ThatsWhatHeDoes** (what God does)

Quick review of #ThatsWhatHeDoes

God creates visible stuff and invisible stuff

God acts visibly in times past and is still acting today (as evidenced by the testimony of the Welches)

God wins visibly in the past and in the present and in the future: He wins with His word (if He says it, it will happen). He wins with His Son. Jesus beat physical problems, spiritual problems, and when He raised Lazarus from the dead, He beat death—showing us that we have no problem that we can ever face that He has not already beaten.

Tonight is all about our response to **#ThatsWhatHeDoes**. What God does impacts what we do. However, I think we need to answer the question, "Just who do we think we are?" I mean, why do we think that God has called us to do anything? Why do I have so much confidence that we (Christians) can do these things that God has called us to do?

1. Who do we think we are? We are . . .

1. **Psalm 100:3: We are His people and the sheep of His pasture**
2. **Psalm 103:14: we are dust**
3. **Psalm 126:3: we are **glad****
4. **Isaiah 53:5: we are healed**
5. **Isaiah 64:8: We are the clay . . . we are the work of Your hand**
6. **Lamentations 3:22: we are not consumed**
7. **Acts 5:32: we are His witnesses**
8. **Romans 6:15: we are not under law but under grace**
9. **Romans 8:12: we are debtors**
10. **Romans 8:16: we are children of God**
11. **Romans 8:37: we are more than conquerors**
12. **Romans 14:8: we are the Lord's**
13. **1 Corinthians 3:9: we are God's fellow workers**
14. **2 Corinthians 2:15: we are to God the fragrance of Christ**
15. **2 Corinthians 4:8: We are hard-pressed . . . we are perplexed**
16. **2 Corinthians 5:6: we are always confident**
17. **2 Corinthians 5:11: we are well known to God**
18. **2 Corinthians 5:20: we are ambassadors for Christ**
19. **2 Corinthians 13:9: we are glad**
20. **Ephesians 2:10: we are His workmanship**
21. **Ephesians 4:25: we are **members** of one another**
22. **2 Thessalonians 2:13: we are bound to give thanks**
23. **1 John 2:5: we are in Him**
24. **1 John 3:19: we are of the truth**

So what are the implications of who we are?

2. We Create and Act (just like Him because of Him)

Framework for our activities: We are members of one another: **Romans 12:5** (NKJV): **so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members [limbs] of one another.** (Idea = I am part of you and you are part of me—we are members of one body and must work together in our activities)

Building (God creates things out of nothing and we create/build things out of what He created)

Romans 14:19 (NASB): **So then we pursue** [to **run** swiftly in order to catch; to harass or trouble without the idea of hostility] **the things which make for peace** [tranquility] **and the building up of one another.** (Idea = We seek out activities that build up each other and create peace. We make decisions based on the needs of others.) **#ThatsWhatWeDo**

1 Peter 5:5b (NIV): **All of you, clothe** [knot or band by which two things are fastened together, to fasten] **yourselves with humility toward one another** (Idea = In order to build up someone, you must be dressed for the job—one piece of clothing is humility) **#ThatsWhatWeDo**

Ephesians 5:19 (NIV): **Speak to one another with psalms** [songs accompanied with music], **hymns** [sacred songs] **and spiritual songs** [lyrical poems relating to the human spirit] (Idea = We build each other up by singing to each other—one of the great joys of church is congregational singing; one of the great tragedies is that many do not participate) **#ThatsWhatWeDo**

Hebrews 10:25 (KJV): **Not forsaking** [abandoning] **the assembling** [gathering] **of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting** [call to your side; summon] **one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.** (Idea = We can do no building if we are never together) **#ThatsWhatWeDo**

Caring

1 Corinthians 12:25 (NKJV): **that there should be no schism in the body, but that the members should have the same care for one another.** **#ThatsWhatWeDo**

David Guzik: Sometimes there is a part of our body which only lives to serve itself. It doesn't contribute anything to the rest of the body, and everything it gets it uses to feed and grow itself. We call this cancer.

