

# The Deaf Lutheran



*Ephphatha, that is,  
Be opened.*

MARK 7:34

Volume 48

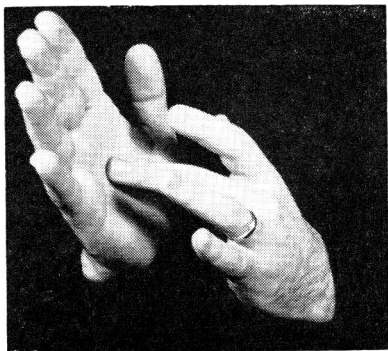
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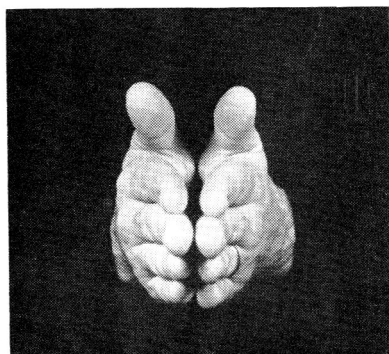
## THE BIBLE IS THE JESUS BOOK



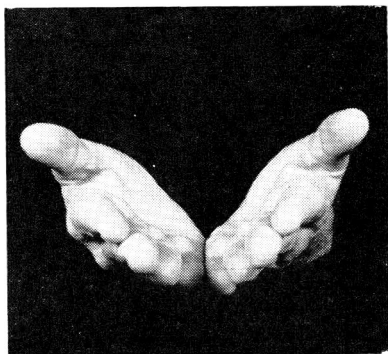
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These ministers preach in more than 275 cities in our land; they conduct classes in religion at over 50 city and state schools for the Deaf. You will find them ready to serve you; call upon them or write to them. The Deaf need God's Word.

## THE DEAF LUTHERAN

### Official Paper of Lutheran Churches of the Deaf

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# A Christian Housewife Speaks Up

At the Second Midwest Conference of Deaf Laymen, held in October 1955 at Omaha, Mrs. Nick Peterson gave the following paper. The general topic of the Conference was "Our Church at Work in Our World." In her direct, straight-to-the-point manner Mrs. Petersen had something to say, and she said it bluntly and well. This is what she said:

"Dear Christian friends and members of our Lutheran church!

"I want to talk to you, first, about Faith and Life in our Church; secondly, the Church and World Conditions.

"First, Faith and Life in our Church. We know God gave His Word because God wants people to know His will. Jesus instituted two Sacraments, Holy Baptism and the Lord's Supper, because Jesus wanted people to receive special blessings through these. The Word and the Sacraments we call "means of grace," or bringers of forgiveness. In these God shows His love to us and through these He brings and seals us great benefits. We must use these means of grace faithfully and regularly. If we neglect God's Word and His Sacraments, we lose much good for our soul.

"Statistics or records of our church show that about fifty percent of our people go to church on any one Sunday. Where are the other fifty per cent? Answer, not in church and not attending to God's means of grace.

"Our members receive the Lord's Supper, on the average, about three and one half times in one year. Both

church attendance and receiving the Lord's Supper can improve if all members are truly hungry for God's means of grace, and then our church and church work would progress faster and better. We cannot do Christ's kingdom work well if our soul receives not that good food from heaven that God provides for us.

"Do you know that only one third of our church members do most of the work in our home congregations, in the Districts, in the Synod? That means that only one third of the members really do all personal work and support our church with prayers and gifts.

"We ask, why do only one third of our people accept their duty and responsibility for their church? Perhaps our people are too prosperous and comfortable, perhaps too many of the church people let prosperity make them forget God's Word and church; perhaps thinking too much about money and earthly pleasures makes them careless about their soul.

"We must confess that those things make people lose interest in Christ's work and lead people from church and God.

## Conference Notices

Ephphatha Conference, July 1 to 4, 1956, Concordia College, St. Paul, Minn.

The Northwest Deaf Laymen's Conference will meet July 20 to 22 at Lutherland, near Tacoma, Wash.

The North Central Conference will meet in Madison, Wis., Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 25 and 26.

"What can we do about that? Answer, each of us must examine himself or herself and stop and think about his or her own life and each one ask himself: How do I attend to reading diligently God's precious Word? Do I love God's house and regularly worship my Lord with my fellow Christians? Do I pray daily? Do I take up my duties and my work for my church with joy? Am I a witness for Jesus?

"Church members should encourage each other, help each other to continue in faith and in God-pleasing life. When we meet some members of our church or when we visit in their homes, it is a good idea to spend some time talking about God and His church and God's work.

"May God bless all our Lutheran Deaf congregations and help us all to keep a strong faith in God, and God help us to improve our Christian life.

