

Google's Anniversary

Google, Inc., opened for business on September 7, 1998, in Menlo Park, California, with a staff of three working out of a friend's garage. Google.com was already receiving 10,000 search queries a day. The press began to publicize the new Web site, and in December, *PC Magazine* named Google one of the top 10 Web sites and search engines for 1998.

Google is a play on the word *googol*, which was popularized in the book, *Mathematics and the Imagination*, by Edward Kasner and James Newman. Kasner's nephew, Milton Sirota, coined the term *googol* to denote the number represented by the numeral one followed by 100 zeroes. Google uses the term to express its mission to organize selections of material from the seemingly infinite amount of information on the Web.

There are a great number of people in the world, but God far surpasses Google in keeping up with everything that goes on. He told Zechariah that the seven lamps in his vision represented "the eyes of the Lord that search all around the world" (Zechariah 4:10). God describes Himself as a shepherd searching for His scattered sheep (Ezekiel 34:11) and as the One Who searches all hearts (Jeremiah 17:10).

Many people go through their lives searching for something they cannot identify. Once we become children of God, we know we have found what we were looking for. But we search the Scriptures to learn more about Him, and we search for wisdom like hidden treasure (Proverbs 2:4). We look for ways to serve Him and for evidence of His hand in our lives. For those of us in Life Care, Century Park and Life Care at Home, every day brings opportunities to serve Him by serving His children.

In the meantime, God's eyes are searching the earth "in order to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to Him" (2 Chronicles 16:9).

And God's eyes are more powerful than a googol of search engines.

--Beecher Hunter