

Sign Post

**May – June,
2025**

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Sign Post is online at
www.iowaeastdeaf.org.
It is the newsletter for:

Word of God Lutheran
Church for the Deaf
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Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

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We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. Romans 6:4

Do you remember the traditional advice to a woman getting married? She is supposed to wear “something old, something new, something borrowed, something blue.” It’s fine if she wears something old, but some old things should not come into a marriage. We all know how much of a problem it is if someone hangs onto an old boyfriend or girlfriend when they get married. Hanging onto those old things will destroy the marriage.

God tells us the same kind of thing about our relationship with Him. Our old way is the way of sin. That sinful way leads to death and hell. The new way is life with God through Jesus. The new way with Jesus leads to eternal life in heaven. Can those two ways get along? No. Can we bring the old way of sin into our new life with Jesus? No! Hanging onto the old sinful ways will destroy your relationship with Jesus.

In Romans 6, Paul explains how we died and now have new life: Baptism. We often talk about how God baptizes you and gives you good blessings – life, forgiveness, salvation, the Holy Spirit, He adopts you as His child. But did you know that Baptism also takes away the old bad stuff? Romans 6:3-4 says that when we were baptized, we were baptized into Jesus’ death. That means the same as Jesus died, you died. Jesus died on the cross and you died there with Him (Rom. 6:6). Your old sinful self died. Gone. Finished. Baptism did that.

Now you are free to live with Christ. Jesus rose alive from the dead. The same, now you are alive with Jesus. You have a brand new life! Not full of sin. You are full of life with Jesus! Baptism did that, too.

If you are married, you know you can’t bring an old boyfriend or girlfriend into the marriage. Now our old sinful lives are finished and we have new life with Christ. Can we bring our old sinful ways into our life with Christ? No! Those old ways are dead and gone! Jesus killed those sins and sinful way of life on the cross. Don’t bring them back. Let them stay dead. Live the new way with Jesus.

Continued on p. 2

Jesus Gives Us New Life (continued from p. 1)

Sadly, as long as we live in this world, sin and temptation will continue to bother us. We will sometimes follow the temptation and sin. There are even times that we will want to hang onto our old sinful ways. We all have some weakness, some sin that is very hard for us to give up.

So what do we do? One way to deal with this is try harder. Push yourself to be more holy and more perfect. Punish yourself when you sin. Demand that you need to reject all sin and temptation and follow Jesus the best that you can. This is called “legalism.” This is not what God wants. He gives us the law to limit terrible sin in the world, and to show us that we are sinners, and to show us how He wants us to live as Christians. But God’s Law can’t give us life. And we can never do it perfectly. If we are focused on the law and trying to be perfect, we miss the point. We don’t understand what it means that Jesus is our Savior.

Another way we deal with our sin is to cover it up. We pay attention to the good things we do and how we have faith in Jesus. We feel ashamed of our sin (and we should!), so we try to hide it and ignore the fact that we sin. This is hypocrisy. We are sinners, but we try to act like everything is fine. We are good Christians and there is nothing wrong. But underneath, there is sin that bothers us and weakens our faith.

The best thing to do? Trust in Jesus and live in repentance every day. We can’t stop sinning in this world, but Jesus forgives. We shouldn’t hide our sin because if we confess our sin, He is faithful to forgive us and make us clean (1 John 1:8-9). Living in repentance every day means we continue to fight against temptation and sin, but recognizing we will not defeat them. Jesus defeated sin and death and the devil for us. We trust Him to make us clean so we can live as His people. Every day, remember that your old sinful life died with Jesus on the cross and that He raised you alive with Him. Today is a new day for you to live with Jesus as His child.

Pastor Eckert

May

9 Janet Weber
13 Norman Wilson
Curtis Sparks
24 Barbara Saeugling
26 Becky Eiben



June

8 Matthew Brown
8 Linda Jackson
12 Beverly Brown
13 Tom Eaton, Sr.
29 Jonah Legg
30 Robert Gruhn

Dive Into God's Word

On June 15, we will celebrate Trinity Sunday. On that Sunday, we remember that God is Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The Father is true God, the Son is true God, and the Holy Spirit is true God. But the Father, Son and Holy Spirit are not alone; the three are always together. This is what “Trinity” means, Father, Son and Holy Spirit in one God. The true Christian church has always taught and believed that. The Apostles’ Creed, Nicene Creed, and Athanasian Creed describe our faith in the Triune God.