Forgiving: **Ephesians 4:32** (NKJV): **And be kind to one another** [in the present imperative tense, literally meaning, 'keep on becoming kind'], **tenderhearted** [compassionate—having the bowels easily moved], **forgiving one another** [this is a duty, not a recommendation], **even as God in Christ forgave you.** **#ThatsWhatWeDo**

Comforting: **1 Thessalonians 4:18** (KJV): **Wherefore comfort one another** [not, 'take comfort' but 'comfort one another'—notice how active Paul's Advice is here] **with these words.** **#ThatsWhatWeDo**

Exhorting: **Hebrews 3:13** (KJV): **But exhort** [seriously encourage] **one another daily** [this assumes we are in close fellowship], **while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.** #ThatsWhatWeDo

Agreeing: **1 Corinthians 1:10** (NIV): **I appeal to you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another** [keep on speaking in speech] **so that there may be no divisions** [as Paul was a tentmaker by trade, his use of a term that means, ‘tearing apart’ may have a textile industry reference] **among you and that you may be perfectly united in mind and thought** [since we are one body and members of each other—no out of place threads and no pulls]. #ThatsWhatWeDo

Living Peacefully

1 Thessalonians 5:13b (NASB): **Live in peace with one another.** #ThatsWhatWeDo

1 Peter 3:8a (NIV): **live in harmony** [compassionate sympathy] **with one another** (Idea = I accept you because Christ has accepted you) #ThatsWhatWeDo

Receiving

Romans 15:7 (NKJV): **Therefore receive** [take in] **one another, just as Christ also received us, to the glory of God.** (Idea = You are important to me because you are important to Christ) #ThatsWhatWeDo

1 Corinthians 11:33 (NKJV): **Therefore, my brethren, when you come together to eat, wait for** [to look for, accept and expect] **one another.** (Idea = Since you are important to me, I will wait for you) #ThatsWhatWeDo

Serving

Galatians 5:13b (NKJV): **through love** [agape] **serve** [be a **slave**] **one another** (Idea = Our love compels us to serve one another) #ThatsWhatWeDo

1 Peter 4:10 (NASB): **As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving** [be a **waiter**] **one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.** (Idea = Each one of us has a gift and we are to serve one another in order to be stewards of God’s gifts) #ThatsWhatWeDo

David Bandy testimony

1 Peter 4:9 (NIV): **Offer hospitality** [generosity] **to one another without grumbling** [murmuring]. (Idea = We should reach out easily and naturally) #ThatsWhatWeDo

Bearing: **Ephesians 4:2** (NKJV): **with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering** [a **slowness** in avenging wrong], **bearing with** [sustaining, holding up] **one another in love** (Idea = There will be times when each of us needs someone to bear with us a little longer, so we should be willing to do the same)

3. We Win (just like Him because of Him)

Adapted from Rob Bell's original "Love Wins" lesson:

Jesus had choices. He was wronged and He was betrayed and He was deserted and He was gossiped about and He was mocked and all sorts of things happened to Him and Jesus had choices about how He would respond. Moreover, in every passage that we are given, He responds with **love**.

A few days after the cross, He rises from the dead. **John 16:33: These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.**

Jesus is saying, 'I won.' No one had ever lived the perfect life and no one had ever been able to restrain and hold back from doing at least one act of evil, but Jesus loved the whole way through—He did it.

Colossians 2:15: And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.

Now think about whom was the public spectacle on the cross. Who was it? Jesus was left in public to die. Romans 1, Jesus 0. But if you can kill somebody and they still live, then who wins?

1 Corinthians 13:8a says, **Love never fails**. It does not and it cannot. It is incapable of failing. Which I think raises a new thing—God's love **always** wins.

I know what you are thinking, 'You don't understand my brother-in-law **[pic]**.' Yeah, I do. God's love always wins. 'But you don't understand my spouse.' Yeah, I do. God's love always wins. 'But you don't understand my sixteen year old kid.' OK, I do not. You're right—I don't **[pic]**. God's love always wins. 'But you don't understand my neighbor. My neighbor's of a different orientation.' God's love always wins.

I need reminders of this. I need this at home, at work, and at church. I need it on the bumper of the car ahead of me. I need it on the forehead of every person that I meet. God's love always wins.

You're gonna get slapped, and you're gonna get mocked, and you're gonna get spit on, and you're gonna be betrayed, and you're gonna have friends who put the knife in your back, and you're gonna have people who keep falling asleep on you—even people who you really love aren't gonna be there for you and it's in those moments when you need this. God's love always wins. **[pic] [pic]**

Jesus' life, death, and resurrection (the gospel) is God's way of saying to us, in all of our brokenness, in all of our tendencies to respond in all of these different ways, 'Jesus went through everything and responded in love—it's been done. He did it. He actually responded in love the whole way through.' And He did it and God has sent the Spirit to live inside of you and you can do it. **#ThatsWhatWeDo [pic] [pic]**

4. Appendix

Ephesians 4:25b; 1 Thessalonians 5:11, 15b; Colossians 3:13, 16b; James 5:16a; Romans 16:2a; Hebrews 13:4a