

Sign Post

**September –
October, 2024**

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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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God said, “Let the seas be filled with living things. Let birds fly above the earth across the huge space of the sky.” So God created the great sea creatures. He created every kind of living thing that fills the seas and moves about in them. He created every kind of bird that flies. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them. He said, “Have little ones so that there will be many of you. Fill the water in the seas. Let there be more and more birds on the earth.” There was evening, and there was morning. It was day five. Genesis 1:20-23

This is day five, approaching the end of the week of creation! On this day, God created the animals that live in the sky and in the sea. He made everything that flies – birds, possibly also flying insects and bats. God also created everything that lives in the water on this day.

It is interesting to think about the different places God made things. God made the sky (space), and He put the sun, moon and stars there. He made the dry land and put plants there. He made the sky and the oceans and other water and put birds and fish with other water animals in those places. Then on the sixth day, we will see God create all the land animals and people.

What is special about the animals that live in the air and sea? One thing that we notice is that birds and water animals are more difficult for us to learn about and control. We will see on day six that God gave people responsibility to rule over all the earth. It is easier for us to rule over all things on land. We live on the land. But have you tried flying after a bird or swimming down hundreds or thousands of feet with a whale?

Take a moment and read all of Job chapter 41. Job had been talking like he knew much and could prove to God he was right. Job talked like God had to listen to him and do what he wanted. God wanted to humble Job and remind him that God knows everything and Job did not. In Job 41, God talked about Leviathan, the name of a powerful animal that lived in the water. Some people say Leviathan is a crocodile, but God’s description is more like a dinosaur that lived in the water. God makes the point that people cannot control Leviathan. There are things in this world that are more powerful than us and beyond our ability to understand or control.

Continued on p. 2

Day 5 – Animals in the Sky and Sea (continued from p. 1)

But these creatures, the birds in the sky and the fish in the sea, they know who their Master is. They know who they should trust.

Look at what Psalm 104:24-28 says.

Lord, you have made so many things! How wise you were when you made all of them! The earth is full of your creatures.

Look at the ocean, so big and wide! It is filled with more creatures than people can count. It is filled with living things, from the largest to the smallest.

Ships sail back and forth on it. Leviathan, the sea monster you made, plays in it.

All creatures depend on you to give them their food when they need it.

When you give it to them, they eat it.

When you open your hand, they are satisfied with good things.

Jesus reminded us of this same thing. In Matthew 6:25-26, Jesus taught that we should not worry about things we need in life. He said that your heavenly Father feeds the birds. Certainly God will take care of us! We don't need to worry.

So when you see birds flying or visit the ocean and you think about how great and amazing God's creation is, remember these two things. First, that God is the one who created all things and all of creation depends on Him for life and all that they need. Second, remember that this means that God also takes care of you! You don't need to worry about the things of this world. You have a loving heavenly Father who will provide everything you need in this life.

Pastor Eckert

Prayers

Please remember these in your prayers:

- ✦ Thank God that He takes care of us, that we can trust Him and not worry about our needs.
- ✦ Pray for God's church to be faithful and strong. Not to listen to unbelievers who want us to follow the world. Only to listen to Christ and follow and serve Him.
- ✦ Ask God to give us good and wise leaders for our country who will work agreeing with God's ways.
- ✦ Give peace to those places that are experiencing war. Ask God to protect innocent people and especially to lead them to see that He is our hope and salvation from this world of sin and death.
- ✦ Ask God to bless people with health: Shirley Green, Susan Green, Barbara Zimmerman, Norma Jean Mangrich, Kent Kischer, Lisa Oelberg, Janet Weber, James Weber, Curtis Bethurum, Kathy Anderson, Gerald Mitchell, Joanne Mitchell, Arlene Ritze, Ricky Moore, Paula Slavin, Nancy Griffin, and many family members and friends.
- ✦ Pray for the families of Paula Peak and Dorris Harris. Paula passed away in June and Dorris in July. Ask God to give the families hope in Jesus as our resurrection and eternal life.
- ✦ Pray for people who are suffering from the weather – hurricanes, flooding, and fires. Ask God to protect people and for His church to reach out in love to help people in need.
- ✦ All shut-ins to keep strong faith in Christ Jesus.

Dive Into God's Word

Who do you listen to?

That is an important question. You might know the saying, “You are what you eat.” If you eat junk food all the time, that will hurt your health. If you always eat healthy food, that helps you be more healthy. The same is true for our souls. If we feed our souls worldly ideas and bad theology, our faith will be weak and dying. If we feed our souls God’s Word, we will have a stronger and more confident faith and life in Jesus.

God gives promises about His Word

Read 2 Timothy 3:14-17.

1. Paul tells Timothy to continue in what he has _____. Why is that important? (vs. 14)
2. Also in verse 14 – Timothy’s mother, grandmother, and other Christians taught him the Christian faith while he was growing up. Why is it important to know your teachers? (Hint – See Matthew 7:15-20)
3. What did Timothy learn and know ever since he was little? (vs. 15)
4. What does God promise His word can do for Timothy and for us? (vs. 15)
5. Paul says Scripture is God’s word and is good for four things. What are those four things? (vs. 16)
6. What is the result of knowing God’s word, and His word teaching and training you? (vs. 17)

Attend to true or false words?

Read 2 Timothy 4:3-4.

1. Paul said people will not accept sound teaching (right, true teaching). What kinds of teachers and teachings will they accept? (vs. 3)
2. Can you believe God’s truth in the Bible and also believe other stories at the same time? (vs. 4)

Read 1 Corinthians 1:20-2:5.

