

Stewardship - Getting It Right!

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As the Lord led Paul to write his third letter to the Corinthians, there were a number of significant issues that needed to be addressed. One was the dramatic turn-around in the congregation. They had taken Paul's exhortations to heart. Changes were made. God's Word was being put into practice. Because the Corinthians had resolved many of the problems, it was now time for Paul to address their response to the Lord.

It is only by the Spirit's direction and intervention that Paul had the opportunity to make this remarkable transition. He rejoiced in their changes. He praised them for their faithfulness. He commended them to remain on their current course. That course included a matter of unfinished business.

It appears from Paul's letter, the Corinthians had embarked upon an offering to help the Christians in Judea and Jerusalem. They were enduring incredible hardships, so the Corinthians set in motion a plan to gather money to help their fellow-believers. That offering, unfortunately, came to a grinding halt because of their own problems. Now that the Corinthians had taken care of their urgent needs, it was time to "bring the offering to completion and send it to the saints."

Since the offering had been neglected for a while, Paul used this opportunity to not only encourage its completion, but also to reinforce what godly stewardship is all about. He illuminates six ways where God's grace is manifested in giving. What is even more amazing, is he never says a word about "how much." These six ways are a good lesson for us, as well as good starting point as we consider all the instruction from chapters 8 and 9.

The six ways speak directly to the attitude we are to have. Without that, even if we gave a million dollars, it would not be acceptable to the Lord. We need to get it right.

In 2 Corinthians 8:2-5, we have the six ways God's grace is manifested in giving:

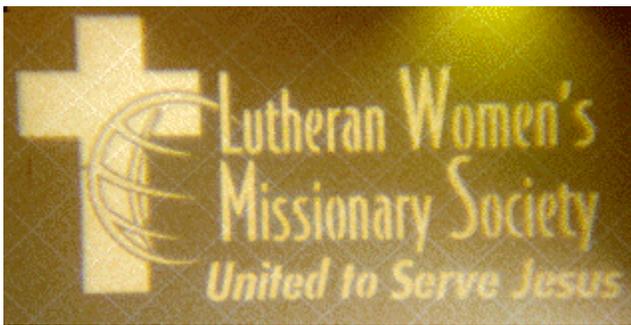
1. They gave single-mindedly (attitude of the heart)
2. They gave beyond what people thought they were able to give
3. They gave on their own accord (entirely on their own)
4. They begged to take part in the offering
5. They gave in response to a need (service to the saints in Judea)
6. They gave themselves, first, to the Lord

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46th Annual LWMS Convention

By Carl Schueler

The 46th annual WELS Lutheran Women's Missionary Society (LWMS) Convention was held June 26th-29th at the JW Marriott resort in Tucson, Arizona. 913 WELS Congregations were represented with 1052 registered attendees from 57 WELS circuits around the nation, including ORLC (Wilma H., Carl & Pam S., and Sonja T.), Star of Bethlehem and Prince of Peace. This was Pam's second, but my first LWMS Convention, and I was impressed!



The LWMS was initiated nearly 50 years ago when the WELS was just over a hundred years old, and is organized by ladies who are WELS laypersons. LWMS draws no financial support from the Synod. Yet, the LWMS rented the convention facilities of a 700 room resort, including two 5000 square-foot ballrooms, with first-rate audio-video. Several smaller rooms were rented to display numerous dioramas depicting the work of many aspects of our WELS ministry which are supported by the LWMS, including prison, military and urban outreach, native American ministry, and Mexican, African, and Asian ministries, to name a few.

Additionally, LWMS printed over one-thousand slick worship folders covering opening and closing services and several morning and evening devotions. Indeed, \$28,000 was collected during the convention worship services, and \$71,000 was collected to support LWMS mission work. And continuously, LWMS maintains a website with regularly updated information on the convention.