"And now let me speak on the Church and World Conditions.

"Because the church is in the world, therefore world conditions or things that happen in the world influence the church in some ways.

"We read in history about awful persecutions of the church many years ago. Because people believed in God and would not give up their faith, enemies of God's church forced these believers to suffer many things.

"Today in some countries God's people must also suffer persecution, but here in our country we hear or read little or nothing about people suffering because they belong to church. Thank God for that!

"But today still many enemies of God and His church try to hinder church work and want to destroy God's church. Atheism, Communism,

two terrible enemies of God's church, are working earnestly to stop the preaching of God's Word and want to overthrow the church.

"Because we know that the devil and our enemies in the world are busy and try to steal from us that wonderful blessing, His Word and the church, what must we Christians do? Answer, we all must work together in Christ and help to enlarge His kingdom on earth, and that means we must never give up but support our church with daily prayers, with our work and with our gifts.

"Our Lutheran Church uses radio, television, various magazines and newspapers, moving-picture films and slides and other things for just that one good purpose, namely, to help other people to receive and to enjoy God's blessings, the means of grace, through which people are saved. All of us should support this work of our Church.

"If we fail in our *God-given* duty, how can we expect this world to improve and how can we expect God's continued blessing upon us?

"Let us go home and encourage and urge all our fellow church members to continue with joy and zeal our Lord's work in our world today."

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God's LAW breaks hard hearts;  
God's GOSPEL heals the broken heart.

"SAND and salt and a mass of iron are easier to bear than a man without understanding" (Jesus Sirach 22:15).

"LEND to thy neighbor in time of his need, and pay thou thy neighbor in due season" (Jesus Sirach 29:2).





## Field Gleanings

**Pittsburgh, Pa.** The members of our Pittsburgh congregation and friends far and near were saddened by the sudden and unexpected death of **Mr. Charles Fritzges**, aged 80, faithful member of our Pittsburgh church and for many years the president. He passed to his home above during his sleep on the night of April 30 in Winter Garden, Fla., where he had gone to visit relatives. His wife, Sadie, preceded him in death a year ago, after a long period of illnesses which left her an invalid and blind and during which Mr. Fritzges faithfully tended her every need. A memorial service for Mr. Fritzges was held at Pittsburgh on June 14. Baptized into the fold of Jesus were **Karen Lydia Tiedeman**, infant daughter of Woodrow and Lorraine Tiedeman, at services in Buffalo on March 27; and **Gary Eugene Mowl**, son of Harold and Betty Mowl, at services in Pittsburgh on April 19th. H. W. R.

**Seattle, Wash.** During the last few years many repairs, changes, and improvements have been made on Our Redeemer Church and parsonage. Much more money has been spent recently than the entire property cost in 1922. Next to our gracious Father in heaven special thanks are due the Northwest District of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League, Mrs. Gerhard Molden, president, for a gift of \$5000 toward the cost of rehabilitation. On Sunday, April 29, a special service of re-dedication and thanksgiving

was held. Rev. Geo. W. Gaertner, Ph.D., of Oakland, Calif., who was pastor of Our Redeemer when the building was erected, was the guest speaker. J. A. B.

**Colorado Springs, Colo.** On May 6 **Patricia Ann** and **Ruby Jean**, children of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer **Gaddie**, were laid into the arms of Jesus in Holy Baptism, and **Mr. Herman Butler** was received into church membership by confirmation. — On April 29 a service for the Deaf was held at Durango, Colo., which Rev. Gene Schmidt of St. Paul's conducted, Mrs. Corado interpreting. Rev. Bailey had been conducting a survey in that area and ten Deaf attended the service. June 13 Pastor Bailey had the service. The reports of all the stations in the Colorado Field show a healthy growth and good interest in attendance and contributions.

**St. Louis, Mo.** On April 29 **Jonathan Carl** came to the home of Candidate and Mrs. Waldemar O. **Neisch**, bringing great joy to the young couple. God bless them all.

**Grand Forks, N. Dak.** **Mr. Henry Butenhoff** of Barnesville, Minn., one of the oldest members of the Fargo parish passed away in a Fargo hospital after a short illness. God in His great mercy did not let Mr. Butenhoff suffer long but soon called him into His eternal place of rest. Mr. Butenhoff was buried from the Sabin, Minn., church, the Rev. W. Ferber officiating on Saturday, April 28. Quite a few Deaf came to see their



Grand Forks, N. Dak., Deaf LWML

friend of many years being carried to his last resting place.—The accompanying picture shows our Grand Forks, N. Dak., Lutheran Women's Missionary League, which meets every third month. **Mrs. A. G. Kellam**, second lady from the right, back row, a hearing lady, has for several years successfully sponsored this group. This group has taken up the study of God's Word through visual education methods, filmstrips or slides. The younger set of Deaf attends regularly. W. F.