1. The world boasts about its wisdom. Watch the news. Watch your favorite vlogs on YouTube, Facebook or Deafvideo.TV. So many people saying “what they know.” So many opinions! So much worldly wisdom! What does God say about all of that? (1:20)
2. What was the message that Paul preached? (1:23-24, 2:2)
3. What does your faith depend on – human wisdom and knowledge, or God’s word and power? (2:5)

The result of listening to God’s Word

Read Matthew 7:24-27.

1. What happens to people who listen to and believe and live in Jesus’ word? (vs. 24-25)
2. What happens to people who do NOT listen to and believe and live in Jesus’ word? (vs. 26-27)

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

Read 2 Timothy 3:14-17.

1. Paul tells Timothy to continue in what he has learned. God doesn't want us to leave the truth! When we learn His word, we should stay with that and not think some other ideas are better.
2. There are many false teachers. Jesus said you will recognize them because of their fruits. That means their lives, their words, their actions, will show they are not true Christians. There are many, many "teachers" and "preachers" on the Internet. Many times, you don't know them, you don't know what church they are with or what their church teaches. It is best to avoid them because you don't know if they speak the truth or not. Ask your pastor for help if you have questions about them.
3. He learned Scripture (the Bible). He learned what God's Word says.
4. His Word makes us wise for salvation because His Word shows us Jesus our Savior.
5. The Bible (Scripture) is good for many things, most importantly giving us salvation in Jesus (vs. 15). As we live as Christians, the Bible is good for (1) teaching, (2) reproof, which means showing our sin, showing where we are wrong, (3) correction, which means God makes us right again, He forgives us and makes us His holy people, and (4) training in righteousness, so our daily life follows Him.
6. We will be mature Christians and ready to serve God in every good way.

Read 2 Timothy 4:3-4.

1. People will listen to teachers who say what they want to hear. People will follow teachers who will make them feel good.
2. No! If you follow myths (false stories), that means you are leaving the truth. Either we attend to God and His word, or we follow false teachings. We can't do both. (We don't want to do both! We don't want to follow a lie.)

Read 1 Corinthians 1:20-2:5.

1. Unbelievers in the world boast about their wisdom and knowledge. But God says all of that wisdom is foolish.
2. Paul preached about Jesus crucified on the cross for us. That is the only message that saves us.
3. Our faith depends on God's word and power. Faith and salvation don't depend on human knowledge or wisdom.

Read Matthew 7:24-27.

1. Jesus said when you listen to His word, you trust Him and you follow Him, your life is solid and strong. When a house is built on a strong rock foundation, a storm can hit that house and the house will not fall. The same, Jesus is our strong foundation. Troubles can hit us and our life will remain strong in Jesus.
2. When you don't listen to Jesus' word, then your life falls apart, the same as a house built on sand. When troubles come, you have no strong foundation. You have no eternal life.

September

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



October

- 12 James Weber
- 17 Kris Baltzer
- 29 April Powell

September 2024

1	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	12	13	14 10:00 QC – Worship 1:00 DU – Bible Study
15 * See below for worship and Bible study times.	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					

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.
 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 2024

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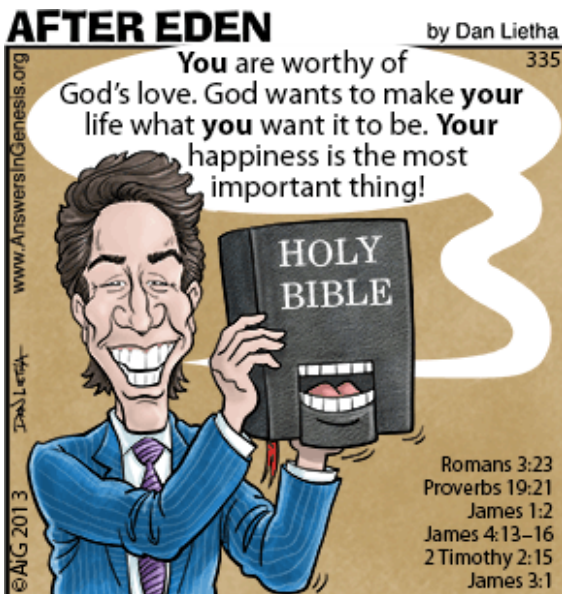
The Word of God

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

Every October 31 is Reformation Day. One of the things we remember on Reformation Day is God's Word, that only His Word shows us the way to eternal life. Only God's Word shows us our sin and also shows us our Savior, Jesus. Psalm 119 is a special psalm about the Word of God. There are multiple words in that psalm for God's Word. Some of them are translated as "Law." The full idea is not just Law, but all of God's Word and teachings. His whole Word gives us life. The words for the puzzle are from Psalm 119:89-96. Find the underlined words.

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

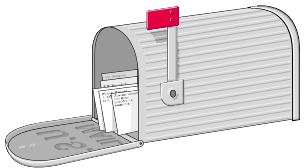
O Lord, your word is established in heaven forever.
 Your faithfulness endures throughout every generation.
 You set the earth in place, and it continues to stand.
 All things continue to stand today because of Your regulations,
 since they are all Your servants.
 If your teachings had not made me happy, then I would have died in my misery.
 I will never forget Your guiding principles, because You gave me a new life through them.
 I am Yours.
 Save me, because I have searched for Your guiding principles.
 The wicked people have waited for me in order to destroy me, yet I want to understand Your written instructions.
 I have seen a limit to everything else, but Your commandments have no limit.



Ministers should be saying what God says, not the other way around.

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