Seven meals for the convention (Friday breakfast to Sunday breakfast) were available for \$140 per person. One had the pleasure of dining in the convivial company of many WELS members - old friends and many new acquaintances. Pam and I found the meal plan a definite plus - the meals were not only good, they were served in first-class restaurant style.

As Pastor Philip Koelpin noted during the opening proceedings, and WELS President Mark Schroeder seconded during his presentation, the LWMS conventions and even the committee planning meetings leading to the conventions, are unique in the positive level of commitment, enthusiasm, and good humor that Pam and I experienced first-hand. That the LWMS would be singled out as an example of Christian joy compared to professional meetings of Pastors and other WELS leaders at their meetings was interesting news at the meeting.

Indeed, the convention was replete with opportunities not only to meet WELS folks from around the country and the world, but also to build faith and Biblical knowledge through various entertaining skits, workshops, and musical presentations.

Four workshops were available, each repeated twice so that one could attend any two. Pam and I chose to attend Pastor Tomhave's (Verona WI) "Life in the Desert" presentation of life without Christ vs. life in Christ, and Pastor Sonntag's (Sacramento CA) "one man show" featuring St. Peter recounting his walk with Jesus and the other disciples. Both were captivating, informative, and thoroughly scriptural.

"Life in the Desert" was a well-researched lesson in how a cactus is seeded, nurtured, and slowly grows in a desolate, dry desert climate, reaching a height of perhaps 15 feet and more than one-hundred years of age before withering to a crusty skeleton. The metaphor was striking: we are each like a cactus in the desert, given water where it is scarce, a life that seems long, yet death eventually certain.



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LWMS—Continued

But, unlike the cactus, we have the blessing of salvation in Christ, and the promise of everlasting life in Heaven. The warning to keep our focus on Christ, not on earthly blessings, was made especially stark by the luxurious resort in which we sat, a new plush oasis in what was only three years ago a real desert where cacti stood all around, nearly as dense as pine trees in the Sierras, in 100 degree heat. Recognizing that this resort, like us, will stand for a while, yet decay and disappear, brought home the “transient” nature of physical life, and the critical task we have to bring the Gospel to the lost.

Pastor Sonntag’s dramatization “Peter Tells the Glory of His Kingdom” featured St. Peter in a plain cloak carrying a wood staff—a simple fisherman. Pastor is a good actor who brought Peter to life with just a robe and walking stick, humor and Peter’s story. I was impressed by the excellent flow of narration relating the gist of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John from Peter’s perspective. Leading to Peter’s denial of Christ, thence to our Savior’s ascension and Peter’s resurrection as a devoted apostle, Pastor kept an audience of more than 50 amused and reacquainted with the foundation of our faith from a unique point-of-view.

In addition to the workshops, several entertaining skits were presented by the ladies and called workers who planned and managed the convention—another impressive display of preparation by the LWMS leadership team. And music of several kinds was also featured throughout the convention. Traditional hymns were sung by the LWMS Ladies choir during devotions. The Tucson WELS traveling choir entertained conventioners Friday evening. Saturday night singer-composer Michael Schroeder sang several original Bible-inspired contemporary songs accompanied by Mike on the guitar and keyboard—literally a one-man band.

The current LWMS President is from Manassas VA and a retired US Army officer. Formerly Lt. Col. Hupman, she is every bit a soldier. Even in civilian evening dress, it was not difficult to picture Lynette in camouflage fatigues and boots dressing down the Battalion after a tactical exercise. She was definitely “in charge” of the entire convention, from inception to adjournment.



The next LWMS Convention will be June 25-28, 2009, in Denver, Colorado. I encourage you to join probably more than 1000 WELS ladies (and not a small number of WELS husbands) in a stimulating experience from which you will depart spiritually refreshed and enthusiastic about Gospel outreach.

We rejoice in the many blessings given the members of our family of faith. May the Lord continue to bless them richly in every way.

