

I WONDER !!!

Roger Camp-

bell

I wonder how many more folks we could get to attend services and be baptized if the elders decided to give \$1000 to every person who would come and hear the gospel, then be baptized? I'm thinking we could get a bunch of folks with that kind of deal, don't you agree? But we understand that we need to appeal to a person's sense of spiritual motivation and desire to please God, rather than any material or physical benefit, right? Well, since I am wondering "out loud," I thought I might throw out a few more situations and see what you think.

I wonder how much more excited we would be about teaching the gospel to lost people if our shepherds promised that they would give us \$1000 for every person that obeyed the gospel as a result of our teaching them?

I wonder how much more excited we would be about trying to restore erring brothers and sisters in Christ if the elders made the same promise – to give us \$1000 for each restored person?

I wonder how much more we would be interested in attending every service of the church if the bishops promised that they would give us \$1000 each week if we attended every Bible study and worship service?

Rest assured that faithful overseers have no intention of trying to bribe people to do what they ought to be doing in the first place! That's right. Jesus told us to preach the gospel (Mk. 16:15). He also told us through the apostle Paul to try and restore the erring (Gal. 6:1). And, the Holy Spirit charges us to not forsake the assembling of the saints (Heb. 10:25).

That pretty well covers the questions that we raised above, doesn't it? Now, if we are worldly-minded and money-oriented, then the \$1000 offers would have great appeal! However, the truth is, if we are spiritually-minded and set on pleasing the Lord, then we ought to gladly do all that He commands us (Matt. 28:20) without needing someone to beg, bribe, or pamper us into doing it! Our soul and the soul of any lost person that we can help bring into fellowship with Christ is worth more than just \$1000. Just one soul is worth more than the whole world (Matt. 16:26).

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WAYS YOU CAN COMBAT IMPOSED DEATH

- ◆ Listen and read critically to see past the "mask of euthanasia." Become better informed so that you can better inform others. Reject the vocabulary of the euthanasia lobby.
- ◆ Become a voice for the vulnerable. Write letters to the editor. Watch out for pro-death efforts in your state. Encourage public officials and policy makers to protect those who are medically vulnerable.
- ◆ Reach out — a visit, phone call or cheerful note to someone who is elderly, disabled, lonely, chronically ill or dying means a lot!
- ◆ Choose a pro-life physician.
- ◆ Join or start a pro-life group which actively defends those who may be targeted for death.
- ◆ Think about it: suffering and adversity can strengthen us and our relationships with others and God. The Bible instructs us to be charitable to our neighbor and share one another's burdens, thereby doing the work of God. Offer prayers for others, especially for families and professional caregivers of the vulnerable who often feel overburdened and under-supported.

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Note: Write these people to learn more about fighting euthanasia.