

The Deaf Lutheran.

A MISSIONARY MONTHLY

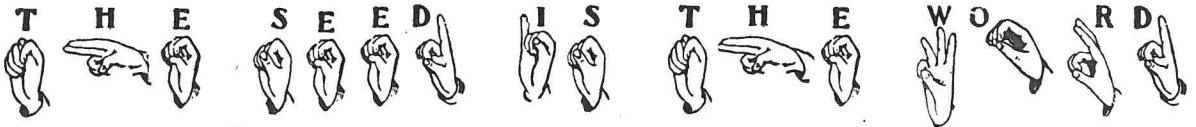
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No. 4.



A SOWER WENT OUT TO SOW HIS SEED



A sower went out to sow his seed,
Went out to his field of labor;
And some of the seed by the wayside fell
Where the foe of man, the fiend of hell,
Looked on as a jealous neighbor.
And, ere the seed had time to sprout,
He called to his helpers round about,
And the fowls of the air came flocking there,
And they snatched the seed and devoured it.

A sower went out to sow his seed,
Went out to his field of labor;
And some of it fell on stony ground,
And grew with a leap and with a bound, —
When along came that jealous neighbor.
And over the seed a storm arose
With persecution's bitter woes,
And it withered away in the course of a day,
For the heat of the sun had scorched it.

A sower went out to sow his seed,
Went out to his field of labor;
And some of it fell on thorny ground,
And the seed was choked by the thorns around,
Was choked by that jealous neighbor;
For some of his busy underlings
Are pleasures, and riches, and other things,
Like the anxious cares, these noxious tares,
That rob the fruit of perfection.

A sower went out to sow his seed,
Went out to his field of labor;
And some of it fell on fertile ground,
Its growth was slow, but its growth was sound,
In spite of that jealous neighbor.
And, under the blessings of dew and rain,
It grew to a field of golden grain,
And began to unfold to a hundredfold
To the joy of the patient sower. —W. M. C.

THE DEAF LUTHERAN

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EDITORIAL

Indifference

Our age is perhaps one of the most superficial upon which God has ever looked. This is true particularly of matters concerning religion. There seems to be no profound religious conviction even among hosts of church members. Many so-called Christians spend their lives in the shallow waters of religious superficiality and never manifest any evidences of true spiritual life or genuine sentiments of reverence and duty toward God and His kingdom.

Moreover well indoctrinated people, who have promised before God and his congregation to remain faithful to certain definite Christian beliefs, nowadays frequently change their religious affiliations for any or no reason. Others will permit every insignificant obstacle to hinder them from attending the services in their church; when the weather is pleasant, when no visitors drop in to call, when everything else is convenient and agreeable, they will go to church, but, as a rule, they find that the weather is either too cold and icy, or too hot and rainy, either there is too much influenza rampant, or they feel physically indisposed.

Church-members need to be awakened today to their responsibilities and to a serious consideration of a God-pleasing consecration. Their wicked example, their worldly-mindedness, their decidedly liberal views on fundamentals, and their general disinterest is a constant deplorable offense to the unchurched. We need to emphasize and re-emphasize the truth that the neglect of God's Word is a grievous and harmful sin in the sight of God and all true believers.

All men need to be reminded frequently that the almighty God, who is able to save or to destroy us, who knows our innermost thoughts and secrets, as well as the entire history of our life and being, will one day call us to justice. To-day, through His Church He still sends out His servants to call men to repentance, and to extend to them His loving invitation of salvation and heavenly happiness.