July

2 nd – Walter P.	13 th – Janessa S.
4 th – Alice G.	18 th – Sally K.
7 th – Emily P.	20 th – Barb F., Glen K.
9 th – Jessica B.	21 st – Michael F.
10 th – Mark G., Emily B.	31 st – Justin S., Susan T.

August

14th – Christina C.
18th – Brittany G.
24th – Jane F.
25th – Gregory C.
27th – Kaylee C.



BIRTHDAY
in the
Months of July and August!

Arizona - California District Convention

By Alan Todd

Part I: The First Day

The bi-annual (every two years) Arizona-California District Convention took place this year in Mesa, Arizona at the Arizona Golf Resort from June 9 through June 11. There were 242 delegates in total (Pastors, Teachers, and Layman) out of 311 potential delegates. Pastor Proeber and I represented Our Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church, Santa Barbara.

After checking in to the resort, pre-registering for the convention, and procuring some groceries (the rooms had microwave ovens and refrigerators), it was off to sleep.

The first day started with a Communion Service at King of Kings Lutheran Church in Apache Junction at 11:00 A.M. The church is located about 12 miles from the convention center in a location experiencing a lot of growth. The main floor of the church quickly filled up. The church opened the balcony, which is normally reserved just for musicians and the choir, and as a result everyone managed to get a seat.

And speaking of musicians, the District is blessed with trumpet players, trombone players, flute players, and even a soprano saxophone in addition to an organist and also a keyboard musician. The music throughout the service was inspirational and very well done (I sat in the balcony). The service incorporated some arrangements from "Christian Worship: Supplement", "Christian Worship: New Service Settings, and "Christian Worship: Occasional Services". I think these additions to our existing liturgy will be edifying to any congregation that chooses to use them.

Pastor Degner from Star of Bethlehem, who is also the First Vice President of the District, gave the sermon and Pastor Proeber conducted part of the liturgy. Pastor Degner's sermon theme was from Isaiah 61:1-3 entitled "Oaks of Righteousness" and centered around our two greatest needs in this life: to be loved and to be useful.

The communion service was a "continuous distribution" service that I had never experienced. It is a good way to commune a lot of people in a short amount of time. The Pastors who distribute the bread and wine are stationed together and don't move while the worshipers file past them, first taking the bread and eating it, then taking

the wine and drinking it, and then discarding the wine glasses in the receptacle as they proceed to their seats. In this way, they were able to commune about 250 people in just 15 minutes!

We picked up a box lunch at the church and then drove back to the convention center to start the afternoon sessions.

The afternoon sessions began at 1:30 P.M. with Pastor Janke, outgoing District President, delivering his District President's Report. This report contained a summary of the blessings and the challenges that have occurred in the District in past two years and included reflections on some of the successes and regrets he experienced over his 10 year service as District President. This report concluded with a call to be faithful in the use of Word and Sacraments all the while recalling the words of St. Paul in Philippians 1:3-6 to carry out the good work already started to completion.

Pastor/Professor David Valleskey (you remember him from last year when he substituted for Pastor Proeber on one Sunday), former President of the Seminary and now "retired", delivered Part I of the keynote address based on 2 Corinthians 8 and 9 entitled "The Scriptural Basis for Godly Giving". This address explored in great detail the stewardship implications for our churches based on Paul's concern that the Corinthians not provide an offering to the struggling church in Jerusalem unless it was provided from the right attitude of an appreciation of God's grace in Christ. As Pastor Valleskey put it: "You can't legislate sanctification". (Part 2 of this keynote address will be summarized in next month's newsletter).

An important part of the convention is the election of officers for the various district positions. Because the process of electing officers can be time consuming (tabulating the votes, taking an additional vote if no clear winner on the first ballot, etc.), the voting process is interspersed throughout the day between speakers. So, after each speaker concluded, a pause was taken while we voted on various nominees and then while the vote was being tabulated, the next speaker would give his presentation. This went on throughout the convention.

