

Some Illumination, Please

A convention was called in 1787 in the fledgling United States of America to revise the Articles of Confederation. This was an agreement among the 13 founding states that legally established the United States as a confederation of sovereign states and served as its first constitution.

For weeks, delegates reviewed ancient history and analyzed governmental structures of Europe, searching for insights. But nothing suited the circumstances of this infant nation.

Finally, one of the distinguished delegates, Benjamin Franklin, addressed the gathering. Referring to their meager progress, Franklin said, "In the situation of this assembly, groping as it were in the dark to find political truth and scarcely able to distinguish the same when it is presented to us, how has it happened that we have not hitherto once thought of humbly applying to the Father of Lights to illuminate our understandings?"

Those early leaders were not all Christians, yet many of them believed in a sovereign God and sought His wisdom in the affairs of state.

Health care is a demanding profession. It is reliably reckoned that skilled nursing care, for example, is second only to the nuclear industry in regulation. Reimbursement issues abound. Plaintiffs' attorneys seem to like health care as a target.

In our personal lives, challenges of finance, relationships, rearing children, economic recession and a variety of other concerns may confront us.

Altogether, sometimes our pathway appears dark.

Franklin's advice is solid: Let us humbly apply to the Father of Lights to illuminate our understandings.

– Beecher Hunter