



Ephphatha, that i Be opened.

MARK 7:34

Volume 47

JANUARY 1955

Number 1

Thoughts for the New Year

Let us walk softly, friend;

- For strange paths lie before us, all untrod;
- The new year, spotless from the hand of God,
- Is thine and mine, O friend!

Let us walk straightly, friend! Forget the crooked paths behind us now,

Press on with steadier purpose on our brow,

To better deeds, O friend!

Let us walk gladly, friend;

- Perchance, some greater good than we have known
- Is waiting for us, or some fair hope flown
- Shall yet return, O friend!

Let us walk humbly, friend;

- Slight not the heartsease blooming 'round our feet;
- The laurel blossoms are not half so sweet,
- Or lightly gathered, friend!

Let us walk kindly, friend;

- We cannot tell how long this life shall last,
- How soon these precious years be overpast;
- Let love walk with us, friend!

Let us walk quickly, friend;

- Work with our might while lasts our little stay
- And help some halting comrade on the way,
- And may God guide us, friend! LILLIAN GRAY

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These ministers preach in more than 275 cities in our land; they conduct classes in religion at over 50 city and State schools for the Deaf. You will find them ready to serve you; call upon them or write to them. The Deaf need God's Word.

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Official Paper of Lutheran Churches of the Deaf

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Thanks Be to God

St. Paul Field

During August and September we paid a visit to stations where we were privileged to serve Deaf quite a number of years ago. First, we visited the St. Paul congregation. In this city we started the work in September, 1901. In our first service there were ten Deaf, and in the following two only two. Often we preached to two in St. Paul. For seventeen years we served this group. In the course of time the Word of God, by God's grace, took effect, and a good-sized group was gathered around the Cross of Jesus and became members of our church. In 1918 Pastor Schumacher took over, to be followed by Pastor Bever in 1923 and by Pastor Cordes in 1942. The latter ministered to the Deaf of the St. Paul Field until Pastor Possehl took charge in 1952. During these thirty-five years the congregation has grown under God's blessing and now numbers 49 communicants. Then, with Pastor Possehl, we visited the Forest, Wis., group numbering twelve communicants, the La Crosse group, with 28 members, and the Austin group of twelve communicants. It was a pleasure to meet old friends whom we baptized and confirmed quite a while ago and to see that they still are abiding in Christ, filled with love for Jesus and His work. For that we thank God. Indeed, we also missed many old members. During these years many have closed their eyes in Jesus and now are with Him in glory. Also for that we give thanks unto the Lord. But then we were glad also to see so many new faces, young people to take the place of the old members in Kingdom work. Oh, give thanks unto the Lord!

One interesting fact concerning the La Crosse and Austin groups is that Deaf from various cities come together for services and thus form a sizable group. Pastor Possehl and some Deaf pick up other Deaf on the way and bring them to church. On the way to Austin the pastor stops in Owatonna, Albert Lea, and other cities and brings Deaf with him to the Austin services. The same is done on the way to La Crosse. He stops in Red Wing, Lake City, Winona, and brings Deaf of these cities to the La Crosse services. And one Deaf couple brings Deaf from Sparta, Wis. This is putting the car to work for the Lord. Years ago, in the horse-and-buggy days, we made all these cities by train, stopping for services in every one of them. Pastor Possehl also preaches in Black River Falls, where we have eight members, and in Eau Claire, with seven communicants. With Pastor Bremer he also has religious classes in the Faribault State School, with 50 boys and girls enrolled, and conducts services every Sunday morning at 8:30, alternating with the Minneapolis pastor. These two also have a Saturday school with an enrollment of over 35 from the Minneapolis and St. Paul schools. At the State Colony Pastor Possehl has 31 under his care.

Indeed, we heartily thank God for the bountiful blessings He has bestowed upon our work in the St. Paul Field. May our dear Lord be with all of our members in this Field, and also with their pastor, and fill all with love and zeal for the salvation of blood-redeemed souls among the Deaf unto the glory of our beautiful Savior!