**South Chicago, Ill.** St. Philip's Lutheran Church for the Deaf received six adults into membership on April 29. **Mrs. Katie Brown** was received by Holy Baptism. Those confirmed were **Mrs. Annie Grant**, **Miss Alberta Holmes**, **Mrs. Eula Johnson**, **Mr. Ulyses Kendall**, and **Mr. Askew Turner**. Two sons of Mr. Turner, **William** and **Leo**, were also baptized. We are thankful to God for this blessing in our South Chicago group, and we pray that the Holy Spirit will ever keep them in the true faith.—**Pastor and Mrs. Borchers** also proudly announce the birth of a daughter, **Miriam Catherine**, on May 17. She was made a child of God through Holy Baptism on June 10.—**Mr. Albert Mix** of Benton Harbor, Mich., was taken to his heavenly home on May 14. Mr.

Mix was a member of St. Matthew Lutheran Church. The funeral was on May 18. God comfort the wife and children with the hope of the resurrection in the Savior Jesus.

R. B.

**Kansas City, Mo.** The Pilgrim Lutheran members recently presented a beautiful clergy cross to Pastor Ferber.—Teaching young friends about Jesus and giving training for individual, daily Bible-use training, the twelfth consecutive semester of public school religious released time classes was conducted with thirty hard-of-hearing pupils. The class represented fifty-five per cent of the Greater Kansas City enrollment of Protestant children.—The four Bible classes at the Kansas School were attended by a total of one hundred thirty-two students. Of this number, twenty boys and girls are from the beginners group. At Olathe three of the pupils have received honorary mention as being honor students; they are members of our Bible class. They are **Robert Creston**, **David Saxer**, and **Joyce Thompson**. **Mrs. Robert Miller** and **Miss Helen Lile** give splendid assistance with teaching the classes.—In the Kansas City congregation, the current officers are **Mr. William Ragland**, president; **Mr. Keith Matthews**, treasurer; **Mr. Eugene Hughes**, trustee. In the ladies Dorcas Society, **Miss Dorothy Jeffries** is president and **Mrs. William Ragland** is treasurer.—Our friends are doing excellent work in helping the church carry forward its Gospel program for Jesus the Savior. **Mrs. Shirley Gouby** and **Mrs. C. Wear** assist the pastor in teaching public school released time classes in addition to making numerous sick calls and mission calls.—It was a pleas-

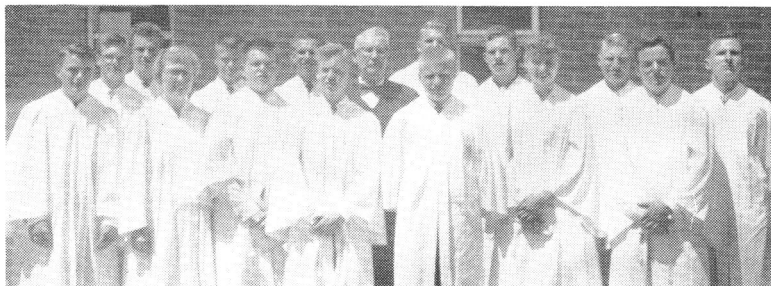
ant experience recently to meet one of the pastors who at one time was in charge of the Kansas City Mission. The pastor is the **Rev. Louis H. Jagels**, now residing at Warrensburg, Mo., and the former pastor of the Kansas City Mission from 1914 to 1918. — It was an equally happy event to have with us in a recent worship a member of the St. Louis Seminary Sign Language Class student **Frank Wagenknecht**. A. E. F.

**Jacksonville, Ill.** A very successful year's work was brought to a close when the Sunday school had its last session on May 20 and awards were distributed. With **Mr. Earl J. Thaler**, now vicar in Oklahoma City, the superintendent, assisted by **Students Leroy Mason, Herbert Schwandt, Wm. Ludwig** from the Springfield Seminary; **Mrs. Audrie Avery**, wife of a student; the deaf advanced pupils **Joan Hansen, Ausma Smits, and Kenneth Toerpe**; **Mrs. F. P. Lupien**; and **Mr. and Mrs. Cl. Broecker** there was an excellent faculty helping Pastor Uhlig. The roll showed 108 at the close of the year. — May 13 a class of 13 was confirmed and one baptized, **Kathryn Pyatt**. Those confirmed were **Wm. Walker, Melvin and Robert Lind, Dale and Floyd Thompson, Wm. Zachariasen, Preston Lindsey,**



Springfield Seminary Helpers in Jacksonville Sunday School: (l. to r.) Wm. Ludwig, Herbert Schwandt, Mrs. Audrie Avery, Leroy Mason, Earl J. Thaler