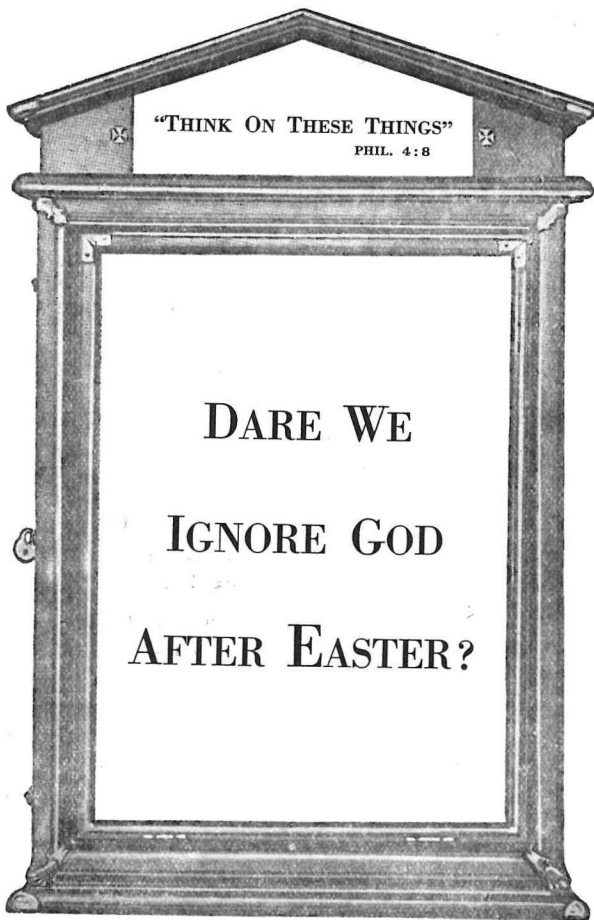
Are you accepting this gracious offer, or are you living in callous indifference and making excuses? Perhaps in your own opinion you are too busy accumulating money, or perhaps you are too pleasure-mad, or too frivolous, or too burdened with the cares of this life to heed God's merciful call. It may be that you have had some disagreeable experience, which has convinced you that the Church is full of hypocrites. You should nevertheless attend the services; rebuke the rascals you may meet in your church, but encourage the strong and reinforce the weak with your presence and advice.

For all of us life is rapidly fleeting, the Judgment Day is speedily approaching; death may be waiting for us just around the corner. Do not postpone any longer the acceptance of the redemption and the heavenly glory provided and secured for you through the suffering and death of Jesus, your Savior.

Experience and your reason warn you that death is unavoidable and that after death, a hearing in the court of heaven is inevitable. St. Paul admonishes all sinners thus: "It is appointed unto men once to die. **But after this the Judgment.**" Hebr. 9, 27.

It is the business of the Church to instruct you from God's Word in the way and manner to escape the wrath of your righteous Judge and to teach you to stand in His presence courageously and even joyfully.

Furthermore St. Paul admonishes the Christians: "Do not forsake the assembling of yourselves together." Hebr. 10, 25. Likewise he warns all men: "Be not deceived, God is not mocked." Gal. 6, 7. If you despise God's love in Jesus and the preaching of His Gospel message, eternal regret and



sorrow will be your lot. Therefore seek the salvation of your soul now while it may be found. Attend church and learn to confess with all true Christians: "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me." Ps. 23, 4.

May the gracious Savior bless His holy Word in the hearts of all of us to that glorious end. O. C. S.

THE GOLDEN RULE

In His sermon on the Mount Jesus uttered the following precept: "Whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them." Matt. 7, 12. This precious and brief declaration of the Master sweeps every debatable question arising between man and man with one great principle. It has become known throughout the centuries as the Golden

Rule. By His easily understood precept Jesus gives men a perfect standard by which to do exact justice to one another and by which to protect everyone's rights, properties, and good name.

By living in accordance with the Golden Rule Christians reflect glory and honor upon their Savior. Moreover obedience to it is the only conduct worthy of a child of God. The Holy Spirit creates the desire and the ability in every true Christian to obey the Golden Rule, not protestingly with a rebellious heart, but gladly, honestly, and lovingly. In accordance with the precept of Jesus Christians walk uprightly, they speak the truth, they avoid backbiting, they refrain from indorsing evil in any sense, they honor them who serve God, and they accept no profit at the undue expense of another.

Furthermore faith in the Savior and heartfelt gratitude to God for His unnumbered blessings impel Christian to lead others to a life of obedience to the Golden Rule. By their example and exhortations they are a most vital factor in bringing about a state of happiness to men individually and collectively. They are living evidence for the supposition that the application of the Golden Rule, together with a correct understanding of, and true faith in the world's Redeemer, is able to bring a desired state of peace everywhere in the social and industrial world, as well as in national and international affairs and all other human relationships. May we then strive honestly at all times to lead a life consistent with our faith and the Golden Rule. O. C. S.

STUDIES IN THE CHIEF TEACHINGS OF THE BIBLE AND CATECHISM

Taking God's Name In Vain

What would our government do, if a man take down the American flag, step upon it, and spit upon it? It surely would throw him into prison and punish him. And should not God punish him who uses His holy name carelessly and wrongfully? He surely will, for He says: "The Lord will not hold him guiltless free from guilt or blame) that taketh His name in vain." Ex. 20, 7. We know God only

by His name or word. His name tells us who He is and what He is. And now He says: "Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain."

