



Ephphatha, that is, Be opened. Mark. 7:31-37

The Deaf Lutheran

Board of Missions to the Deaf
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

Vol. 44

St. Louis, Mo., July, 1952

No. 7

"Conquest for Christ" Succeeds Lutheran Deaf Do Their Biggest Job

List of Gifts — "Conquest for Christ"

City	Deaf Members	Amount Paid
Number 1	2	\$ 15.00
Number 1a	4	20.00
Number 1b	1	10.00
Number 2	90	477.50
Number 2a	26	90.00
Field 2b	225	16.60
Number 3	46	289.00
Number 3a	13	20.00
Number 4	109	214.56
Field 4a	77	7.50
Number 5	55	88.00
Field 5a	87	20.00
Number 6	38	50.00
Number 7	50	45.50
Field 7a	45	1.00
Number 8	20	141.00
Field 8a	13	23.50
Field 9	160	41.25
Number 10	37	2.00
Field 10a	94	48.55
Number 10b	33	32.00
Number 11	160	1,000.01
Number 12 (All shut-ins)	60	50.00
Number 13	8	45.90
Field 13a	61	6.00
Field 13b		2.50
Field 13c		1.00
Number 14	127	100.00
Number 15	30	46.50
Number 16	27	72.00

(1950) Total = 799 Members

(1952) Total = \$2,976.87

Average gift to June 6, \$3.73 each. — No report from 2,635 Deaf!

Miami, Fla., June 6, 1952. With only 16 of our 30 fields reporting, the Deaf Lutherans of the Missouri Synod have broken all records, raising an offering of \$2,976.87 for Missions and Schools in all the world. Two or more buildings have been promised to the Deaf in the amount of \$30,000. All the money given will be spent to build schools and colleges for future ministers and to build chapels or houses for missionaries.

The "Synodogram" of May 1 says that the money offered by all members of our 5,000 congregations in the United States and Canada "is the largest special offering raised by any Lutheran body in America." We are happy that our Deaf Lutherans can say, "Me too!"

"Lest any man should boast"

One Deaf church alone raised \$1,000. (This was \$400 more than the offering of all our Lutheran Deaf for the Edward Pahl Memorial Fund of the Lutheran Institute for the Deaf, Detroit, a few years ago.) But that was only \$6.25 from each member! The largest amount per person was \$10.00 in one city; this was a little more than one day's pay. Our people are improving in gifts, but we could do still better! Let's try!

Beloit, Wis. — Robert Raymond Wells was baptized into God's name on March 16. We are happy with the parents, Mr. and Mrs. Russell Wells, that God has given them a fine baby boy and also given faith and forgiveness to the baby through Holy Baptism. R. M.

Rockford, Ill. — Mr. and Mrs. Nels Ackerson were confirmed in St. Paul's Lutheran Church on Friday, November 16, 1951. God keep these two members close to His true Word and their Savior, Jesus. R. M.

Why You Should Go to Church

Some people who read this paper do not go to church. Are you one of the many people who stay at home? Are you one of the many who are too busy to go to church? Do you always have something else to do when the church group meets?

Let us ask you: *Are you a Christian?* That is a very important question. If you are not a Christian, you are not prepared for death. And if you are not prepared for death, you may die quickly, and your soul will then be lost in the punishment of hell fire. How awful for people who are not Christians when death comes! Surely you want to be a Christian. But *are you a Christian?*

A Christian knows that he is a sinner. He trusts in Jesus, who forgives sin. He is glad to go to the house of the Lord. He wants to learn more about his wonderful Savior. A Christian has been born again of water and the Spirit. By reading the Bible he receives nourishment for his faith, daily. But *a Christian also goes to church* so that his soul can enjoy a feast or banquet from God's Word. If you are a Christian, you read your Bible, you follow God's Word, and you go to church regularly. Jesus says (John 8:47): "He that is of God heareth God's words."

Many people think they do not need to go to church. They think if they live good and honest lives, then they are Christians. The proud Pharisees thought likewise, but Jesus told them (John 8:47): "Ye therefore hear them [the words of God] not, because ye are not of God." Jesus also told them (John 8:44): "Ye are of your father, the devil." People who do not go to church to hear God's Word are not Christians.

One Jewish Christian writer of God's Word tells other Christians (Hebrews 10:24-25): "Let us consider [think about] one another to provoke [urge] unto love and to good works, *not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together*, as the manner of some is." Christians should not fail to meet in church. It is the custom of some people to forsake the church meetings. If you are a Christian, we will see you in church (that is, if you are able to come). If you are sick and cannot come, the pastor will be glad to visit you. G. R.

