

Sign Post

May - June 2017

In This Issue...

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

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

Word of God Lutheran
Church for the Deaf
1515 29th St. NE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

Rev. Tim Eckert
DeafLutheran@q.com
Home: 563-424-7141 VP
or 563-359-7105 V/TTY

Sola Gratia (Only Grace)

On October 31, 1517, Martin Luther began a discussion about how God saves us. That discussion led to many changes in the church, government, and all over society. During that time, there were three ideas that guided the changes. In the March/April newsletter, we looked at the first idea – only Scripture (Bible) teaches us the true way to salvation.

Another very important teaching was Sola Gratia (only grace). Only God’s grace saves us! Ephesians 2:8 says God’s grace saved you, through faith. You didn’t save yourself. Salvation is God’s gift.

What does Grace mean? We are full of sin and we don’t deserve God’s goodness and kindness. But He is still good to us. He loves us and forgives us because of Jesus’ death on the cross. Some people define Grace this way: GRACE = God’s Riches At Christ’s Expense. God gives us all of His riches (love, heaven, forgiveness, peace, etc.) and Christ paid for it all with His death on the cross.

There are some people who don’t understand grace. Some people think they have to earn God’s grace. If they go to church, pray, and try to be good people, then God is happy with them and He will love them and forgive them. But the Bible says we can’t do good enough works to make God happy. Isaiah 64:6 says our best works are like dirty rags. Not good enough!

Some other people say we are sinners and God gives us His grace. He is kind and loves and forgives us. But then we need to respond and make sure we accept His grace and change our lives and show that we have changed. If we don’t do that, then we aren’t true Christians.

The problem with both of those ideas is that we must do enough to help save ourselves, but the Bible says we can’t do that. The good news is that God saves us, freely! It is true that His grace will change us and we will grow closer to God and become more like Him. That, too, is all His gift and not our works.

Pastor Eckert

Dive Into God's Word

What does “grace” look like? The story of Jonah shows God’s grace for all people. We will look at this story and see how God showed grace (undeserved kindness) and mercy (undeserved forgiveness) to a lot of different people. Answers to the questions are on the bottom of p. 3.

On the boat

1. Jonah 1:1-3. Jonah was a prophet who announced God’s word. Where did God want him to preach?
2. Where did Jonah go?
3. Jonah 1:14-16. Jonah tried to run away from God. God sent a storm to stop him. The sailors threw Jonah into the sea. What grace (kindness) did God give the sailors?
4. What did the sailors do when they saw God’s grace?

In the big fish (or whale)

Jonah ran away from God and didn’t want to obey God. God could have punished him. Jonah deserved punishment. God showed mercy and forgave Jonah. But it was a hard lesson for Jonah. God wanted him to learn to follow God and do the right thing.

5. Jonah 1:17. How did God show grace (kindness) to Jonah?
6. Jonah 2:10. How did God show grace to Jonah a second time?
7. Jonah 3:1-3. God gave Jonah another chance to do right. Did Jonah learn from God’s grace?

Preaching to Nineveh

God gives grace and mercy to believers (like Jonah) and also unbelievers.

8. Jonah 3:4-10. God threatened to punish the unbelievers in Nineveh because they were wicked. Did He punish them?
9. Jonah 4:1-3. Jonah became very angry. Why? What was Jonah’s problem?
10. Jonah 4:5-6. God gave Jonah grace one more time. What did He give Jonah to help him in the heat?
11. Jonah 4:7-11. God gave Jonah a plant, but then killed the plant as a warning and to teach Jonah a lesson. What did God want Jonah to learn?
12. The Lord’s Prayer teaches us this same lesson. We pray, forgive us our _____ the same as we _____ other people who sin against us.

Prayers

Please remember these people in your prayers:

- ✦ Mollie Schmitz, Lorri Green, Shirley Green, Mikalah Anderson, 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 Clea, Terry Ann Check, Paula Slavin, and Ricky Moore with their ongoing physical difficulties.
- ✦ Pray for the families of Bill Zimmerman, Henry Daggett, Richard Parkin and Harold Kinkade. All of them passed away recently. Thank God for the hope we have in Jesus our risen Savior and ask God to give their families His peace.
- ✦ Pray for Pat Monroe as she considers our call to serve as a deaconess.
- ✦ 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. Nineveh. This was a city in the country of Assyria. It was full of wicked people who didn't believe in God.
2. Jonah got on a boat going to Tarshish. He was NOT going to Nineveh.
3. God made the storm stop and the sea calm down.
4. The sailors sacrificed and worshiped God.
5. God sent a fish to swallow Jonah. God could have punished him, but He protected Jonah and kept him alive.
6. God made the fish spit Jonah out onto dry ground.
7. Yes. This time Jonah went to Nineveh to preach, the same as God wanted.
8. No. God forgave their sin and He did not punish them.
9. Jonah didn't want God to forgive them. Jonah was angry that God showed grace and mercy to unbelievers.
10. God gave him a plant to give him shade from the hot sun.
11. God showed mercy to the people in Nineveh. God wanted Jonah to show mercy, too. Jonah loved the plant more than he loved the people. God killed the plant to show Jonah that the people were more important than the plant. God also showed him that if Jonah was stubborn, God might take away His grace from Jonah.
12. Forgive us our sins the same as we forgive other people who sin against us.

REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT BIBLE GATEWAY



Thanks to Mikel Rice (See Exodus 32)

08-11-2003

YOU'VE HAD THESE NEW LAWS FOR LESS THAN A DAY AND YOU'VE ALREADY BROKEN ALL OF THEM

A Great Story of Grace

From www.armoredpenguin.com/wordsearch

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

Many people know the story of the Prodigal Son (or Lost Son). The story is a good example of grace because it shows the father forgiving his son, even though the son sinned much.

Luke 15:20-25

So he got up and went to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him. The son said to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son." But the father said to his servants, "Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found." So they began to celebrate.

May

- 9 Janet Weber
- 11 Robbie Yotter
- 13 Norman Wilson
Curtis Sparks
- 24 Barbara Saeugling
- 26 Becky Eiben



June

- 8 Matthew Brown
- 8 Linda Jackson
- 12 Beverly Brown
- 13 Tom Eaton, Sr.
- 14 Joan Mass
- 17 Marguerite Leister
- 29 Jonah Legg
- 30 Robert Gruhn

May 2017

	1	2	3 7:00 WL – Worship	4	5 LDMS Meeting	6 LDMS Meeting
7 * See below for worship and Bible study times.	8	9	10 10:00 CR-Senior Citizens	11	12	13 10:00 QC – Worship
14 * See below for worship and Bible study times. CR Meeting & Potluck	15	16	17 7:00 WL – Study	18	19	20
21 No worship in CR today	22	23	24	25	26 1:00 MU-Worship	27 10:00 QC – Worship 1:00 DU – Bible Study
28 * See below for worship and Bible study times.	29	30	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. 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.
 DU – Dubuque. Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 2145 John F. Kennedy Rd., Dubuque. 4th Saturday.
 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.

June 2017

				1	2	3 10:00 QC – Worship
4 * See below for worship and Bible study times.	5	6	7 7:00 WL – Worship	8	9	10 10:00 QC – Worship
11 * See below for worship and Bible study times. CR-Potluck	12	13	14 10:00 CR-Senior Citizens	15	16 1:00 MU – Worship/Study	17 10:00 QC – Worship
18 * See below for worship and Bible study times.	19	20	21 7:00 WL – Study	22	23	24 10:00 QC – Worship
25 * See below for worship and Bible study times.	26	27	28	29	30	

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. 1st and 3rd Wednesdays 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.