Sioux Falls Field

October 2-11 we spent with Pastor Cordes in the Sioux Falls Field. Also this visit did our heart good. Also here we met many Deaf whom we instructed and prepared for membership, and, thanks be to God, they still are in Christ! October 3 we preached the mission festival sermon in Sioux Falls, showing from Luke 8:37b-40 that God lets us Christians stay in this world for one purpose, and that is, for publishing the wonderful things God has done for us. Here we visited Deaf friends who are, or were, sick, James Jones and Mr. Krohn. We again preached in Sioux Falls on October 10 and made our regular visitation. We were happy to see so many boys and girls from the School in our services. We thank God that our chapel, built by the South Dakota Lutheran Women's Missionary League, is right across the street from the School. Very convenient for our boys and girls!

During our stay there we visited and preached to Deaf in the following stations: Worthington, with seventeen communicants; Appleton, with thirteen; Big Stone City, S. Dak., with four; Mitchell, with eleven; and Watertown, with nine

The North Central Lutheran Deaf Conference

Delegates and friends gathered August 28 at Grace Lutheran Church of the Deaf at Minneapolis for the meeting of the North Central Lutheran Deaf Conference; they had come from Wisconsin, North Dakota, and Minnesota. communicants. In all stations we preached and encouraged them gladly to hear and learn the Word of salvation in church, often to go to the Lord's Table for the strengthening of their faith in Christ's forgiveness and for the increase of their love toward God and all people, and then also cheerfully to give and support the blessed work of saving souls in all the world.

Aside from Sioux Falls, where there are eighteen members and the stations mentioned above, Pastor Cordes preaches also in Aberdeen (eight members) and Rapid City (four communicants). At the School he conducts religious classes every Tuesday morning, with an enrollment of 37 in three classes, fifteen of whom are communicants. Mrs. Cordes assists him in the schoolwork. We again must thank God that also here we see our old members still clinging to Jesus, the only Savior. and doing His work, and young Deaf joining them for the upbuilding of Christ's kingdom among the Deaf. Also in this field many whom we served long ago are with us no more. "Blesed are the dead which die in the Lord" (Rev. 14:13).

God be with you all, dear friends old and new! J. L. S

Pastor W. Ferber of Fargo led the opening devotions. Mr. Tom Hansen of Madison, Wis., was appointed chairman and the undersigned, secretary.

A number of good papers were read and discussed. Lloyd Hagen spoke on "The Doctrine of the Church," dwelling particularly on the "Invisible and the Visible Church." Pastor Bremer spoke on "The Work of the Church," Pastor Possehl on "Church Attendance," while "Church Contributions" was another subject which was treated by several speakers. Dr. Salvner spoke on "Your Church and the Board of Missions to Deaf." All the papers were discussed, and several filmstrips were used to illustrate various points. It was a profitable discussion. It strengthened all to carry on God's work with enthusiasm and understanding.

In the evening "King of Kings" was shown. Sunday morning Pastor W. Ferber preached in the last service of the conference.

Time and place of the meeting next year will be announced later.

LLOYD HAGEN, Secretary

Northwest Lutheran Church Deaf Lay Conference

Seventy-one members from northwestern Lutheran churches attended the Northwest Lutheran Church Deaf Lay Conference held in Spokane, Wash., August 13—15, 1954. This year the theme of the conference was "Disciples of Christ."

The first session was held in Faith Lutheran Church at 2:00 P. M. on Friday, August 13. Dr. George W. Gaertner of Oakland, Calif., gave his paper on "Discipleship." "A true disciple," said Dr. Gaertner, "is a student who seeks to learn more and more of the teachings of Christ. He can learn by reading the Bible, in church from the pastor's interpretations of Biblical passages, and through prayer."

After a short business meeting a caravan was formed in front of the church for a ride to Liberty Lake, where the members attended the rest of the sessions. Dinner was served at the camp, and a reception followed in the camp's recreation room.

Saturday morning the meeting was held in the rustic outdoor "Sunset Chapel." After devotional serv-



Northwest Lutheran Deaf Lay Conference, Spokane, August 13-15

ice and a short business meeting Rev. J. A. Beyer of Seattle read the paper from Seattle members, entitled: "The Disciple Shows Mercy." The Portland paper, "The Disciple Learns," was read by Rev. George Ring, with Portland members demonstrating that discipleship should start shortly after birth through Baptism and continue throughout life. "The Disciple and Family Worship" by the Spokane Deaf was in the form of a pageant, first showing how a deaf father and mother could instruct their hearing children in daily devotions, and a second scene portraved family worship.



