

HOWE THINGS ARE...

Hello! How are you?

Usually, when I sit down to write a newsletter, I have approximately 20 things to say. My problem is deciding which of the 20 things is relatively interesting and also will fit on one page. This month, I've spent many minutes staring at a blinking cursor telling myself to "Write. Write anything".

It occurs to me that this is a reflection of the current state of my life.

I haven't moved or changed jobs or planned a trip overseas.

It also occurs to me that this description (no moving, changing jobs, going overseas) used to be something I would have been quite content with. When I moved into my current apartment, I was super tired of moving. I found this coffee table book for my apartment. The title is "Something Permanent." At the time, I saw the book and thought, "Yes, this is what I need: something, anything, permanent". Now, same state of affairs and I'm restless. I now hold this

belief that I shouldn't stay in one place for any significant period of time. It seems so much more fun to move somewhere new, start a new job. And my new philosophy about possessions: you should have as few as possible so as to be able to pick up and leave painlessly. I'm not sure if this desire to keep moving all the time is a sign of emotional unhealthiness. Mental health professionals could make some diagnostic type statements

Stuff you could pray about:

- Praise God for people He's put in my life who inspire me. They're little miniature George Muellers, some of these people. You really can't be around them long and NOT be excited about God's work in the world.
- Pray for my health --- ONLY including this because someone got all bent out of shape that I didn't mention it as a prayer request. When I was a child, I had a long illness and was the "sick one". Annoyed me then, planned to avoid any such labeling for the rest of my life. I have MINOR health issues; would like them not to become real and/or expensive issues.

about what this means. The point is that it's a completely different attitude than my old attitude. It's like I'm a different person and this too --- this being a different person than I was --- also doesn't bother me in the slightest.

When I first got to Dallas, my Dallas church was doing that Experiencing God

musical. There's a song in there, "I will never be the same again." It's a nice song and all, but I was sitting in this church thinking about how I lost stuff, myself included, when I made this move. I used to have an identity that related to work and church and all sorts of things that defined who I was before Wycliffe and all those things changed. [God didn't change I know, I'm not trying to make a big philosophical statement, I'm just saying stuff changed]. So I'm listening to people sing "I will never be the same again" and it's supposed to be a good thing and I'm just in tears because I was perfectly happy with who I was. I even told people (who, by the way, have not done this and you know who you are) that it was their job to make sure I didn't change weird. They were supposed to tell me if I started acting like something I wasn't. Not that I had any basis to make this determination, but I was a tad concerned that I might change into someone I didn't so much like. And now the idea that I make major changes into a whole different person: I'm fine with that. And say I accidentally changed weird, give me a couple months, I'll change again into someone different. Okay, how much fun is that: I'm a new person every quarter. (mental health professionals can feel free to weigh in, but I'm just saying...)

"God has not asked us to reach every nation, tribe, and tongue without intending it to be done"

-Ralph Winter



Home Office/ Financial Contributions:
*(Enclose a note stating:
For Sheryl Howe)*

How to contact me:
Sheryl Howe
6106 Webster Way #A
Waxhaw, NC 28173
704-243-0208
sahowe@wbt.org

Wycliffe Bible Translators
PO Box 628200
Orlando, FL 32862
1-800-WYCLIFFE
(800-992-5433)
www.wycliffe.org