**Don Witty, Philip Knutson, Ausma Smits, Leon Haywood, James Apple, Frank Lohman, and Richard Koehne.** — **Mr. Felix P. Lupien** has returned from the hospital after a painful siege of illness. While there, a son-in-law was taken by a heart attack and his wife also broke under the strain and had to be hospitalized. Her brother, **Frank Mather**, died May 22 after a long illness and was given Christian burial from Christ for the Deaf Chapel May 25. Mr. Frank Mather was a faithful friend of the Deaf and for a number of years teacher and supervisor at the Illinois School for the Deaf and also for a number of years rehabilitation



Confirmation Class, Jacksonville, Ill., May 13, 1956: (l. to r.) Wm. Walker, Melvin Lind, Preston Lindsay, Kathryn Pyatt, Don Witty, Philip Knutson, Richard Koehne, Robert Lind, Pastor Uhlig, Wm. Zachariasen (rear), Dale Thompson, Frank Lohman, Ausma Smits, Floyd Thompson, James Apple, Leon Haywood

agent for the State of Illinois. The aged Lupiens moved from Jacksonville to Oakland, Calif., to reside with the widowed daughter, Mrs. Frank Goveia. — At the graduation exercises of the Illinois School for the Deaf on May 30 the superintendent, Mr. Thomas Kline recognized the co-operating service of Pastor Uhlig, who for the last eighteen years served the children of the Illinois School. — A bulletin board erected before the Christ for the Deaf chapel of the same stone as the chapel front, now at night lights up the simple but impressive front with its massive imbedded cross.

**Des Moines, Iowa.** On May 1, **Thomas Neil**, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Neil Mayberry, was baptized. — Confirmation services were held in May in Des Moines, Burlington, and Cedar Falls. The instructions had been begun by Pastor Mesenbring and were concluded by Pastor Stacy. — After the service in Mason City on April 22 the Deaf at a pot-luck supper presented Rev. Stacy with a beautiful matched-leather five-piece desk set. — On May 6 Pastor Stacy conducted a service at Oscaloosa, Iowa. Whether this city will have regular monthly services or not will depend upon the interest shown by the Deaf of the vicinity. The reporter has not heard what the future plans are. L. M. S.

**Newark, N. J.** The New Jersey District of the Walther League chose the New Jersey Mission to Deaf as its theme for display at the International Walther League convention at Des Moines in July. **Mr. Thomas Olsen**, Sunday school superintendent of the Newark Mission is chairman of the arrangements for the display.

C. R. G.

**Cleveland, Ohio.** Baptized during 1955 in the Northern Ohio Field were **Bonita Ann**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. **W. Crane**; **Kevin Charles**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Heldur **Huesalu**; **Rocky Lee**, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. L. **Woodie, Jr.**; **Doreen Concetta**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wesley **Kay**; **Constance Lillie**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joe **Jackson**; **Vivian Ann**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Murrell **Garnet**; **Richard Lee**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard L. **Bankston, Sr.**; **Randolph and Raymond**, sons of Mr. and Mrs. Terence **Esser**. — Received into the Church were: **Morgan Kent Fenley**, **James Higgins**, **Ralph Dunlap**, and **Mrs. Mary Prinzler**, who were admitted by confession of faith. **Mr. James Prinzler** and **Grace Meilander** are newly transferred members. — At the end of 1955 our Northern Ohio Field consisted of 170 members, 300 souls under our care, 28 children in church-school, and we gathered over \$3,800. T. F.

**Hannibal, Mo.** On May 27 Pastor Uhlig conducted his farewell service at Hannibal with the group of Deaf which on that day was augmented by the Quincy Deaf in a joint service. After the service he was presented with a set of cuff links and tie clasp. Through the many years he preached to these people a strong tie of friendship has developed. May God bless and keep these people in faith.

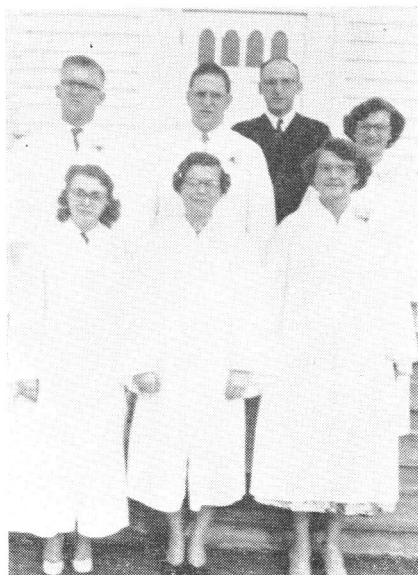
**St. Paul, Minn.** Plans are being made to complete the deal of purchasing a site for the Minneapolis and St. Paul congregations. A committee, composed of one layman and the pastors of Grace and Calvary churches, one Board member, the lawyer and a member from each of

two Lutheran lay organizations, is at work drawing up plans for the financing and erecting of a church property. — The work of serving the children at the Minnesota School for the Deaf at Faribault was concluded for this season May 17. It was carried on by Pastors Kraus and Bremer, assisted by **Miss M. Hanson** and **Mrs. A. Klein**. Pastor Kraus, at the graduation exercises at the School on May 25, had the invocation and closing prayers. The work at the Colony at Faribault was also closed for the summer. G. K.