Montana Group at the Northwest Lutheran Laymen's Conference at Seattle, August 13—15

L. to r., standing: E. Lappin, Mr. and Mrs. R. Kosanovich, Mrs. Hattie Thompson, Beulah McFarland, Lilly Mattson; kneeling: Victor Lynn, secretary of the Northwest Lutheran Laymen's Conference, and Milton Miller

Saturday afternoon was spent on the playgrounds and by swimming in the lake. A banquet and "Talents for Christ" show concluded the Saturday evening program.

On account of overcast skies the church service on Sunday was held

indoors. Rev. A. L. Hauptman, pastor of the Spokane church, conducted the liturgical part of the



The Portland Group at Liberty Lake

service. The sermon was delivered by Dr. George Gaertner.

Harold Rive of Portland, Oreg., was elected president, and Victor Lyons of Bozeman, Mont., became secretary for the coming year. The next conference will be in Portland, Oreg., next summer.

GUIE C. COOKE, Reporter

In 1955

The Milwaukee Deaf Congregation, Emanuel, is the oldest Deaf congregation of our church. We hope to bring something of its history and wonderful growth in future issues, as also of the work of our pioneer worker on the West Coast, Doctor Geo. W. Gaertner. And the East Coast beckons also. Very well, you members of these churches, speak to your pastor about the article that describes your church, and help him by getting interesting pictures for him to incorporate in the article. Let's make the 1955 DEAF LUTHERAN better: then it can get bigger, too, because then the subscriptions will come in faster, and we can do more in every way.

Stewardship

"That I May Be His Own"

As we add another department to the DEAF LUTHERAN, the Stewardship Page, we would like to introduce the readers to a fine little book called *That I May Be His Own*.

It was written by the Rev. R. C. Rein, Executive Secretary of the Central Illinois District of our church. Copies of his book may be bought from Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo., for 60 cents, and it is worth having and studying. In fact, he calls the chapters lessons and adds to each chapter some questions for discussion, so that this book can well serve as a textbook for individuals and groups in the study of this important subject.

By permission of the author and the management of Concordia Publishing House we shall briefly touch upon these chapters; and we hope that many will not be satisfied until they get the complete copy of this excellent booklet.

God Is the Owner of Everything

This world did not just happen. Not any more than Rev. Henry Ward Beecher's beautiful astronomical globe just happened, as Ward said to Robert Ingersoll, who did not believe in God and creation. By saying that the globe came into existence by itself Ward showed Ingersoll how silly it is to believe that the enormous world could come into existence by itself.

No, God made heaven and earth and all things. He made man also. Therefore all things belong to God. The earth does not belong to man, but man belongs to the earth because he dies and returns to dust.

God, the Owner, keeps the world in existence, ruling, feeding, and guarding all things. Best of all, He loves all things and especially man, whom He not only made but also saved. He sent His Son, Jesus, into the world to redeem man.

And God made the earth for His praise and glory, and as the heavens declare His glory, so all things praise God's wisdom. Man, you and I, all of us, must acknowledge that God is supreme, and we must praise His holy name. That puts us into a certain position toward God. God is the Owner; we are owers.

gives;

- Whom none can love, whom none can thank —
- Creation's blot, Creation's blank. Тномаs Gibbons

WE make a living by what we get,. but we make a life by what we give.

OH, to live for Him on earth who lives for us in heaven!

The man may last, but never lives, Who much receives, but nothing



Kansas City, Mo. — On September 19 the 54th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Wood was



Mr. and Mrs. Herman Wood

celebrated. Faithful long-time members of Pilgrim Lutheran Church — they have been members for 18 years — they were honored by the visits of many friends. Mrs. Wood for many years beautified our services through the signing of hymns. She loved to sign them, and she did them very well. Not being in good health, she could not attend the service in church on her wedding anniversary. The celebration was held at their home. Let us learn the lesson these old members teach us through the faithful attendance in the Lord's house through the years. The days come when we no longer can go to public services; but the memory of the many services will bring back to us the lessons of our better years, and we can then take strength from the truths we learned during the years. May God grant these two fine people a blessed evening of life. A. E. F.