We next heard from Pastor Dave Liggett who is the Synod's Director of Planned Giving. This was a very in-

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District Convention—Continued

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teresting presentation on some of the financial realities that our Synod faces and included an introduction to the Synod's "Year of Jubilee" to help the Synod retire its current \$22.4 Million debt by the end of 2009 (more on this in future newsletter articles). Pastor Liggett reminded all of us that the Baal of this age is materialism and that we need to be reminded of Christ's command that we cannot serve both God and money. An interesting statistic that Pastor Liggett mentioned is that our Synod's overall communicant giving of 2.7% (!!) is, unfortunately, right in line with other Protestant churches. He also quipped that our 2.7% giving rate "proves that we don't 'have' to tithe" (this is an ironic reference to the Christian freedom we all enjoy in that we are not tied to the Old Testament laws and regulations and are free to give above and beyond the 10% tithe in proportion as God has blessed us).

Pastor Jon Buchholz (the new President-elect of the District) reported on the World Missions efforts of the Synod. There are exciting new strategies for mission outreach including Bible Correspondence courses in the native languages, Distance Learning using the internet to help train foreign pastors, and Humanitarian Aid which can open doors for proclaiming the gospel.

Pastor Matt Vogt next gave a presentation on Home Missions which included a Power Point presentation on the 20 new outreach ministry positions that have been established and all the work that is being done among Spanish and Hmong communities as well as Vietnamese, Sudanese, and Chinese groups throughout North America. Home Missions is almost totally funded from the CMO (Congregational Mission Offerings) which brought home the importance to all of us of meeting our CMO goals. Since Our Redeemer gives 10% of the total offerings from its members to the CMO each month, increased offerings result in increased giving to the CMO as well.

After a one and half hour dinner break, we assembled again at 7:00 P.M. for a presentation on the Year of Jubilee by outgoing District President Janke. As I mentioned above, there will be more on this subject in upcoming newsletters. However, it should be noted that servicing the Synod's \$22.4 Million debt alone costs \$2.7 Million per year. If we can eliminate that debt, that means \$2.7 Million more per year to use for Declaring God's Praises to a dying world (the theme of this year's District convention).

The final presentation of the evening was by Pastor Jon Buchholz and discussed the Preliminary Report and Recommendations of the Synod's Ad Hoc Commission. This Commission was established by the 2007 WELS Convention to "conduct a thorough analysis of the Synod's present problems and our future potential and develop a comprehensive, long term plan" to present to the 2009 Synod convention. The Commission determined early on that developing a strategic plan should not be part of the Commission's mission since that was the responsibility of existing Synod ministries. Instead, the Commission would provide recommendations to provide a starting point for creating those plans.

The report is over 40 pages and included 9 sections covering everything from Synod Budgeting and Finance to the Cost of Ministerial Education. A committee comprising pastors, teachers, and layman from our district was established at the beginning of the convention to meet and discuss the findings of the Ad Hoc committee and to propose resolutions regarding the Preliminary Report in order to provide feedback to the Synod's Ad Hoc Commission for the final report to be presented to the Synod next year. Many of the recommendations are controversial and the adoption of most of them will require the members of the WELS to decide whether the Synod is a mega-church with the ability to bypass the local congregation Pastors and church council in certain instances to accomplish goals or whether the Synod exists to assist congregations and to perform a coordinating role to accomplish goals that individual congregations cannot do alone. The commission, the District, and this reporter, believes the latter is the true role of the Synod and their recommendations are based on that determination.

If you would like to review this important document (you'll find out a lot about virtually all aspects of our Synod) please see me. Our congregation has been helped immensely by the Synod from providing the loan for building the church to training and supplying our Pastors to providing Sunday School material. We should remember that when it comes to our offerings.

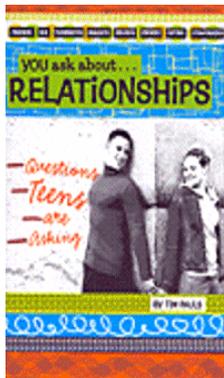
More to Come on the District Convention

In future volumes of the Reporter, Al will continue to offer his review of the Convention. If you would like to read the minutes and the reports, please check out the District's website or speak with Pastor Proeber. He has an electronic copy on CD.