(We should not use God's name in a careless or wrong way. And there is so much of it in this world. So many use God's name carelessly every day when they, while they speak, say: "O my God!" "Jesus Christ!" or other words that sound like God's name. This is what we often call "swearing." Or think of it how people so often carelessly pray, read the Bible, listen to a sermon, go to the Lord's Table, and God is not in all their thoughts! Then people often curse by God's name. They speak against the Holy God and His word as Rabshakeh, the general Sennacherib, king of Assyria (Isaiah 36) or curse man, that is, pray for God's wrath or punishment upon themselves as Peter (Matth. 26, 74) or upon others as Shimei (2 Samuel 6, 13). Cursing you can daily hear on the street, in offices, in workshops, and in homes. Furthermore, in the court room and other places we see people lift up their right hand and swear asking God to help them speak the truth and to punish them for the untruth. And then they often speak falsely and so use God's holy name for a lie as Peter (Matth. 26, 72), or people swear or take oaths unnecessarily as did King Herod (Matth. 14, 6-9) and as so many do in their daily life and also in their lodge rooms where men swear to keep everything secret before they know what it is. One oath after another, when a simple Yes or No should be enough. Read the word of Jesus in Matth. 5, 33-37. And again people take God's name in vain when they want to foretell the future or make spirits appear as the witch of Endor did to Saul (1 Sam. 28) and as the Spiritualists seek to do to-day, or when they use God's name without His command or promise to do other wonderful works. And then so many lie or deceive by God's name. They cover up their false teaching or preaching with God's name and word or seek to hide their wickedness and sin by speaking holy things as Judas (Matth. 26, 49). Wherever people sit and stand and walk they take in vain God's holy name. It

is all only God's great mercy and goodness that He has not yet destroyed this world for this sin.

And that is not all. We not only use God's name carelessly or wrongfully, but we also do very little or not at all what God wants us to do with His holy name. He says, "Call upon Me in the day of trouble," and in trouble we so often first call man and forget God; God says, "Pray without ceasing (stopping)," and we pray so very little; God says, "Thou shalt praise Me," and while we daily praise our friends and neighbors, God gets very little of it; God says, "O give thanks unto the Lord," and while we say "Thank you" so often to them that are with us, we bring very little thanks to God. We know to do good, and do it not, and that is sin, James 4, 17.

O what shall we do with our many sins? There is only One who can help us, and that One is Jesus Christ our crucified and risen Savior? Come, let us trust in Him, His blood can wash away also these many sins, 1 John 1, 7, and then with a thankful heart let us honor and praise His holy name in our daily life. In order that we do this more and more from day to day let us take our Catechism every day and study the precious words of Luther in his explanation of the Second Commandment: "We should fear and love God, that we may not curse, swear, use witchcraft, lie or deceive by His name; but call upon it in every trouble, pray, praise and give thanks." Memorize these words! Yes, do it for the glory of Jesus' name! J. L. S.

"WITH THE BEREANS"

"They (the Bereans) received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures (Bible) daily, whether those things were so." Acts 17: 11.

The entire Christian religion will stand or fall with the teaching of the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. Many other important doctrines are found in the Bible, but no other has so tremendous an effect as this one.

With this doctrine as our anchor, Satan shall not be able to shake our faith and we

shall journey through life joyfully confident of a future life of bliss with our Redeemer in heaven; and we shall be upheld and supported by the only truly satisfying comfort of God's unfailing Word.

Study and remember the following verses during April.

Week of

April 7: "If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable."¹ 1 Cor. 15:19. ¹ unhappy.

April 14: "If Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain;¹ and your faith is also vain." 1 Cor. 15:14. ¹ useless, worthless.

April 21: "But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits¹ of them that slept."² 1 Cor. 15:20. ¹ first one to rise. ² died.

April 28: "I know that my Redeemer¹ liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter² day upon the earth: and though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God." Job. 19:25,26. ¹ Savior. ² last.

J. A. C. B.

BIBLE STUDIES FOR SUNDAYS IN APRIL, 1929

"O how love I Thy word"

The greatest blessing in this world is the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Word of Christ and His salvation. Therefore David says: "O how I love Thy law (word)! It is my meditation all the day," Ps. 119, 97., and again: "How sweet are Thy words unto my taste! Yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth," v. 104. And Paul writes: "I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth," Rom. 1, 16.

