

Sign Post

**September –
October, 2022**

In This Issue...

- 1 – Pastor’s Article
- 2 – Bible Study
- 3 – Prayers
Birthdays
- 4 – Bible Study answers
- 5 – September Calendar
- 6 – October Calendar
- 7 – Word Search

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

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

Rev. Tim Eckert
DeafLutheran@q.com
Home: 563-424-7141 VP
or 563-359-7105 V/TTY

“Love each other as I have loved you. This is what I’m commanding you to do. The greatest love you can show is to give your life for your friends.” John 15:12-13

Sacrifice. We see the word in the Bible and in church, and we see non-Christians use that word. “Sacrifice” says a lot about Jesus and what He did to save us, and it means a lot for how we live as Christians. But what does “sacrifice” really mean?

Some people today might think of not buying things and think that is a sacrifice. The prices of so many things keep going up - houses, apartment rent, cars, groceries, clothes. My family went to Higher Things (a church youth conference) in July. Eating out and hotels were at least 20% more expensive than last year. Everything is more expensive, but I don’t have more money, so I can’t buy as much. Some people will say that means I have to sacrifice, because I can’t buy everything I want.

Sorry, that is not a sacrifice. Not getting what you want, that is not a sacrifice. What about not getting what you need? What if I can’t buy food or clothes? That is hardship, and that is sad, but that is also not a true sacrifice.

What is a sacrifice? It means you give up something to help another person. A parent doesn’t have enough money for food, but they buy what they can to feed their children while the parent goes hungry. The parent gives up food so they can feed their children. Heroes might sacrifice their lives to save another person. With the shootings in the news, there have been some stories of people who attacked the gunman and died, but they were able to stop the shooter. They gave up their lives to save other people’s lives.

In John 15:13, Jesus said the greatest love a person can show is to give up his life for his friends. Jesus did that for us. He sacrificed His life, dying on the cross, so He could save us and give us life. Hebrews 12:2 says that was joy for Jesus, not joy in dying, but joy in saving us. His love for us was that great.

Now we have the opportunity to show how much we love each other when we sacrifice for each other. That is what Jesus told us to do in John 15:12 – “Love each other as I have loved you.” The things we want to keep, such as our time, money, food, clothes, everything we have, we will sacrifice those things for each other because we love each other.

It is a great honor that Jesus saved us and gives us His love so that we can love each other. Remember that love doesn’t think about what is best for me. Love does what is best for another person, even if that requires sacrifice.

Pastor Eckert

Dive Into God's Word

The Table of Duties

What the Bible says to Workers of All Kinds and to Employers and Supervisors

Martin Luther's Small Catechism has a section named the "Table of Duties." The Table of Duties reminds us what our responsibilities are and how we live as Christians in the roles that God puts us in. God gives us different relationships with many different responsibilities in family, church and society. Some of those responsibilities in society are at work. God tells us how to work and respect people in authority, and He tells people in authority how to take care of their workers. In this study, we see what God says about those things. *Answers are on p. 4*

To Workers of All Kinds

Martin Luther only chose one passage about workers – Ephesians 6:5-8. (The fill-in-the-blank parts use the *God's Word to the Nations* translation.)

1. In the ancient world, slavery was very common. Paul is writing this part to slaves, but it also applies to us today, to workers and employers. Paul first says (verse 5): _____ your earthly masters with proper _____.
2. Which is better: obey your boss and don't respect him or her, or obey and respect? Why? (Hint – Matthew 22:39)
3. Next (verse 5), Paul wrote: Be as sincere as you are when you obey _____. When we follow and obey Jesus, we should be serious about obeying, right? We should be just as careful to obey our boss at work.
4. Verse 6. Don't obey them only while you're being _____, as if you merely wanted to _____.
5. Be honest – do you take it easy when the boss isn't around, but then you work harder when someone is watching you? Is that right?
6. Verse 7. Serve eagerly as if you were serving your _____ and not merely serving _____.
7. Sinful people are naturally selfish. We will serve if it is good for me. We will work if we get paid enough. We will help if someone thanks us enough. If it's not good for me, then I won't do it. That is what our sinful desires are like. How did Jesus do differently? Read Matthew 20:25-28, especially verse 28.
8. God forgives us for our selfishness and He gives us a new heart. How do we work and serve now as His people? (See Galatians 5:13-14, Philippians 2:3-5, also Phil. 2:6-11.)

To Employers and Supervisors

Martin Luther only chose one verse about employers and supervisors – Ephesians 6:9.