Book Review—*You Ask About Relationships*

By Alan Todd

Available from Northwestern Publishing House,
Catalog #OL-124993, 219 pp., \$9.99
(Publisher: Concordia Publishing House)



This book is authored by Tim Pauls who also authored *You Ask About Life* reviewed in the March 2008 newsletter. In that previous review, I noted that Rev. Pauls is a conservative, confessional LCMS (Lutheran Church Missouri Synod) pastor at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Boise, Idaho.

The book is written with teenagers in mind, but many of the sections are useful for any single young adult (Sex and Dating to mention just two of the eight sections that comprise this book). The style, like his previous book, is informal, conversational, and generously laced with humor. I also found this book (a Father's Day gift from daughter Cindy) interesting and informative - primarily as a way to compare how well it matched my experiences as a single, young adult.

I certainly did not follow all of the biblically sound advice that Pastor Pauls provides in this book that covers Friends, Sex, Teammates, Parents, Siblings, Enemies and Con Artists, Dating, and Co-Workers. And I confess that I suffered most of the consequences outlined in the book when my actions were not in conformity with God's guidelines. So I can attest to the value of the insights that Pastor Pauls provides and hope that readers will take the advice to heart and avoid the same consequences.

That said, Pastor Pauls never fails to mention, not only in his opening section: "Service, Station, Sin, Solution", but in all subsequent sections as well: "...Sometimes relationships will have you feeling sky-high, and sometimes they'll leave you in the dirt. But, there is one relationship that's perfectly clear. You are one for whom Christ died on the cross; therefore, no matter what else is true, you can be certain God regards you as one redeemed, and uses all things for your good...."

Reporters Wanted!

Book review?
Personal Story of Faith?
Event Reports? (Potluck, gathering, party, field trip?)

Half-page to three pages
Reviewed for scriptural consistency and readability
by 25th of month to appear in next issue

Hard-copy to Carl Schueler, or email to Carl Schueler
(cfs_home@cox.net) or Pastor Proeber
(pastor@orlcsb.net)

A simple and rewarding way to serve!

Thanks to Alan Todd his article on the District Convention and Book review, and to Carl for his article on the LWMS Convention. *The Reporter* continues to benefit from a variety of perspectives, and this issue again contains material from volunteer "reporters."

There is always an open invitation to provide material for the *Reporter*. In the past, nine members authored some 35 articles which really makes every issue more interesting. These included articles on a wide variety of subjects: ORLC news, past and planned events, thought-provoking instructional articles on WELS history and other religions, and articles relating to personal perspectives on our faith in Jesus.

We pray that more members will continue to think about possible articles for the remainder of 2008. If you have an idea, and you are not sure whether to act on it, please don't hesitate to speak to Pastor Proeber or Carl Schueler for advice. Thanks!

Help Needed!

It would be great to have an article or pictures for the 4th of July gathering. This would be a great addition for the next Reporter. If you can help, please contact Carl or Pastor. Thanks!

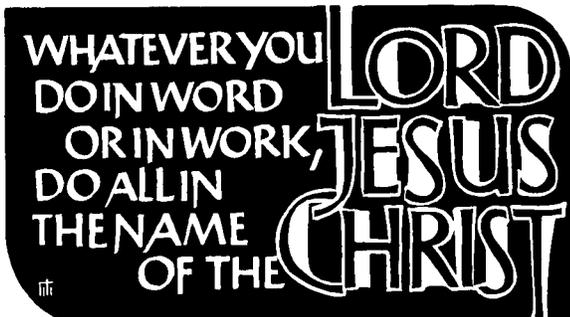
Stewardship - Getting It Right!