Do you like David, love this word and are you like Paul not ashamed of it? Then blessed are you. This word can make you wise unto salvation and give your everlasting peace and hope through Jesus. Come, read your Bible, the Word of God, every day! Also read these Bible Studies, one for every Sunday, during April and send your answers to your pastor! May God grant that the Word of His mouth is better than thousands of gold and silver also to you, Ps. 119, 72.

Study for Sunday, April 7

"For me to live is Christ"

Phil. 1, 21

In your Bible read Luke 9, 57-62

Christ is risen! He suffered and died for us, and now lives! Surely like that man in our lesson we ought to say to Jesus: "Lord, I will follow Thee whithersoever (any place) Thou goest." Are you ready to say this to Him who gave Himself for you, and now is risen again? If so, do you know what it means to follow Jesus? Let Him explain it to you. He said to that man: 'Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of man hath not where to lay His head.' Jesus was a very poor man, He had not what foxes and birds have, He had not even a pillow for His head. Are you ready to follow Him? Remember how He loved you, and you will gladly give up everything for Him and suffer with Him.

To another man Jesus said, "Follow Me." But this man answered, "Lord, suffer (let) me first to go and bury my father." Jesus answered, "Let the dead bury their dead; but go thou and preach the kingdom of God." He intended to say: "It is more important that you go and preach the kingdom of God to the living than to bury your father, therefore go and preach." So, my friend, there is nothing more important in this world than to preach the word of forgiveness and to bring sinners to the only Savior. Let nothing hinder you in this work, neither father nor mother, son nor daughter, husband nor wife. Are you ready to do this? Read Luke 14, 26.

Another man said to Jesus: "I will follow Thee, but let me first go bid (say) them farewell (good-bye) which are at home at my house." But Jesus told him that a man who plows and always looks back is not fit (good) for this work. So a man who wants to follow Jesus and always longs for the world and its pleasures and wickedness is not fit for God's kingdom.

Friend, Jesus loved you and laid down His life for you! Gladly you ought to leave all and follow Him. May God grant it!

Again read this lesson in your Bible, remember verse 57, and answer these questions in writing: 1) What does it mean to follow Jesus? 2) Why should we gladly do all this for Jesus?

Prayer: Dear Savior, Thou hast loved me and didst die for me and win the victory over sin and devil. Now help that I follow Thee and gladly leave all for Thee here on earth and then live with Thee in glory. Amen.

Study for Sunday, April 14

"Preach the gospel to every creature"

Mark 16, 15

In your Bible read Luke 10, 1-9

Jesus wants His Word preached to all the world. Jesus had sent the twelve, and now He appointed (chose) seventy more. These should go two and two before His face to every city and place whither (where) He Himself should come. They should tell the people that the King and Savior is coming through the land. So still to-day He sends out men to all nations to tell them of His salvation. But it is to-day, as Jesus then said in verse 2: "The harvest is great, the laborers are few," that means, there are so many people who do not know the way of salvation, many men are needed to tell these people, and there are only a few for this work of saving souls. And Jesus tells us what to do, saying: "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that He would send forth (out) laborers (pastors and missionaries) into His harvest (work)." Friend, pray for more pastors and missionaries!

These men who go out for Jesus must expect trouble, for He sends them forth as lambs among wolves. The lamb must suffer many things from the wolf, so they must suffer many things from the enemies of Jesus. And they should not take many things along for their journey, no purse, nor scrip (satchel), nor shoes. God will take care of them. And they should not stop here and there to salute (greet) people, but should hurry on and do their work for Him. Pastors and missionaries should not waste time.

And if they go into a house they should bless it and say: "Peace be to this house,"

and if a son of peace be there, that is, if a child of God is there, their peace will rest on this house, it shall receive more and more of this peace which only Jesus can bring. If a son of peace, a child of God, is not there, then their peace shall return to them, God will fill them with peace. In the house of peace they should remain (stay), eating and drinking such things as people give, for the laborer is worthy of his hire (wages). Preachers and pastors are laborers, they work for the people and congregations, and these should give them the things they need for this life. They should not go from house to house, but stay in one house, for then they can better do their work for Jesus. These seventy He sent to heal the sick and to preach. From this people should know that the kingdom of God with its blessings was nigh (near). So when God's pastors and preachers come to us, they come with great blessings for us. Let us with joy receive them and thank Him for the preaching of His Word.