1. A slave owner had complete authority over a slave. A slave had no rights. But what did God say about how a Christian should treat slaves? How was that different from how other people treated slaves?
2. A boss has authority over the workers. According to Eph. 6:9, who has authority over the boss?
3. Since God is in authority over the boss, how does that change how the boss leads the workers? (Again, think of Matthew 22:38-39)

Prayers

Please remember these people in your prayers:

- ✦ Pray for the whole Christian church to remember how to love each other. Christians in America are often self-centered. Ask God to remind us how Jesus saved us and how He loves us, so that we will learn to truly love each other, even to love sacrificially.
- ✦ Continue to pray for God to end abortion, and especially that He will change people's hearts to respect life. Many people still want abortion to be legal. Pray that God will protect unborn babies and their mothers, and that God's people will stand up for life and not be afraid.
- ✦ Carolyn Fuller passed away June 30 and Patty Rowray passed away July 8. We thank God for the life He gives them in Jesus and for His promise they will rise alive again. Pray that God gives their families peace in Jesus and His promises.
- ✦ Pray for the countries of Ukraine, Russia, and all other places in the world where there is fighting or the threat of war. Ask God to give people peace.
- ✦ Pray for our divided nation and our leaders. As we get closer to the election in November, pray that people will not listen to selfish political arguments, but will vote for people who will do what is honest and right and agrees with what God says.
- ✦ Ask God to bless people with trust and health: Mollie Schmitz, Doris Harris, Shirley Green, Susan Green, Barbara Zimmerman, Norma Jean Mangrich, James Weber, Jerry Hanson, Curtis Bethurum, Kathy Anderson, Gerald Mitchell, Chris Wrage, Ricky Moore, Sharon Pope, Paula Slavin, Jeanette Kern, Terry Ann Check, and many family members and friends.
- ✦ Pray for people who are studying to serve God and His church: Vince Mroz, Dan Wallis, and Pastor Luvisha in Kenya (as pastors), and Becky Jungklaus, Nola Gray, and Peggy Gott (as deaconesses).
- ✦ Pray for our sister church in Kenya and for all people in Kenya, Ethiopia, and Somalia as they struggle with drought and the rising cost of food. In some places it has not rained at all for more than 2 years. All over, the cost of food as doubled or tripled this year.
- ✦ All shut-ins to keep strong faith in Christ Jesus.



September

- 1 Lynn Eiben
- 5 Carissa Huffman
- 13 Jim Biwer
- 15 Karlene Kischer-Browne
- 26 Kent Kischer
- 27 Mollie Schmitz
- 28 Jay Oelberg



October

- 9 Sharon Pope
- 12 James Weber
- 17 Kris Baltzer
- 29 April Powell

Answers to Dive Into God's Word, p. 2.

To Workers of All Kinds

1. Paul first says (verse 5): Obey your earthly masters with proper respect.
2. It is better to obey and respect your boss. Some unbelievers will think it is okay to obey but not respect their boss. Many people will say they should respect their boss, but only because everything goes better if you respect people. That may be true, but God gives you a better reason to respect your boss (and other people, too). Matthew 22:39 tells us to love our neighbor the same as we love ourselves. We respect people because we love them as Christians. We can love them because God first loved us.
3. Next (verse 5), Paul wrote: Be as sincere as you are when you obey Christ. If we obey Christ, then we should also obey our boss. We should not think we can obey Christ but not obey our boss.
4. Verse 6. Don't obey them only while you're being watched, as if you merely wanted to please people.
5. It is easier to work hard when people are watching you. It is more difficult to work hard when people are not watching you. As sinful people, we want to please people so they will think good things about us. God wants us to do the right thing all the time, no matter if people are watching us or not.
6. Verse 7. Serve eagerly as if you were serving your heavenly master and not merely serving human masters.
7. "I want you to serve me." That is our natural way of thinking. But Jesus didn't think that way. He said He didn't come for people to serve Him. He came to serve all people. He served us by dying on the cross to save us. That is not selfish!
8. God forgives us and makes us free from selfishness. Now we love and serve each other. Love means we are humble and serve. We want to do what is good for other people. We trust God to take care of us, so we don't need to fight to make ourselves first. Love puts other people first and serves them. Even at work!

To Employers and Supervisors

1. A Christian master should respect his slaves. No one in the ancient world would think that way. God tells His people to love each other serve each other. In this verse, God was telling the Christian master to also love and serve the slave. In Philemon 16, Paul told Philemon to welcome back a runaway slave as a brother in Christ. No unbeliever would think that way. NOTE: this doesn't mean slavery is okay. Slavery was a big part of the world in the time of the Bible. Many slave and slave-owners became Christians. Becoming Christian changed what they thought about slavery. In 1 Cor. 7:21, Paul encouraged Christian slaves to get their freedom if they could. Eventually, Christians influenced society to end slavery.
2. God has authority over the boss and the workers.
3. If a boss respects God's authority, then he will want to do what God says is right. The boss won't say that he is the only boss and he can do anything he wants. Also, a Christian boss knows that God tells us to love God and love each other. In everything the boss does, then, he will remember to love the workers.

September 2022

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

BR – Burlington. Concordia Lutheran Church, 2901 Cliff Rd., Burlington. 4th Sunday worship at 3:00 p.m.