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What is striking is that each of the ways reflect a greater grace than the previous one. Just go down the list. To give single-mindedly - an attitude of the heart - can only come when the heart and mind have been moved by God's undeserved love. Notice, however, how much greater the need for grace becomes to give entirely on one's own accord, or to beg to take part in an offering. Both seem incomprehensible. Who would want to give without being asked? Who would plead for the opportunity to give when they weren't even asked? By nature, both would be inconceivable. God's grace in Christ makes both a reality, just as it makes all of the ways possible - especially the last.

Without God's undeserved love in Christ, why would anyone want to put God first? Why would anyone want to put God's desires ahead of personal desires? God's love was the reason why the Macedonians gave the way they did. Just as God's love was the reason why the Corinthians eventually gave as they did. It remains the same reason for each of us today.

Stewardship does not begin with looking at the checking account balance. Nor does it begin by deciding what can be spared this week. Neither does it begin when I have to consider what the "average" is. Stewardship is not about money. It is all about the attitude of love that comes as a result of my Savior's love. It comes by living in the love that he first gave. It comes by following the example of his own unselfish giving. Stewardship is not about money. It is an important attitude that is reflected in every aspect of my life. It is an important attitude that says I am connected to Christ. This is something I want to get right!



A Special Reminder

On Saturday, July 26th at 10:30 am, there will be a Memorial Service to rejoice in our Savior's promise of the resurrection, and to give thanks for the gift of faith he brought to Maria Frey.

Sonja's mother, Maria, was called to eternity earlier this summer after struggling with cancer. Quietly she entered the Lord's presence and is now enjoying the blessings of eternal life.

There will be a light lunch following the service, please speak with Karolyn Hanna regarding the plans and preparations.

Thank you!

Meetings for July 2008

Church Council	July	8th	at 7:00 pm
Outreach	July	12th	at 9:30 am
Education	July	15th	at 7:00 pm
Board of Elders	July	22nd	at 7:00 pm
Board of Trustees	July	29th	at 7:00 pm

Special Meetings

Please note both of the meetings. Plan to be present to participate in the discussion, to offer suggestions and revisions, and to help develop an organizational document that brings glory to God and enables us to serve more effectively.

Church Authority and Leadership Bible Class
July 27th following the worship service

Open Forum Discussion
Proposed changes to Constitution and By-laws
August 3rd following the worship service

Meetings for August 2008

Church Council	August	5th	at 7:00 pm
Education	August	12th	at 7:00 pm
Outreach	August	16th	at 9:30 am
Board of Elders	August	19th	at 7:00 pm
Board of Trustees	August	26th	at 7:00 pm



Through the next half of 2008 there are a number of activities planned that will give us the opportunity to invite our friends, neighbors and relatives to come and learn more about our faith in Jesus Christ. Some of the information is still tentative, but the dates are set.

So keep them open, and keep others informed.

Bike & Barbeque

Everything is set for the 17th of August! Around noon we will meet at Goleta Beach, Group Area C. For the physically fit there will be a bike ride from the church parking lot to the beach - bike trails all the way! For everyone else, just meet at the beach. Hamburgers, hot dogs and beverages will be provided. Please bring a salad and dessert to share.

This is another in a series of activities which offers the opportunity for people to get to know us better. If you would like to invite someone to come along, please do! Through the use of relationships, and events that foster these relationships, we will continue to plant the seeds of the Gospel.

If you would like more information, please speak with one of the members of the Outreach Committee. Also, if you would be so kind, please use the sign-up sheet so we can plan food. Thank You!

Festival of Friendship—September 7th

Over the years this service has grown to become a valuable and enjoyable outreach event. Start making plans today to invite a friend, a family member, or a neighbor to come and enjoy an outdoor worship service at 10:30 am, and a delicious barbeque.

Printed invitations are also being prepared. As soon as they are ready, you can pick them up.