Field Gleanings

North Dixie Field

Memphis, Tenn. (white).—A group of six adults was received into communicant membership on February 3, 1952, increasing our membership to twenty. Services were held Wednesday evenings during Lent and were well attended. . . . In these services Mr. Correll read and explained a portion of the Passion History, and members "sang" solos. The pastor delivered a series of sermons on the topic "Our Suffering Savior." A candlelight Communion service was held Maundy Thursday with 100-per-cent communicant attendance. Our Easter service was impressive and enjoyed by all. Lilies were placed on the altar by Mr. and Mrs. Correll. This group hopes to organize this summer!

Memphis, Tenn. (colored). We had an increase in membership of two on February 3, 1952. Attendance has been very good. In a Good Friday service, with Holy Communion, all members came to remember Christ's death on the Cross, by eating and drinking at the Lord's Table.

Nashville, Tenn.—The pastor preached here on his birthday, March 17. After the service cake and ice cream were served, and a birthday gift was presented to the pastor. This was a pleasant surprise! Special thanks to Mr. and Mrs. James Billingsley. Several Deaf are attending services faithfully, but many more are "ignoring" the Gospel of our Savior. . . . We pray that God will change their hearts and that they will visit us soon and often.

"He who stays near to heaven can do his duty best."

THE DEAF LUTHERAN

Official Organ of Lutheran Church Missions for the Deaf

Published monthly by Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis 18, Mo. Subscription price, 50 cents per annum anywhere in the world, payable strictly in advance. Entered as second-class matter at the Post Office at St. Louis, Mo., under the Act of March 3, 1879. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized on January 14, 1935. Send all subscriptions, changes of address, and cancellations to Concordia Publishing House, 3558 S. Jefferson Ave., St. Louis 18, Mo. The DEAF LUTHERAN goes to press on the 3rd Friday, two months before issue. Send all news to Rev. M. G. Kosche, Co-editor, 2346 College Ave., Indianapolis 5, Ind. Send pictures, stories, articles, to Rev. F. G. Gyle, Co-editor, 930 N. E. 138th St., North Miami, Fla. PRINTED IN U. S. A.

Bible Readings for July, 1952

Have we trials and temptations?
 Is there trouble anywhere?
 We should never be discouraged;
 Take it to the Lord in prayer.
 Can we find a friend so faithful
 Who will all our sorrows share?
 Jesus knows our every weakness;
 Take it to the Lord in prayer.

SUNDAY, JULY 13

Read Luke 10:30-37

Love Your Neighbor as Yourself

A teacher of the Law asked Jesus: "Who is my neighbor?" Then Jesus told this story of the good Samaritan.

A man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and thieves took his clothes and hurt him. Then they went away, leaving him half dead.

A Jewish priest came that way. When he saw this man lying in blood, he passed by on the other side and would not help. Then a Levite, a helper of the priests, came. He looked on the man and also passed by on the other side and did not help him.

Now came a Samaritan, a man from Samaria. And remember, the Jews hated the Samaritans. When he saw the man lying half dead, he had pity upon him. He poured wine and oil into his wounds to clean and heal, and put a bandage on. Then the Samaritan lifted him up onto his mule, brought him to a hotel, and took care of him all night. The next morning he paid the hotelkeeper for himself and for the sick man; he also asked the hotelkeeper to take care of him, and promised to pay him for more when he would come back.

Now Jesus asked this teacher of the Law: "Which one of these three was a neighbor unto this man?" And he answered: "He that showed mercy on him." Indeed, this Samaritan loved his neighbor; the priest and the Levite did not. Jesus then told the lawyer: "Go, and do thou likewise." He intended to tell him that he should show love and kindness to everyone who needs help, also to enemies.

And Jesus says this also to you and me. So often we do as did the priest and his helper. We deserve God's wrath and punishment. But, thanks to our dear Jesus, He perfectly kept this commandment for us. He was obedient

unto death, even the death of the Cross, for us while we were His enemies. His great love should fill our hearts with true love for all.

PRAYER: Dear Lord and Savior, let Thy love to me fill my heart with true love for all people, also for them that hate me and hurt me. Amen.

SUNDAY JULY 20

Read Luke 10:38-42

Gladly Hear and Learn the Word of God

Do you love Jesus and His Word? He tells us of one who did. Mary is a good example to everyone of us!

Jesus came to the village of Bethany. There a woman named Martha welcomed Him to her house. She had a sister, Mary. Mary sat at Jesus' feet and heard His Word. Martha had no time for that now. She was busy preparing a fine meal for Jesus, because she also loved Him.