There are some groups that call themselves Christian, but they don’t believe in the Trinity. Examples are the Jehovah’s Witnesses, Mormons, and Oneness Pentecostals. There has been more talk recently about the Jehovah’s Witnesses and some of their teachings, so we will look at this teaching about the Trinity and see what the Bible says about it, especially about who Jesus is. *Answers are on page 4.*

We all agree that God the Father is God. But what about Jesus? Jesus is named the Son of God, but does that make Him less than the Father, or is Jesus true God? Read these verses to see what they say about Jesus.

1. John 1:1-2. The Word (Jesus) was with _____ and was _____.
2. John 20:28. Thomas called Jesus “My _____ and my _____.”
3. Colossians 2:9. All of God (all the Deity) lives in _____.

What about the Holy Spirit? He is also true God! Read these verses.

3. 1 Corinthians 2:10-11. The Spirit of God knows _____ about God.
4. 1 Corinthians 3:16. You are the temple of _____ and the Holy Spirit lives in you.
5. Psalm 139:7-10. No matter where I go, the _____ of God is there.

What do these verses say about God?

6. Genesis 1:26. God said, “Let _____ make man in _____ image, in _____ likeness.”
7. Matthew 28:19-20. Jesus said to baptize all nations in the name of the _____ and of the _____ and of the _____.

A few more good verses. Read these verses to see who created everything.

8. Isaiah 44:24. The _____ formed you.
9. John 1:3, Colossians 1:16-17. _____ created all things in heaven and on earth.
10. Job 33:4. God’s _____ made me.

Who is our Savior?

11. Isaiah 43:10-11. God is the only _____. There is no other _____.
12. 2 Timothy 1:10, Titus 2:13, 2 Peter 1:1. Jesus Christ is our _____ and _____.

Answers to Dive Into God's Word, p. 3.

Who is Jesus? These verses all show that Jesus is God. He was in the beginning with God the Father. The Bible calls Jesus God. When Thomas saw Jesus, he said Jesus was his Lord and his God. Jesus didn't correct him and say he was wrong. Jesus accepted that because it was true. Jesus is named Immanuel, "God with us," (Isaiah 7:14) because God truly lives in Jesus.

1. John 1:1-2. The Word (Jesus) was with God and was God.
2. John 20:28. Thomas called Jesus, "My Lord and my God."
3. Colossians 2:9. All of God (all the Deity) lives in Christ.

The Holy Spirit is also true God! The Holy Spirit (God) lives in us. He knows everything about God. He is every place at the same time. These are things that only describe God. The Holy Spirit is God.

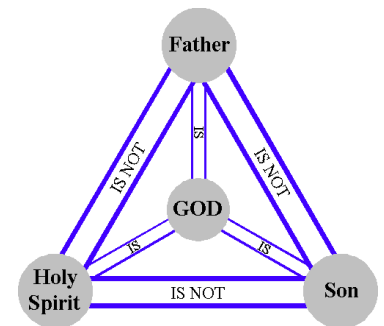
3. 1 Corinthians 2:10-11. The Spirit of God knows everything about God.
4. 1 Corinthians 3:16. You are the temple of God and the Holy Spirit lives in you.
5. Psalm 139:7-10. No matter where I go, the Spirit of God is there.

The Bible says clearly that there is only one God. So then why did God say, "Let us make man in our image?" Why not say, "I will make man in My image?" God said "us" and "our" because He is the Trinity – Father, Son and Holy Spirit. That is also why Jesus said to baptize in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. And at the same time, He is not three Gods; He is one God.

6. Genesis 1:26. God said, "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness."
7. Matthew 28:19-20. Jesus said to baptize all nations in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

A few more good verses. These verses show the Father, Son and Holy Spirit all do the work of creating.

8. Isaiah 44:24. The Lord formed you.
9. John 1:3, Colossians 1:16-17. Jesus created all things in heaven and earth.
10. Job 33:4. God's Spirit made me.



Who is our Savior? Isaiah 43 says God is the only Lord and Savior. The other verses all say Jesus is our God and Savior. That is not a contradiction. It is true because Jesus is God.

11. Isaiah 43:10-11. God is the only Lord. There is no other Savior.
12. 2 Timothy 1:10, Titus 2:13, 2 Peter 1:1. Jesus Christ is our God and Savior.

Prayers

Please remember these in your prayers:

- ✦ Thank God for the new life God gives us in Jesus! Ask Him to help us live every day in repentance and faith in Jesus.
- ✦ Pray for our leaders, that they will do good for our country and follow God's ways.
- ✦ Ask God to bless people with health: Susan Green, Barbara Zimmerman, Norma Jean Mangrich, Kent Kischer, Jay Oelberg, Lisa Oelberg, Janet Weber, James Weber, Curtis Bethurum, Kathy Anderson, JoAnn Mitchell, Chris Wrage, Ricky Moore, Paula Slavin, Nancy Griffin, and many family members and friends.
- ✦ Pray for men studying to become pastors and women studying to become deaconesses for the deaf. Ask God to bless Dan Wallis and Vince Mroz as they finish their studies soon and begin serving as pastors.
- ✦ All shut-ins to keep strong faith in Christ Jesus.