Winnipeg, Man., Can. — Last summer two summer vacation Bible schools were conducted in Canada, one in Regina, July 20 to 9, where 5 deaf children attended, and one in Winnipeg, August 2—13, where 10 deaf children came to the classes. In Regina ten grown-up Deaf made use of the pastor's stay in their city and also came to sev-



Pastor and Mrs. W. Ferber with Winnipeg Vacation Bible School

eral classes arranged for them. It was a pleasure for the pastor to again meet Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Beaton of Delia, Alberta, who had arranged their vacation time so that they could come to one of these classes. Mr. and Mrs. (Anna Buffum) Beaton were both members of Rev. Ferber's classes years ago in the now closed Manitoba School for the Deaf. In Regina the pastor did all the teaching himself, but in Winnipeg, to have ten children of all ages come at the same time was too much for one teacher, so Mrs. Ferber again traveled to Winnipeg with her husband to help teach the Four hearing younger children. children, brothers and sisters of some of the deaf children, also came to the classes, so that all in all 14 children were reached in Winnipeg. During this visit in Winnipeg, Lytton Wm. Smith, the eight-yearold son of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Henry Smith, was brought to Jesus by Baptism. Mrs. Wm. Smith is the former Daisy Locke. The Winnipeg TV station asked Rev. W. Ferber to come and show the public how the Gospel is being brought to the Deaf of Western Canada. Miss Viola Bischoff, a young deaf lady, a communicant member of our mission, helped her pastor by signing the hymn "Rock of Ages." After a whole month of teaching and working in Canada, Rev. and Mrs. W. Ferber again returned home with a thankful heart to Jesus for giving them the opportunity to show the Canadian Deaf Jesus, their Savior. W.F.

Anderson, Ind. — Mrs. Laura Street, one of the oldest friends of our mission here, died on October 9 at the age of 86 and was laid to rest in East Maplewood Cemetery October 12. M. K.

Farina, Ill.—Henry Dippold, a faithful member of our church, departed this life on August 10 at the age of 78. Christian burial was given August 13 at the Farina Cemetery. Mrs. Ruby Skinner Dippold, his widow, is temporarily making her home with her brother, Vance, at Mount Vernon, Ill. M. K. Muncie, Ind. — Mr. and Mrs. James F. La Fever observed their 56th wedding anniversary on November 23. They were married in 1898 at Alexandria, Ind. Both are now 80 years old.

They have lived in Muncie for more than 47 years. Both were



Mr. and Mrs. James F. La Fever

graduated in 1895 in a class of 15 from the Indiana State School for the Deaf at Indianapolis. The painting in the background of the picture was painted by Mrs. La Fever in her art class at the school.

Since Lutheran services for the Deaf were begun in Muncie in March, 1950, these elderly folks have been splendid examples to the younger Deaf by their active participation despite the handicaps of age.

Recent months have brought failing health to both Mr. and Mrs. La Fever. We commend them into the gracious care of our heavenly Father during the evening hours of their lives. M. K.



Deuteronomy

Deuteronomy is the last of the five books of Moses, which five are called the Pentateuch, which means the "five books" or the "book of five volumes." Deuteronomy means "the second giving of the Law." Moses does not give new laws, but repeats in this book the commandments and laws, applying them to the conditions as the people now will find them upon entering the Promised Land. There are three addresses and a final supplement that tells of his death and burial.

The four sections are:

I. Chapters 1 to 4, in which he reminds them of their journey and gives its lesson to them. Note here chapter 4, verses 2 and 22; they are not to add nor take away anything from God's Commandments, for He is their God and a consuming fire.

II. Chapters 5 to 26. In this long



Pastor Uhlig with Springfield, Ill., Group Teacher E. H. Bonnin of Trinity Lutheran, third from left, has for fifteen years taken the group "under his wings," being a "good angel"

address Moses repeats the Ten Commandments and speaks of the Moral Law, which applies to all mankind until Judgment Day (chapters 5-11). Then in chapters 12 to 16 Moses speaks of the Ceremonial or Church Law. In chapters 17 to 26 he speaks particularly of the Political or Civil or Police Law. But in all these chapters he brings in the stories of the journey, reminding them of the mercies, punishments, and promises of God.

III. In the last address (chapters 27 to 30) he very solemnly speaks to their will and heart to gain God's blessing and not His curse. Like a father he pleads with them. These chapters are some of the finest in the whole Bible.