Then she saw that Mary would not help her, but sat listening to Jesus. She was not pleased. And she talked to Jesus about it, saying: "Do You not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Bid [tell] her therefore that she help me." Martha thought it more important that Mary help her in getting a meal ready for Jesus.

But Jesus showed her that it is more important to listen to His Word. That is the One Thing Needful, and Mary had chosen that good thing. Martha should not take it from her.

With this story Jesus wants to teach us also that to hear and to learn the Word of God is more necessary than anything else. Why? Because God's Word tells us of Him who perfectly obeyed all commandments for us, and washed us clean from all sin in His own blood. But so often we, like Martha, are busy with many things and have no time for Jesus and His Word. Let us ask Him to forgive us and to let His Word be better unto us than thousands of gold and silver dollars. Always it is the One Thing Needful (necessary) for our salvation. Come, gladly hear and learn it!

PRAYER: Beautiful Savior, thanks for Thy holy Word in our Bible. Help me to gladly hear and learn it, both at home and in church, for my soul's salvation and the glory of Thy precious name. Amen.

SUNDAY, JULY 27

Read Luke 11:1-4

The Lord's Prayer, a Fine Daily Prayer

Jesus prayed much, sometimes all night. One day when He was praying in a certain place, one of His disciples came and said to Him: "Lord, teach us to pray as John also taught his disciples." John also was a man of prayer and taught his disciples to turn to God in prayer. Let us also go to Jesus and say: "Lord, teach me to pray." Often Jesus speaks of prayer. And so His Apostle Paul again and again urges us to pray. Are you praying? Do you pray much? James says: "Ye have not, because ye ask not." Learn from Jesus how to pray.

Jesus Himself teaches us His beautiful prayer, the Lord's Prayer. We should pray to our Father in heaven, to Him who rules over all things, over heaven and earth. Seven little prayers we find in the Lord's Prayer.

First, we should pray that His name be hallowed, or honored. That is done when we teach only His Word and live a good and holy life as His dear children.

Then He teaches us to pray for the coming of His kingdom, for the spreading of His Church here on earth, that many more by the Holy Spirit believe in Jesus and lead a godly life, and, at last, go to heaven into His Kingdom of Glory.

Then He tells us to pray that His good and gracious wish be done in us and among us and in all the world.

From Him we must get all that we need to support our body and life. Therefore He teaches us to pray: "Give us this day our daily bread," so that we remember that He is the Giver of all good things and then receive them all with thanksgiving.

Indeed, we have not deserved these good things, for we daily sin much. Therefore we pray: "Forgive us our sins."

And because we have three mighty enemies, the devil, the wicked world, and our evil heart, we are taught to pray: "Lead us not into temptation." That means, that He would not let these enemies tempt us, and if they do, that He would help us to win the victory over them.

And because this world is full of trouble and suffering and death, therefore we pray: "Deliver [free] us from evil [trouble]." With

these words we ask Him to help us from all trouble and then take us to Himself in heaven.

In this prayer we ask for everything that we need for body and soul, for time and eternity, for ourselves and for all friends and neighbors, yes, for all people in the world. Pray this prayer every day in spirit and in truth!

PRAYER: O Lord Jesus, Thou who didst die for us, teach us to pray, and give us Thy Spirit of prayer. Amen.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 3

Read Luke 11:5-8

"Pray Without Ceasing [stopping]"

Last week Jesus taught us a beautiful prayer. Today He teaches us to pray always and never to give up, just as we do when we ask a friend for something.

He speaks of a dear friend of ours. Now another friend on his journey stops at our place at midnight, and we find that we have nothing to eat to set before him. What shall we do? We go to our dear friend and knock at his door at midnight, and ask him to give us several slices of bread for our visiting friend. And he says from his room: "Bother me not; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give to you." But we knock again, and again, for we must have bread for our visiting friend. And now Jesus says: "because of his importunity [knocking again, and again, and again] he shall rise and give him as many loaves as he needeth."

And why does Jesus tell us this? He wants to teach us to go to our heavenly Father in every trouble as to a dear Friend, our best Friend. He gave His only-begotten Son into death for us and in Him offers us forgiveness of all sins, life, and salvation. And Paul now says: "He that spared [kept back] not His own Son, but delivered [gave] Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?" Romans 8:32. Therefore let us boldly go before Him, worry about nothing, but knock, and knock, and knock without stopping!

PRAYER: Heavenly Father, my dearest Friend, in Thine only Son Jesus Christ Thou givest us all things. Help me to pray always, and never give up. Amen. J. L. S.