May 2025

				1	2	3 10:00 QC – Worship
4 * See below for worship and Bible study times.	5	6	7 7:00 WL – Worship	8	9	10 10:00 QC – Worship 1:00 DU – Bible Study
11 * See below for worship and Bible study times. Mother's Day	12	13	14 6:00 CR – Bible Study (library)	15	16	17 10:00 QC – Worship
18 * See below for worship and Bible study times.	19	20	21 7:00 WL – Study	22	23	24 10:00 QC – Worship
25 * See below for worship and Bible study times.	26	27	28	29	30	31 10:00 QC – Worship
BR – Burlington. Concordia Lutheran Church, 2901 Cliff Rd., Burlington. 4 th Sunday worship at 3:00 p.m. CR – Cedar Rapids. Word of God Lutheran Church Deaf, 1515 - 29 th St. NE, Cedar Rapids. Every Sunday, Bible Study at 10:00 a.m., Worship at 11:00 a.m. QC – Quad Cities. Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 1705 E. Locust St., Davenport. Every Saturday, Worship at 10:00 a.m. WL – Waterloo/Cedar Falls. Immanuel Lutheran Church, 4820 Oster Parkway, Cedar Falls. 1 st Wednesday worship at 7:00 p.m., 3 rd Wednesday study at 7:00 p.m. DU – Dubuque. Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 2145 John F. Kennedy Rd., Dubuque. 2 nd Saturday Study at 1:00 p.m.						

June 2025

1 * See below for worship and Bible study times.	2	3	4 7:00 WL – Worship	5	6	7 10:00 QC – Worship
8 * See below for worship and Bible study times.	9	10	11 6:00 CR – Bible Study (library)	12	13	14 10:00 QC – Worship 1:00 DU – Bible Study
15 * See below for worship and Bible study times. Father's Day	16	17	18 7:00 WL – Study	19	20	21 10:00 QC – Worship
22 * See below for worship and Bible study times.	23	24	25	26	27	28 10:00 QC – Worship
29 * See below for worship and Bible study times.	30					
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Parents

Created on <https://armoredpenguin.com/wordsearch/>

Soon we will be celebrating Mother's Day and Father's Day. Our parents are gifts from God to love us, protect us, and teach us. It is especially important for them to raise us in the Christian faith. If we become parents, then it is our duty to do those things for our children. The words for the puzzle are from several different Bible passages. Find the underlined words.

N H E S H H L L Y I Y R O Y D
P S H L C H I L D R E N E L I
R E N D T V T I O N M R P S D
A O O S E C I N I N A N R R A
E C P N S S M L O O G M O I E
T O W A O M P E S A H L M L L
O H C I M I O I T N C N I O P
N O I T C U R T S N I S S F C
S H M S W A T C H E T I E R E
E A I I H R A O B E Y M L R A
A D S R E B N C N A R E A L R
E N A H A O T A L K O R C U H
R O T C R I R E G H G I A K I
H A A A T H I O N R T R N N B
F O T M E E T E T L A I S A S

Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live for a long time in the land the Lord your God is giving you. Exodus 20:12

My son, obey the command of your father, and do not disregard the teachings of your mother. Fasten them on your heart forever. Hang them around your neck. When you walk around, they will lead you. When you lie down, they will watch over you. When you wake up, they will talk to you. Proverbs 6:20-22

Listen to your father since you are his son, and do not despise your mother because she is old. Proverbs 23:22

Children, obey your parents because you are Christians. This is the right thing to do. "Honor your father and mother that everything may go well for you, and you may have a long life on earth." This is an important commandment with a promise. Fathers, don't make your children bitter about life. Instead, bring them up in Christian discipline and instruction. Ephesians 6:1-4

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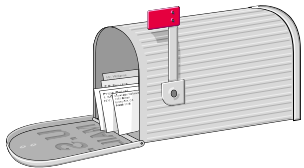


10-14-2013

ONCE YOU GET YOUR PERMIT, LEARN TO
RIDE, AND PROVE YOURSELF RESPONSIBLE
WE CAN DISCUSS MOVING UP TO A CAMEL
... HAPPY SIXTEENTH, BUD

Word of God Lutheran Church
for the Deaf
1515 29th St. NE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

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Postal Carrier: Have a great day!