CR – Cedar Rapids. Word of God Lutheran Church Deaf, 1515 - 29th 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., Study at 11:15 a.m.

WL – Waterloo/Cedar Falls. Immanuel Lutheran Church, 4820 Oster Parkway, Cedar Falls. 1st Wednesday worship at 7:00 p.m., 3rd Wednesday study at 7:00 p.m.

DU – Dubuque. Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 2145 John F. Kennedy Rd., Dubuque. 2nd Saturday Study at 1:00 p.m.

October 2022

2	3	4 7:30 QC – Sign Class	5 7:00 WL – Worship	6	7	1/8 10:00 QC – Worship/Study 1:00 DU – Bible Study
9 * See below for worship and Bible study times.	10	11 7:30 QC – Sign Class	12	13	14	15 10:00 QC – Worship
16 * See below for worship and Bible study times.	17	18 7:30 QC – Sign Class	19 7:00 WL – Study	20	21	22 10:00 QC – Worship/Study
23 * See below for worship and Bible study times.	24	25 7:30 QC – Sign Class	26	27	28	29 10:00 QC – Worship/Study
30 * See below for worship and Bible study times.	31 Reformation Day					

BR – Burlington. Concordia Lutheran Church, 2901 Cliff Rd., Burlington. 4th Sunday worship at 3:00 p.m.
 CR – Cedar Rapids. Word of God Lutheran Church Deaf, 1515 - 29th 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., Study at 11:15 a.m.
 WL – Waterloo/Cedar Falls. Immanuel Lutheran Church, 4820 Oster Parkway, Cedar Falls. 1st Wednesday worship at 7:00 p.m., 3rd Wednesday study at 7:00 p.m.
 DU – Dubuque. Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 2145 John F. Kennedy Rd., Dubuque. 2nd Saturday Study at 1:00 p.m.

Work

From www.armoredpenguin.com/wordsearch

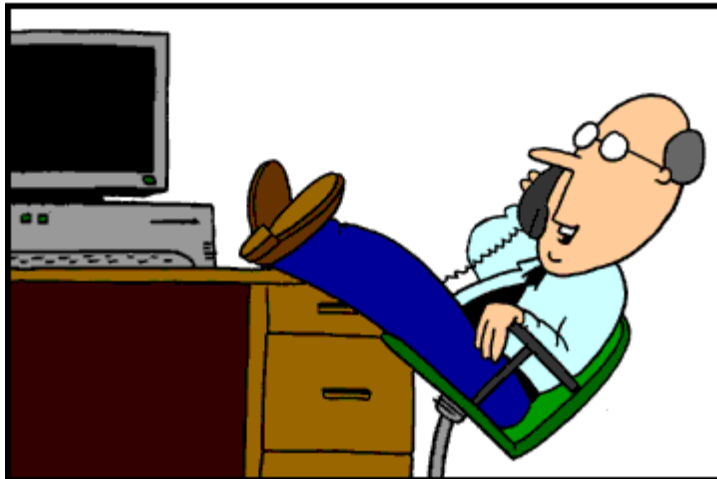
Work is important for Christians. Our good works don't save us, but that doesn't mean we don't work! God created Adam and gave him to job of taking care of the Garden of Eden. God gives us all different kinds of work today. 2 Thessalonians 3:6-12 talks about being faithful in working. Sometimes people make excuses and say they shouldn't work, or don't need to work. That is not good. If you can work, you should work. God wants us to work to take care of ourselves and to help other people. This is part of how we love each other as Christians. The words in this puzzle are from 2 Thess. 3:6-12.

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

Brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ we order you not to associate with any believer who doesn't live a disciplined life and doesn't follow the tradition you received from us. You know what you must do to imitate us. We lived a disciplined life among you. We didn't eat anyone's food without paying for it. Instead, we worked hard and struggled night and day in order not to be a burden to any of you. It's not as though we didn't have a right to receive support. Rather, we wanted to set an example for you to follow. While we were with you, we gave you the order: "Whoever doesn't want to work shouldn't be allowed to eat."

We hear that some of you are not living disciplined lives. You're not working, so you go around interfering in other people's lives. We order and encourage such people by the Lord Jesus Christ to pay attention to their own work so they can support themselves.

REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT BIBLE GATEWAY



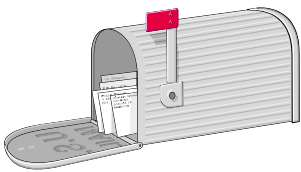
Thanks to Benoit Paquette

04-08-1998

I HAVEN'T EVEN TURNED MY COMPUTER ON
SINCE OUR NEW CHRISTIAN BOSS TOLD US
THAT WE WILL BE JUDGED BY OUR FAITH
AND NOT BY OUR WORKS

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Postal Carrier: Have a great day!