Again read this lesson in your Bible, remember verse 2, and answer these questions in writing: 1) For what should we daily pray to God? Why should we with joy receive the ministers of Jesus?

Prayer: Lord God, there are so many people still without Jesus, and so very few workers. Send many more men with Thy saving word to all the world and bless the preaching of Thy Word in every place that many more with us rejoice in Thy salvation. Amen.

Study for Sunday, April 21

*"Blessed are they that hear the word of God,
and keep it"*

Luke 11, 28

In your Bible read Luke 10, 10-16

When Jesus sends out His ministers, not all people will welcome and receive them. What should His ministers then do? They should go their way out into the streets of that city and against them wipe off the dust which cleaves (stays) on them. That dust will speak against these people on judgment

day and tell them that the kingdom of God with its many blessings was come nigh (near) them.

It is a great sin if people will not receive God's ministers and not listen to His Word. It will be more tolerable (better) in that day for Sodom than for these people. Sodom was a very wicked city and God destroyed it by fire. But the people who will not heard the word of Jesus and not believe it will receive greater punishment than Sodom.

Then Jesus spoke a woe (curse) upon a few cities who would not hear the word of Jesus and believe in Him. These cities were near the sea of Galilee. There Jesus preached and did many mighty (great) works, but the people would not turn to God. If he had done these words in the heathen cities Tyre and Sidon, these people would have long ago repented (turned to God with sorrow for their sin) and sat in sackcloth and ashes for to show their sorrow. Therefore it shall be more tolerable (better) on the last day for Tyre and Sidon. One of these cities was Capernaum, which is called Christ's own city. Jesus lived and stayed there, and so this city was exalted (lift up) to heaven and received great honor, but it shall be thrown down to hell and be lost forever, because it despised the word of Jesus.

And so woe to all who will not heard the word of Jesus. If a man comes to us with Jesus' word and we hear Him, then we hear Jesus; and if we will not hear him and despise the word, then we despise Jesus and the Father. It is a great sin not to go to church and hear the word of Jesus. We Christians often become so careless, because we forget that our pastor preaches God's Word. Let us ask God to forgive us this sin and to help us that we always gladly hear and learn His word.

Again read this lesson in your Bible, remember verse 16, and answer these questions in writing: 1) Which people will receive greater punishment than the wicked people of Sodom? 2) What should we daily ask of God?

Prayer: Thanks to Thee, dear Savior, for Thy heavenly word which is preached to us. Help that we gladly hear and learn it for our

soul's salvation and let us bring it to many others for Thy glory and the salvation of many. Amen.

Study for Sunday, April 28

"They which are written in the Lamb's book of life shall enter into the holy Jerusalem"

Rev. 21, 27

In your Bible read Luke 10, 17-24.

The seventy came back with joy because the devils were subject (obedient) to them through Jesus' name. Through Jesus and His name the devil lost His power, therefore Jesus beheld (saw) Satan as lightning fall from heaven.

From Jesus His followers receive power over the devil. He said: "I will give you power to tread (step) on serpents and scorpions (poisonous crabs), and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing will hurt you." Jesus gives His followers power over poisonous snakes and the devil himself. The devil must obey when they come in Jesus name. But Jesus tells them not to rejoice in this, but they should rather rejoice, because their names are written in heaven. Let us not be proud of the things we do in Jesus name, but let us much more rejoice in this that we are Christ's by faith and that our names are written in the book of life.

Jesus was glad and thanked His Father because He hid these things from the wise and prudent (learned) like the Jewish teachers and Pharisees and revealed them unto babes like His followers. To do this seems good in God's sight (eyes) still to-day. The poor and humble know Jesus and rejoice in His salvation and wise men of this world know Him not, because they are proud. Let us humble ourselves in our sins, trust in Jesus, and we shall be truly wise.

These things we can learn only from the Son to whom the Father has delivered (given) them. No man knows the Father but (excepting) the Son and no man knows the Son but the Father. The Father must make known to us the Son and salvation through His blood, and the Son must reveal (make known) to us the Father and His love. Blessed (happy)

are they who see and hear these things! Many prophets and kings spoke of the coming Savior and desired (wanted) to see Him, but they all died before He came. The disciples heard His word and saw His works, and they tell us that now the Savior is here and that salvation is finished. Blessed are you if you know and believe this!

Again read this lesson in your Bible, remember verse 23, and answer these questions in writing: 1) In what should we Christians chiefly rejoice? 2) Who is truly wise?