IV. Then we have a supplement in chapters 31 to 34. In 31:7 Joshua is appointed his successor. In the beautiful chapters 32 and 33 he blesses them, recalling the blessing of old Jacob. In the last chapter we see the old man taking his leave and going "the last mile" to Mount Nebo. There he looks back to the desert and its memories of a thousand sins and mercies. Then he looks forward to the land of promise with its beauties of nature, where Jesus, "the Great Prophet" (chapter 18:15), would be born to save us. Then he died, and the Lord buried him in a valley in the land of Moab (chapter 34:5,6).

Deuteronomy is a glorious book. Let us not fail to **read it often** and the whole book **in one sitting**. U.



Table of Duties

"No place like home," people often say. We would rather put it thus: "No place like a Christian home." In a Christian home you will find true happiness which only Christ and His Word can give. In a Christian home the Word of God rules. What does God's Word, in the first place, say to husbands?

A Husband Should Live with His Wife

Peter says: "Ye husbands, dwell [live] with them [wives] according to knowledge," 1 Peter 3:7. A husband should live with his wife, not leave her, not get a divorce. Jesus therefore also says: "What God has joined together, let not man put asunder." And a Christian husband will live with his wife "according to knowledge," that is, as a wise man who knows the Word of God and his Christian duty toward his wife. He knows that his wife is a "vessel" prepared of God for him. He will do to his wife as he does with other precious gifts of God, not treat her as a slave, not be bitter [harsh] against her, but honor her as a gift from heaven.

A Husband Should Love His Wife

In His Word God says that a husband should "give honor to the wife as unto the weaker vessel." The stronger should never abuse but protect the weak and be kind. So a husband should do unto his wife, for he should love her "even as Christ also loved the church, and gave Himself for it," Eph. 5:25. Christ is a wonderful Example for every husband. As He laid down His life for His bride, the church, upholds and protects her, so the husband should be unto his wife. Above all, he should honor and love her "as being heirs together of the grace of life." They both are baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. They both have the same Savior and His blessings by faith in His blood and hope to live together in heaven with Christ and His holy angels.

A Husband Should Pray for, and with, His Wife

God desires that husbands prav both alone and together with their wives. But how can a husband pray if he despises her, quarrels and fights with her? Thus prayers are "hindered," or cut off. Therefore God also says: "Husbands, love your wives, and be not bitter against them" (Col. 3:19). Today we see many unhappy marriages because husband and wife do not begin marriage with prayer, and during their wedded life never pray together, for they do not love and honor one another. Husbands, do your Christian duty toward your wives, and be blessed. J. L. S.

GoD sometimes washes the eyes of His children with tears, that they may see Him more clearly.



Selections are from "Feeding on His Word," a daily Bible-reading guide for 1955 by the Board for Parish Education of The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod, 210 N. Broadway, St. Louis 2, Mo. Obtainable there. 5 cents.

SUGGESTED USE

- 1. As you open your Bible, say: "Speak, Lord, Thy servant hears."
- 2. After finding the place in the Bible, read the short explanation given under the date.
- 3. Now read the words of the Bible. Read slowly, and think what each verse says.
- 4. Read again the short explanation and the prayer, adding what is on your heart and perhaps the Lord's Prayer.

Saturday, January 1

2 Timothy 3:14-4:5

All Scripture is valuable because it is God's Word. It has good teachings for us, shows us our sins, helps us correct our sinful lives, and shows us how to live right before God.

Prayer: O Lord Jesus, make us able to show our love to You by doing good works; thus we thank You. Amen.

Sunday, January 2 2 Peter 1:16-21

We should take heed (pay attention) to the Bible passages that help make other verses easier to understand. The clear Bible verses help make the dark (hard to understand) passages bright.

Prayer: O Holy Spirit, make the light of understanding shine in our hearts so that we know what the Bible says about our Savior. Amen.

Monday, January 3 Luke 8:4-15

The Word of God is like seed. We have the duty to help spread that

precious seed in the hope that it will find a place to grow in the hearts of many people.

Prayer: O God, make our hearts like good ground, growing crops of love and good works for You. Amen.

Tuesday, January 4 John 14:18-24

If we love Jesus, we will show that love by believing His Word and doing His commandments. What blessings will we get? The heavenly Father will love us and live with us!

Prayer: Dear Jesus, help us love You so that the Father's love will bless and cheer and comfort us. Amen.

