

Sign Post

**July –
August 2017**

In This Issue...

- 1 – Pastor’s Article
- 2 – Bible Study
- 3 – Prayers
Smile
- 4 – Word Search
Birthdays
- 5 – July Calendar
- 6 – August Calendar

Sign Post is online at
www.iowaeastdeaf.org.
It is the newsletter for:

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Church for the Deaf
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Sola Fide (Only Faith)

Even though fewer people are Christians today in the U.S., you still see people talk about faith a lot. But what kind of faith? And what is “faith?” We will look at what “faith” means and what “only faith” means.

In the March/April newsletter, we looked at “Only Scripture,” the idea that only the Bible teaches us the true way to salvation. In May/June, we saw that “Only Grace” means that salvation is God’s free gift for us. Both of those show an important truth: life and salvation come from God. We will not find salvation any other place.

Faith means we know that our salvation is only from God. We trust God and only God for salvation. No other god can help us. God the Father sent His Son, Jesus, to die on the cross to forgive our sins. Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to give us faith in Jesus as our Savior and promise that we will live forever with Him. Believe it! That is faith.

Sometimes you see people talking about faith a lot, but they say nothing about Jesus. One quote I saw said, “Faith is a powerful force and it can turn any situation around.” Don’t let them fool you. They don’t understand faith. Faith doesn’t talk about faith. Faith talks about Jesus! True faith announces, “I have a Savior, Jesus Christ! He has changed my life!”

What does “Only Faith” mean? God gives me salvation only through faith. My good works don’t save me (Eph. 2:8-9). Another person can’t save me. Doing special worship services, praying and reading my Bible all the time won’t help save me. God is the one who saves us and gives us life and we believe that.

That kind of faith is strong and confident. We don’t live weak fearful lives where we “hope” God loves us and will take care of us. Faith boldly says that nothing can stop God’s love for us. God’s word tells us His great promises for us through Jesus and He gives us all those promises through faith. You can believe Him!

Pastor Eckert

Dive Into God's Word

There are many examples in the Bible of people having strong faith. Hebrews chapter 11 is sometimes called the “Hall of Faith” chapter because it lists many people who showed their faith. One person who showed great faith was Abraham. Remember this, faith doesn’t mean we are great. Faith means we know we have a great God and we believe His promises. The story of Abraham shows that faith.

Answers are on page 3.

Faith means trusting God will do the same as He promised.

Read Genesis 15:1-6.

1. Abraham thought he was missing something. What did God not give to Abraham? (vs. 3)
2. What did God answer Abram? What was God’s promise? (vs. 4-5)
3. Abraham was now more than 75 years old and his wife was over 65 years old. God’s promise might seem foolish. What did Abraham think about God’s promise? (vs. 6)

Read Genesis 21:1-7.

4. Did God keep His promise? (vs. 1-2)
5. How old was Abraham at this time? Can anything stop God from doing His promises? (vs. 5)

Faith means God knows the future and His plans for us. He wants us to trust and follow.

Read Genesis 22:1-8.

6. What did God tell Abraham to do? (vs. 1-2)
7. If you thought God told you this, what would you do? What did Abraham do? (vs. 3)
8. What did Abraham believe God would do? (vs. 8)

Read Genesis 22:9-19.

9. How do you know that Abraham trusted God? (vs. 9-12)
10. Abraham gave that mountain a special name. That name showed how Abraham trusted God. What was the name and what did it mean? (vs. 14)
11. God has made many promises for you. He promises to forgive your sins, take care of you, raise you from the dead to live with Him, and many more. You will trust His promises for you?

Pat Monroe accepted our call to serve as a deaconess for Word of God! We hope to have a commissioning and installation service in the Fall. Please continue to pray for her as she has to make some changes in her work and as she helps her aging father.

Prayers

Please remember these people in your prayers:

- ✦ Mollie Schmitz, Lorri Green, Shirley Green, Mikalah Anderson, Pat Monroe's father, Jackie Spencer, Barbara Zimmerman, Mae and Jerry Hanson, Joan Mass, Gerald Mitchell, Rosie Glime, Wanda McAllister, Neita Dommer, Sharon Pope, David and Jeanette Kern, Bonnie Lou Huffman, Janet Weber, Vicki Hoover's daughter Cleta, Terry Ann Check, Paula Slavin, and Ricky Moore with their physical difficulties.
- ✦ Pray for the families of these people who passed away recently: Roland Graupmann, Jeff Graupmann, Harold Postel, and Pat Monroe's mother. Ask God to give His peace to their families and give them confidence that we will rise to live with Christ.
- ✦ Pray for all deaf missions around the world so more Deaf people will know and believe in Jesus.
- ✦ Pray for Andy Petajan as he studies to become a pastor. Also pray for the students who are planning to enroll in DIT next year, that they will all be prepared for their classes.
- ✦ All shut-ins to keep strong faith in Christ Jesus.
- ✦ All people who don't yet believe in Jesus. For those people who have not heard about Jesus yet, pray that God will send people (you?) to tell them about Jesus and show them His love. For those people who have heard about Jesus and still refuse to believe, pray that God will open their hearts and lead them to faith.