**Decatur, Ill.** Two children were laid into the arms of Jesus at the service here May 22, **William Leonard Vaughn, Jr.**, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Vaughn and **Wilma Sue**, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John V. Gasparini. "And He took them up in His arms, laid His hand upon them and blessed them."

**New York.** On April 22 **Mr. Jay Dee Grant** was baptized and received into membership in the Lutheran Church at St. Mark's Lutheran Church for the Deaf. Mr. Grant had been taking adult confirmation instruction from Pastor Hausmann. — **Donna Mildred**, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Wheeler of the Westchester Mission, was baptized May 6 in the service at Mt. Vernon. May the Lord keep these new members in faith. W. H.

**Portland, Ore.** On May 20 sixteen young people were received into full membership with the church by the rite of confirmation. May the Lord bless and keep them faithful unto death. The names are: **Dale Hall Campbell, James Edward Porter, Caroline Jean Kirsch, Frederick Ernest Markworth, Dorothy Joan Holmquist, William Charles Grimm,**



Confirmed at Silent Lutheran Church, Madison, Wis., March 25, 1956. Front row left to right: Shirley Tupper, Joan Schultz, Violet Stamper; rear: Richard Barth, Pastor Kosche between Victor and Ruth Hazelton

**Paula Elnore Call, Emily Caroline Jensen, Stanley Robert Stremler, Bonnie Jean Minzey, William Marshall Lail, Bernita Rae Vold, James Wilson Gibbs, Thelma Corrine Newman, Gary William Nelson and Larry Allan Schoenberg.** Dorothy Holmquist, who had to undergo an operation the day before, renewed her baptismal vow on a hospital bed before two elders in the afternoon. The ladies of the church presented a pin to each child as a gift. Due to diligent work of Mrs. Eunice Lawrence and Mrs. Mary Erickson the class was arrayed in fine white gowns. G. C. R.

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"I AM only one, but I am one;  
I can not do *everything*,  
But I can do *something*;  
What I can do I *ought* to do;  
And what I ought to do,  
By the grace of God I *will* do."

# Studies in Luther's Catechism

## Christian Questions with Their Answers

### Questions 15 and 16

The greatest of all blessings, the forgiveness of all our sins, is sealed to us in the Holy Supper. By it salvation is made sure unto us. Now Question 15 asks, "What ought we to do when we eat His body and drink His blood and thus receive the pledge?"

#### "This Do in Remembrance of Me"

The Christian answers Question 15 with these words: "We ought to show and remember His death and the shedding of His blood." By going to the Lord's Supper we preach. We remember His death. At the Lord's Table we confess before all the world, "Jesus died for me." Paul therefore writes: "As often as ye eat this bread and drink this cup, ye do show the Lord's death till He come" (1 Corinthians 11:26).

#### You Preach:

##### "Only Jesus Can Save"

Our Catechism asks: "Why ought we to remember and show His death?" and answers, "That we may learn to believe that no creature could make satisfaction for our sins, but Christ, true God and man." When we go to the Lord's Supper, we intend to say, "Only Jesus can save me." Only He can do it, because He is true God, the Lord over all things. And this Son of God became man so that He could shed His holy precious blood. At the Lord's Table you confess, "Only the blood of Jesus can cleanse me from sin."

#### You Confess: "My Sin Is Great"

Then we remember His death "that we may learn to look with terror at our sins and regard them as great indeed." Why look with terror and fright at our sins and think them great indeed? Because our sins nailed the Son of God to the cross. Our sins are not just little mistakes, but great, very great, because for the forgiveness of all sin God Himself had to shed His blood. At the Lord's Table you cannot think lightly of sin, but you will humble yourself in your great sins before the holy God and confess your sins with great sorrow and say, "Chief of sinners though I be, Jesus shed His blood for me."

#### You Say: "Only Jesus Can Give Joy and Comfort"

Our Catechism teaches us to say, "We show and remember His death, for I find joy and comfort in Him alone." What can give you comfort in all trouble and sorrow? Who can comfort when sins trouble you and the devil accuses you? Where can you find joy and comfort in death? You go to the Lord's Table and you say, "Only in Jesus I find joy and comfort in good and evil days, in joy and sorrow, in life and death."