Wednesday, January 5 John 20:30, 31

The history of the early church and the lives of the disciples are written for a purpose — so that we can know and believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, our only Savior. *Prayer:* Our Lord and God, we ask You to make our faith stronger, so that we may be sure of eternal life in heaven. Amen.

Thursday, January 6 John 1:1-18

Only through Jesus can we know the true God. Jesus said, "No man cometh unto the Father but by Me." That is why we always pray in Jesus' name. Jesus shows us God's great love for us.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, You are the Light of the world; give us light (understanding and knowledge) in our hearts. Amen.

Friday, January 7 John 14:8-11

Through Jesus we see our loving heavenly Father. God sent His only Son into the world to suffer and die for our sins. That shows us how loving and kind He is to us.

Prayer: Dear Savior, help us to know our loving heavenly Father through You. Amen.

Saturday, January 8 John 8:31-47

Because Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life, He is the Truth that sets us free — free from sin. We no longer need to be servants of sin, as He explains in the other verses.

Prayer: O Son of God, make us free from sin, and help us serve You out of love. Amen.

Sunday, January 9 Psalm 19

The world with all its beautiful things tells us there is a God of glory. The wonderful things of this world could not just happen; they say, it seems, "God made us!"

Prayer: O Lord, accept our thoughts of thanksgiving, our words of worship, and our psalms of praise. Amen.

Monday, January 10 Hebrews 1:1-14

After speaking to His people through the prophets for many hundreds of years, God sent His own Son into the world. Jesus is often called the Word because His words explain things, and Jesus explains God's mind to us.

Prayer: God, help us to understand Your Word, the message that Jesus is our one and only Savior. Amen.

Tuesday, January 11

1 John 1:1-10

The writer of this letter had apparently seen Jesus when He was alive on earth — the Word made flesh. John explains that he and the other disciples saw and heard and knew Jesus, the Son of God.

Prayer: Jesus, our Lord, give us complete joy in knowing You are our true and only Savior. Amen.

Wednesday, January 12 Luke 24:13-27

Are we sometimes slow to believe the precious promises we read in God's Word? The Bible is the true Word of God and leads us to our Savior; let us study it over and over to learn of Him.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, make our hearts ready to receive Your holy Word and believe Your promises. Amen.

Thurscⁱ, January 13 1 Peter 1:22-25

From God's Word we receive new life — spiritual life — just like being born again. The life our soul receives from God's Word is eternal life; through faith our soul lives forever.

Prayer: O Lord, let Your pure Word always be preached to us so that our souls grow in faith unto life everlasting. Amen.

Friday, January 14 John 15:1-11

Through Christ's word of forgiveness we are made clean, ready to live lives that show our love to God. ... Only by living in Christ can we bear fruit — that means, do good works to please God.

Prayer: O Christ, live in our hearts with Your Word so that we may live in You forever. Amen.

Saturday, January 15 Psalm 1

We should find it pleasant to think about the Law (Word) of the Lord, because in it we have the promise of the Savior, who forgives our sins and is now preparing a place for us in heaven.

Prayer: Dear Lord, help us to bear fruits from Your Word — deeds of love and thanks to You. Amen.

Sunday, January 16 John 4:1-26

Many generations people waited for the Savior to be born — the Savior, who would lead them to worship God in truth from the heart. Jesus tells us, "I am He!"

Prayer: God, help us to believe with our whole heart so that we worship You truly. Amen.

Monday, January 17 Isaiah 55:6-11

God is higher than we; that means He is greater, more powerful; yes, God is perfect. He has power over all things; He knows all things. But, best of all, God has power to forgive our sins.

Prayer: Dear heavenly Father, forgive all our sins; You alone can do that for us. We thank You. Amen.

Tuesday, January 18 Isaiah 40:12-31

No person, no idol, no animal, can compare with God! He made all things and now rules over all things. From Him people and animals get their power to live. Thank Him for His blessings!

Prayer: Give our bodies new strength, O Lord, and especially we ask You to make our faith strong. Amen.

Wednesday, January 19 Psalm 90:1-12

The true God has always been and always will be; He had no beginning and no end. He has been God since before He made the world, and He always will remain the same — the one true God.

Prayer: Give us wisdom, O Lord, to know You, the one true God and Father of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

Thursday, January 20 Psalm 139:1-12

God is everywhere. We cannot escape Him by fleeing, because He is all-present. But we have comfort in knowing He is with us to love and protect us if we believe in Jesus. *Prayer:* Loving Father in heaven, lead us with Your hand so that we do not fall and become lost. Amen.