Answers to Dive Into God's Word, p. 2.

1. Abraham had no children.
2. God promised to give children to Abraham. His family would become so large it would be like the number of stars in the sky.
3. Yes, the promise seemed foolish. But Abraham believed God's promise. God doesn't break His promises!
4. Yes, God kept His promise.
5. Abraham was now 100 years old. He had to wait as long as 25 years for the baby to be born. Nothing can stop God from doing His promises.
6. God told Abraham to sacrifice his son Isaac. This is the same son God promised to give Abraham, and now God says to kill Isaac.
7. What would you do? To kill your son would be very hard. But Abraham immediately obeyed God and traveled to the place where God said to sacrifice Isaac.
8. Abraham believed God would give the right lamb for the sacrifice. He didn't know for sure what God would do, but trusted God to do right.
9. Abraham did what God said. Even though he didn't see the future, he followed what God told him to do.
10. He named the mountain, "The Lord will provide." We can trust God to give or do whatever is needed. On that same mountain, God gave Jesus to die for us to take away our sin!
11. God keeps His promises! Read the Bible and see all the promises God keeps! You can truly trust Him.



A Great Story of Faith

From www.armoredpenguin.com/wordsearch

The story of David and Goliath shows great faith. David trusted God to protect him and give him victory.

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

1 Samuel 17:45-50

David said to the Philistine (Goliath), “You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the Lord Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. This day the Lord will deliver you into my hands, and I’ll strike you down and cut off your head. This very day I will give the carcasses of the Philistine army to the birds and the wild animals, and the whole world will know that there is a God in Israel. All those gathered here will know that it is not by sword or spear that the Lord saves; for the battle is the Lord’s, and he will give all of you into our hands.” As the Philistine moved closer to attack him, David ran quickly toward the battle line to meet him. Reaching into his bag and taking out a stone, he slung it and struck the Philistine on the forehead. The stone sank into his forehead, and he fell facedown on the ground. So David triumphed over the Philistine with a sling and a stone; without a sword in his hand he struck down the Philistine and killed him.

July

- 2 Ricky Moore
- 13 Barb Zimmerman
- 17 Lorri Green
- 25 Bob Orr
- 31 Michael Anderson



August

- 14 Jackie Spencer
- 17 Stephen Eckert
- 26 Thomas Eaton Jr.
- 28 Mary Erpelding
- 29 Mike Currier

July 2017

2 * See below for worship and Bible study times.				No Waterloo today IAD	IAD	1/8 IAD
9 * See below for worship and Bible study times.	10	11	12	ILDA – Indianapolis	ILDA – Indianapolis	15 ILDA – Indianapolis
16 ILDA – Indianapolis No worship in CR	17 Ephphatha Conference	18	19 7:00 WL – Worship	20	21 1:00 MU-Worship	22 10:00 QC – Worship
23 * See below for worship and Bible study times.	24	25	26	27	28	29 10:00 QC – Worship
30 * See below for worship and Bible study times.	31					

BR – Burlington. Concordia Lutheran Church, 2901 Cliff Rd., Burlington. 4th Sunday worship at 4:00 p.m.
 CR – Cedar Rapids. Word of God Lutheran Church Deaf, 1515 29th St. NE, Cedar Rapids. Every Sunday, Bible Study at 10:00 a.m., Worship at 11:00 a.m.
 QC – Quad Cities. Trinity Lutheran Church, 1122 W. Central Park Ave., Davenport. Every Saturday, Worship at 10:00 a.m.
 WL – Waterloo/Cedar Falls. Immanuel Lutheran Church, 4820 Oster Parkway, Cedar Falls. 3rd Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.
 DU – Dubuque. Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 2145 John F. Kennedy Rd., Dubuque. No meetings during the summer.
 MC – Mason City. Meeting in Charles City. Talk to Pastor Northwick for details
 MU – Muscatine. Our Savior Lutheran Church, 2611 Lucas St., Muscatine. Talk to Pastor Eckert to confirm meeting location.

August 2017

		1	2 7:00 WL – Worship	3	4	5 10:00 QC – Worship
6 * See below for worship and Bible study times.	7	8	9	10	11	12 10:00 QC – Worship
13 * See below for worship and Bible study times. CR-Potluck	14	15	16 7:00 WL – Study	17	18 1:00 MU – Worship/Study	19 10:00 QC – Worship
20 * See below for worship and Bible study times.	21	22	23	24	25	26 10:00 QC – Worship
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