#### You Cry Out: "Jesus Saves"

"And thus be saved through such faith." Yes, such a faith in the crucified and risen Savior will save us. And by eating His body and drinking His blood, "given and shed for you for the remission of sins," by showing and remembering His death, our faith is strengthened, and we shall continue in this faith to the end and be saved forever and ever!

J. L. S.



# Devotions

Selections and devotions are by Pastor Donald Boerner

## 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 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.

**Sunday, July 1**

**Fifth Sunday after Trinity**

**Luke 5:1-11**

Sunday is a time when many people go fishing, especially during vacation. Peter had had no luck until he permitted Jesus to use his ship as a pulpit and then obeyed Jesus' directions. We learn that we should give attention to God's Word, pray and work, and not forget to be fishers of men, "catching" people for Jesus.

*Prayer:* Lord, teach us patiently to work for the salvation of men by bringing them the Gospel. Amen.

**Monday, July 2**

**Acts 19:1-7**

John's followers told Paul: "We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost." Many Christian people are just as ignorant of the Holy Ghost and His work. People coming out of church service were asked: "Have you the Holy Ghost?" Surprised, they said: "We don't know." But the Holy Ghost lives in baptized, believing Christians.

*Prayer:* O Holy Spirit, make us ready to give the right answer when we are asked about our faith. Amen.

**Tuesday, July 3**

**John 3:5**

We Christians received the Holy Spirit when we were born again in Holy Baptism. Of this I am sure, for the Word of God itself has joined the water (Baptism) to the Spirit so that he that believes and is baptized receives the Holy Spirit as a blessing of Baptism then and there.

*Prayer:* Dear heavenly Father, save me from people who try to take from me the comfort of my Baptism. Amen.

**Wednesday, July 4**

**John 7:16, 17**

This is a good word: The nearer one comes to Christ, the better he knows the Holy Spirit; the better you know the Holy Spirit, the more you are sure that His Word is true.

*Prayer:* Jesus, through using Your Word make me walk a little closer to You every day. Amen.



Thursday, July 5

Psalm 23

The Good Shepherd gives us enough good things to last us through this life. The real food and the real "green pastures" are His Word; that satisfies the longing soul.

*Prayer:* Good Shepherd, give me food and drink for this life and, above all, give me the bread and water of life for my soul. Amen.

Friday, July 6

2 Peter 2:19-21

The prophets who wrote the Old Testament did not write whenever they felt like it, nor did they write their own words and ideas, but the Holy Ghost moved them to foretell the sufferings of Christ and the glory that was to follow.

*Prayer:* Father in heaven, I thank You for Your Word which I know is the truth. Amen.

Saturday, July 7

Revelation 22:16, 17

"The Holy Ghost has called me by the Gospel." I heard this sweet Gospel from the bride of Christ, the church. When the bride preached this Gospel, it was the Holy Spirit who said, "Come, stoop down, drink and live." I heard and drank. Now I must also say to my friends, "Come!"

*Prayer:* We thank You, dear Jesus, for the sweet Gospel of forgiveness. Amen.

Sunday, July 8

Sixth Sunday after Trinity

Romans 9:1-3

Paul wished that he could suffer the punishment of hell in the place of his Jewish countrymen who did not believe in Christ. God would not let him do this, for "the soul that

sinneth, that same soul shall die." We must marvel at Paul's interest to bring others to Christ. We need more of this interest.

*Prayer:* Jesus, our only Savior, day by day make me to speak more and more to people who do not know You and are lost. Amen.

Monday, July 9

Zechariah 4:1-6

Zerubbabel, the governor, was building the temple. The prophet was to say to him that this great work cannot be done by force of armies but by God's Spirit, which comes through the golden candlestick of God's Word that shines so brightly. We cannot with force make people believe; the Holy Spirit makes believers when and where He will.

*Prayer:* Lord, make us patient when we sow the seed of Your Word and bless the work. Amen.

Tuesday, July 10

Acts 2:1-3

Fifty days after Easter, on Pentecost, the Holy Spirit came like the sound of a mighty wind, yet it did not blow anything down. In His quiet way He made the preaching of the apostles powerful. Three thousand sinners believed in Christ that day. Wonderful miracles like that are still happening when sinners believe in Christ, but the work is done quietly and often we do not see it.

*Prayer:* O Holy Spirit, fill us as You filled the Apostles and make us strong witnesses for Jesus. Amen.

Wednesday, July 11

John 16:7-11

The Holy Spirit came to show men their sin through the Command-

ments. The sinner should go to Christ for healing and forgiveness. The many people who do not believe have no excuse on Judgment Day, because the Holy Ghost has shown them their sin but they would not believe.