Friday, January 21 Romans 11:33-36

God's wisdom is so very great that we can not understand many things He does. We do not see how His plans work. Yet all things work together for good for His children believers.

Prayer: We give glory to You, O God, because of Your great wisdom and knowledge in planning our salvation from sin. Amen.

Saturday, January 22 Exodus 34:1-7

How wonderful it must have been for Moses to hear God talking with him! And yet we, too, can have God talk to us. He does that every time we read the Bible, every time we go to church.

Prayer: Show Your great love to us, O Lord, by forgiving our many sins. We thank You for such loving-kindness. Amen.

Sunday, January 23 Matthew 6:25-34

We have no need to be anxious or worried. God takes care of us by giving us all the things we need, just as He takes care of birds and plants and all things. Trust Him, and do not worry!

Prayer: Lord, we pray that Your kingdom will spread to many, many, through the preaching of Your Word. Amen.

Monday, January 24 1 John 4:7-12

God is Love! He showed His great love for us sinners by send-

ing His Son, Jesus, to suffer and die on the cross to take away our sins. God never changes; He will always love His children.

Prayer: We thank You, Lord, for Your great love, which gives us eternal life through Jesus. Amen.

Tuesday, January 25 Romans 8:31-39

When God through His love chooses us for His own children and forgives us our sins for Jesus' sake, nothing can ever change that. God's love for us is more powerful than any of our enemies.

Prayer: Dear heavenly Father, we thank You for the great Gift of love You gave us — Your own Son to be our Savior. Amen.

Wednesday, January 26 Psalm 121

God truly helps His children in their work day by day. He tells us we must only ask and He will help us. Psalm 46 calls Him "a very present Help in trouble." Pray to Him; He will help us.

Prayer: Lord, keep us from sin and all evil. When Satan tempts us, be our Helper. Amen.

Thursday, January 27 Exodus 3:1-6

The Angel of the Lord here means the Son of God. Because He appeared to Moses here, this place was called "holy ground" — a place to be respected and honored because God appeared there.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, because Jesus has taken our sins away, we ask You to let us come to You boldly with our prayers. Amer

Friday, January 28 Isaiah 6:1-8

In a vision (spirit picture) Isaiah saw the Lord, the King. We cannot see God, but we can learn about our Lord and King by reading the Bible. It describes Him to us.

Prayer: Lord, when You ask for someone to tell others about You, help us be ready, like Isaiah, who said, "Send me." Amen.

Saturday, January 29 Psalm 99

God is truly holy, without sin. He demands that we, too, become holy, sinless. The only way we can be sinless is to let Jesus take away our sins. He died to do that. Let us believe in Him.

Prayer: Praise belongs to You, O God. Help us through our praises to show other people Your greatness. Amen.

Sunday, January 30 Deuteronomy 10:12-22

The Lord, our God, is the only true God; idols and other false gods have no power to hear and answer prayer. The Lord is Ruler over all masters and leaders and rulers on earth. Obey Him!

Prayer: Help us to fear (give honor to) You, O Lord God, and to do Your will, and to show our love to You by serving You. Amen.

Monday, January 31 Revelation 15:1-4

God is holy, for He hates and punishes sin. But He also shows love and mercy to people who are sorry for their sins, and He forgives their sins for Jesus' sake.

Prayer: Make the people of all nations turn to you, Lord, with faith in their hearts, and keep them in Thy grace. Amen. W. O. N.

Lincoln freed the slaves in the United States, but how can the slaves of sin become really free from sin? John 8:36.

With what kind of feelings can we go in prayer to God's throne of grace if we are believers in Christ? Hebrews 4:16.

What cannot be measured in dollars and cents? Job 28:12-19.

Even the disciples of Jesus had arguments among themselves. About what were they quarreling sometimes? Luke 22:24.

How can we tell if faith is alive in a person's heart? James 2:17. Did Jesus ever have sorrow and grief in His life on earth? Isaiah 53:3.

How can you fix it so you will always have enough in your life? Proverbs 28:27.

What cannot happen to God's covenant (promise)? Psalm 89:34.

When Paul was going to Rome by ship, how many anchors did the sailors use to keep the ship from drifting? Acts 27:29.