Goleta Lemon Festival - October 17th-19th

Plans are well underway for our booth. Like previous years, we will look for people to serve a 2 hour shift on Saturday and / or Sunday. During this time there will be drawings, materials to handout, games for the children, and just a lot of fun telling people about Our Redeemer. Start thinking about getting your name on the schedule. Then, in September there will be training meeting to review what we are doing, and what we want to say to people.

Looking Ahead

Handbell Choir

Our ringers are taking a well earned summer break. In about a month, practices will begin again on Monday nights. Veteran ringers will pick up where they left off in June. New ringers are especially welcome. Even if you have never rung a bell before, come! It only takes a few practices and you will be on your way. If you have any questions, please speak with Debbie A.

On another note, it is hard to believe our Bell Choir will be celebrating its 5th Anniversary! Practices started in September of 2003. We are grateful for those who have rung through the years. We are especially thankful for those who have rung all five years!

Last but not least, in August the bells will undergo a good cleaning, polishing, and receive some new parts. This will ensure that the bells will not only sound good, but will also look good, for many years to come.

Choir

In August, practices will begin for the new choir season - September 2008 through June 2009. If you would like more information, or would like to sing, please speak with Pastor Proeber.

Music is already being considered for the Fall and Christmas. There is a good mixture of traditional and modern. In October, the choir will also begin working on some of the new hymns and liturgies contained in the soon-to-be-released "Worship Supplement." This companion volume to "Christian Worship" will provide our congregation with more resources and variety that express our Scriptural, confessional and liturgical heritage.

Wednesday Bible Study

At 7:00 pm we gather to study Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians. This is a rich epistle that has Paul recalling his ministry in Corinth, and offering the Christians encouragement in their challenges. Currently the focus is Christian Stewardship, Chapters 8-9. Future topics will include: Paul's Defense of his Ministry; Paul's Foolish Boasting; and Paul's Impending Visit to Corinth.

Please check the calendar for the class schedule through the summer.

Sunday Morning

The focus of the Sunday class remains the Lord's Prayer as it is explained in Luther's Large Catechism. Remaining topics are: forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; lead us not into temptation; deliver us from evil; and the doxology.

Come and grow in the knowledge of the Lord!

CORNER

DEVOTIONAL

Matthew 13:9 - "He who has ears, let him hear."

"What Do I Hear?"

"Can you hear me now?" It is a slogan that has become very popular. Still, it gets to the heart of an important issue. An issue Jesus addressed with his parable on the "Sower and the Seed."

Between the telling of the parable (Matthew 13:1-8) and its explanation (Matthew 13:18-23), Jesus offered these simple words: "He who has ears, let him hear." Even before the slogan became popular Jesus was saying, "Can you hear me now?"

It seemed the crowds were not listening to what Jesus had to say, so he confronted the distractions. The devil muddled the message with his deceptions. Troubles and persecution produced their distinctive din. Worries and wealth added to the dissonance. In the end, people were not hearing the clear truth of Jesus' teaching.

Can you hear me now? It is a question Jesus could rightly ask me. As he views my life he can see the same enemies competing for my attention. The devil still deceives. Trouble and persecution still distract. Worries and wealth still make demands. Into this ear shattering cacophony comes the still, small voice of Jesus' invitation.

So what do I hear? What do I need to hear? I need to hear that my Savior offers me peace and forgiveness through his death. I need to hear that my Savior gives me comfort and strength through his resurrection. I need to hear that my Savior provides me encouragement and direction through his Word. I need to hear that my Savior will never forsake or abandon me.

Can you hear me now? Jesus is offering a precious invitation through his Word. I need to hear his voice. I need to block out every distraction. I need to say with undivided attention: "Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening."

Prayer Thoughts

"Lord, open now my heart to hear, and through your Word to me draw near. Let me your Word e'er pure retain; let me your child and heir remain.

Christian Worship, 282 st. 1

Daily devotions can be accessed through www.whataboutjesus.com or www.wels.net. Please follow the instructions to view daily devotions and to subscribe to them. They are also available as "podcasts."