*Prayer:* Holy Spirit, show me my sins, that I may go to Jesus for mercy. Amen.

**Thursday, July 12**

**Genesis 1:1-3**

The men who wrote the New Testament did not invent the Holy Spirit. He was with the Father and the Son in the beginning. Together with these two He made the heavens and the earth. God said, "Let there be!" There was a loud noise, and heaven and earth appeared. Then all was nice and quiet as the Holy Spirit moved on the face of the waters. It reminds us how the Holy Spirit brings peace and quietness into our troubled lives.

*Prayer:* O Spirit of God, give us peace and quiet in these our troubled days. Amen.

**Friday, July 13**

**Galatians 5:22**

Christians who let the Holy Spirit govern their lives are lovely people. They love one another, are patient with another's faults, suffer illness cheerfully. The Christian life would be still sweeter if we would more and more do the things against which there is no law.

*Prayer:* O Holy Ghost, give me strength to do a little more good today. Amen.

**Saturday, July 14**

**Ephesians 2:8, 9**

Christians are not yet perfect. We daily sin much and deserve nothing

but punishment. As often as we forget it, so often must we learn again that we in ourselves can find nothing of which to be proud.

*Prayer:* Make me humble, dear Savior, that I may be proud only about You and Your cross. Amen.

**Sunday, July 15**

**Seventh Sunday after Trinity**

**1 Corinthians 6:19, 20**

Just who are you that God Himself chooses to make His home in you? Better than others? You are not; for you also had to be bought with the precious blood of Christ. This should make you very humble. Try not to grieve the Spirit of God through sinning; for as little as you like to live in a dirty house, so little does the Holy Spirit like to live in people who dirty themselves with sin.

*Prayer:* Drive out of my heart, O Holy Ghost, sin and all that displeases You. Amen.

**Monday, July 16**

**Acts 5:1-11**

The Holy Spirit is not another word for God's power but a real Person to whom people can lie. Ananias could not have lied to "power" but he could try to deceive a person. This Person to whom he lied, said Peter, was not a man but was God.

*Prayer:* My heart, O God, is to You like an open book. Therefore teach me that it is useless to try to hide my sins from You. Amen.

**Tuesday, July 17**

**Romans 8:26, 27**

We are weak and do not always know for what we should pray. But the Holy Spirit helps us, teaching us to want the true riches that Jesus

brings more than earthly riches. He urges us to put first things first, first forgiveness, then earthly blessings. He also prays for us in quiet groanings when our heart is so sad that we cannot think of words to say in prayer.

*Prayer:* O You all-wise Spirit, teach me to want the true riches that Jesus brings. Amen.

**Wednesday, July 18**  
**Philippians 1:3-6**

Are you going to heaven? I know I am. I know Jesus and trust in His promise that "whosoever believeth in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life." I know He will not disappoint me between now and my death but will by the might of His Spirit keep me in faith until that great day. This I know.

*Prayer:* My Jesus, give me a faith that is strong in good and in bad days. Amen.

**Thursday, July 19**  
**Matthew 28:18-20**

The Holy Spirit is the Third Person in the Holy Trinity. He is named last, not because He is the least important but because human speech demands it. Man cannot think three thoughts at one time but must think in order, one, two, three. Actually the Three are equal in all things, in power, might, and glory.

*Prayer:* Spirit of God, it is surely good news to me that in Holy Baptism I got salvation from the mighty hand of God. Amen.

**Friday, July 20**  
**1 Peter 5:8-11**

The devil is a loud-mouth. He shouts loud to make us shake in fear. He hopes to make us lose our faith in Jesus. Thank God that we have His Word to tell him to go

away, and know that God's strength will give us the victory.

*Prayer:* Heavenly Father, teach me to have Your Word in my heart and mind always so that I may have it when I need it. Amen.

**Saturday, July 21**  
**Ephesians 3:14-21**

Great men receive strength from the Christian families to which they belong. Christians belong to God's family; God is their Father. This family has members from every age, past, present and future, all believers in Christ. From hearing the Word together with his many brothers and sisters, the Christian never knows and feels himself alone. God is his Father, Jesus his Brother. He praises this gracious God forever.

*Prayer:* Our Father in heaven, give us courage to live for You in this present wicked world and keep our whole Christian family in one spirit of love. Amen.

**Sunday, July 22**  
**Eighth Sunday after Trinity**  
**Acts 20:28**

Paul tells the elders (ministers) at Ephesus that the Holy Ghost has made them "over-see-ers" of the church of God. Therefore they should attend to the flock (church), feed it, warn it, and watch out for it. Oh, your minister whom the Holy Ghost has given you has much responsibility. Therefore help him, and make his work pleasant.

*Prayer:* O God, give us love for our pastor, Your servant, and teach us to help him in his work. Amen.

**Monday, July 23**  
**Luke 18:9-14**

There always were and are today proud men and women who do not

feel sorry for their sin. They even say they have no sin and tell God how good they are. But such people do not have forgiveness until they realize they are sinners indeed and say with the tax collector: "God, be merciful to me, a sinner."

*Prayer:* God, be merciful to me, a sinner. Amen.

**Tuesday, July 24**

**Matthew 12:31, 32**

There is no sin that God will not forgive except the sin against the Holy Ghost. People that continuously grieve and fight against the Holy Spirit, finally may become so hardened that the Holy Spirit stops working on them, and because He alone can work faith, they have no chance to get faith and forgiveness.

*Prayer:* O Holy Spirit, keep us from becoming stubborn and let us give attention to Your holy Word always. Amen.

**Wednesday, July 25**

**Romans 12:3-8**

Why are some churches peaceful and others full of fighting? Because in some churches the members think too highly of themselves. They think that the gifts they have should give them a better office; they are jealous and complain and fight. In other churches each one knows the gifts God gave him and does his work faithfully and cheerfully.

*Prayer:* Holy Spirit, teach me to honor the other man as better than myself. Amen.

**Thursday, July 26**

**1 Corinthians 12**

Special gifts of the Holy Spirit to the first church, speaking in tongues

(words that could not be understood) and working miracles, have stopped in the church of today. But the Holy Spirit works today as always, giving different gifts and abilities to people. Each one should use the gift God gave him for the good of the church of Christ.

*Prayer:* Holy Ghost, teach me to know my gift and to use it for Jesus. Amen.

**Friday, July 27**

**Isaiah 40:1, 2**

It is true, we will all feel very comfortable when we shall have come to heaven and see Jesus. All our sins and sorrows are past and can hurt us no more. But even now already we can and should feel comforted, for our sins are forgiven now. When Jesus died He set us free; when He arose, God said that we are truly free.

*Prayer:* Holy Spirit, when sin troubles me, be my Comforter. Amen.

**Saturday, July 28**

**James 2:15, 16**

In a church, correct teaching is very important, but correct teaching alone will not stop a church from destroying itself. A church must show it has the correct faith by doing the right things. As the Savior criticized the Pharisees for not helping the sinners and showing them the way to get salvation, so He will criticize us also if we do not help the poor sinners whom we can help.

*Prayer:* Jesus, teach me to pity and to help poor sinners as You have pitied all sinners and helped them. Amen.

Sunday, July 29

Ninth Sunday after Trinity

1 Timothy 1:12-15

Paul knew himself well. He said he was the worst sinner in the world. He knew he had been bad, because he had persecuted Christ's church. Yet, God in His grace, called him to become a minister and preach Jesus, therefore Jesus became to him every day a more wonderful Savior and he worked hard to have others believe in Him, too.

*Prayer:* O Jesus, teach me to know myself to be a bad, but sorry sinner; then You will become a wonderful Savior to me. Amen.

Monday, July 30

Matthew 19:16-30

It is not wrong to have riches, but it is wrong to trust in riches. The man who trusts in his riches will not trust in Jesus and so is lost.

Each one must choose between riches and easy living and Jesus and be ready to give up everything for Jesus' sake. What do you choose?

*Prayer:* O God, let not the love of riches force the love of Jesus from my heart. Amen.

Tuesday, July 31

John 14:1-6

In our Father's house above are many beautiful homes for us. They were prepared by Jesus and are reserved for His children. We know the way to heaven. The name of that street is still Calvary, we get to heaven by way of the cross of Jesus. He is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Knowing Him we need never be troubled about our future.

*Prayer:* O Holy Spirit, I thank You for having called me to faith; keep me in that faith to the end. Amen.



## Bible Quiz

To show that business would be carried on as usual after the capture and destruction of the city and the return from Babylon, God told Jeremiah to do something. The story is given Jeremiah 32.

1. What was Jeremiah to buy?  
V. 8.

2. What was the name of the cousin whose field he should buy?  
V. 7.

3. In which country was that field?  
V. 8.

4. How much did he pay for it?  
V. 9.

5. How many bills of sale were made out? V. 11.

6. What was the name of the clerk before whom the sale was officially made? V. 12.

7. Where was the clerk to keep both copies of the bill of sale, the sealed one for future reference, the open one for public inspection?  
V. 14.

8. Why was God permitting the enemies to destroy the city? V. 23.

9. What should the purchase of the field by Jeremiah, one year before the city was destroyed, show to the people? V. 42.