Prayer: Thanks, heavenly Father, that my name is written in heaven and that Thou hast made known to me this greatest wisdom, Jesus and His salvation, and that Thy Son has made known to me Thy great love and forgiveness. Keep me in this faith to the end. Amen.

The man of Nain died and met Jesus. So we Christians also die and meet Jesus. We may not meet our Savior in the same manner in which this man met Jesus, being carried out to Christ on his bier, but for every Christian death is nothing but a meeting with Jesus. We may also have our duties to fulfill here on earth, as that young man in Nain had his duties towards his mother. But when the Lord calls us, He will soon find ways and means to take care of our friends and relatives. And after leaving these our friends and relatives, we also will not be alone. There, on the threshold of death stands Jesus to welcome us, to give us a new life, yes eternal life in heaven. We have left our earthly friends, but we are in the company of Jesus, our heavenly friend. Looking at death as a Christian, let us heed the words of Jesus: "Weep not!" since before Jesus there is joy and life everlasting.

W. F.

THE SIGN LANGUAGE ABANDONED?

Within recent months numerous articles and items concerning Church Work among the Deaf have appeared in the "Spirit of Mission," the "Living Church," the "Southern Churchman" and several Diocesan periodicals. Hardly without exception, these articles radiated a benevolent and kindly spirit.

In particular, the article in the "Living Church," of September 1, 1928, written by the Rev. Thomas F. Opie, D. D., Rector of the Church of the Holy Comforter, Burlington, N. C., was not only kindly but distinctly artistic. His description of the successful work carried on in his own parish and elsewhere in North Carolina, however, had one unpleasant and discordant note which must have arrested the attention and aroused the dissent of many readers familiar with the place of the sign language in the social and religious life of the deaf. This discordant note characterized the sign language as "unscientific, unsatisfactory, conspicuous and self-conscious" in comparison with speech and lip-reading as a means of conversation and communication and boldly asserted that it was being abandoned by many of the deaf.

The sign language has withstood attacks from many and varied sources for over a hundred years. Peddlers of ear trumpets and drums, embarrassed parents, over-zealous teachers and others have knocked it in the head again and again without even producing unconsciousness, but it is quite unusual to find a good friend and especially a clergyman of the Protestant Episcopal Church, which advocates "ritual and symbolism and the colorful nature," to quote Rev. Dr. Opie's own phrase, condemning it.

The deaf are not abandoning the sign language in favor of speech and lipreading. The beautiful and detailed description of their services in the Church of the Holy Comforter, for one thing, does not indicate that they are doing so.

The deaf are not unreasonably opposed to speech and lipreading. They advocate it for the deafened or hard-of-hearing, for those who lost their hearing at an age that permits even a faint appreciation of sound and for those with keen eyesight and a genius for perception. What they do oppose is sacrifice of the highest possibilities of education and training to the Moloch of Pure Oralism which makes a fetish of the mouth-way gate to the mind.

Without the sign language, which is the natural and God-given language of the deaf,

scientifically developed by slow degrees beginning with the hour Christ sighed and said Ephphatha at Decapolis, conversation among them is most difficult and communication in the form of public discourse and united worship is utterly impossible. As for serious conversation with hearing people, it is rare indeed to find a congenial deaf man, orally taught, brave enough to discard pad and pencil.

The moment the sign language of the deaf is effectually abandoned or abolished in favor of speech and lip-reading the Protestant Episcopal Church and, likewise, all other Churches of Christendom will be obliged to close their doors to the deaf and to forego their present splendid pastoral services and preaching in their behalf. The experiment of holding oral services for the deaf both in and outside the schools for the deaf has been tried with attendant failure.

Within recent years the Rev. George H. Hefflon, gone to his reward, and his successor, the Rev. J. Stanley Light, ordained Episcopal Missionaries to the Deaf, established and maintained for a short time Oral Services for the Deaf in Trinity Church, Boston. Although they had every advantage, including oral training and assistance from the teachers of a nearby Oral School for the Deaf, they were obliged to give up in despair. So much for the abandonment of the sign language!

—The Silent Missionary.

THE COST OF FORGIVENESS

A collier came to me at the close of one of my services, and said: "I would give anything to believe that God would forgive my sins, but I cannot believe that He will forgive them if I just turn to Him. It is too cheap." I looked at him, and said, "My dear friend, have you been working today?" "Yes, I was down in the pit as usual." "How did you get out of the pit?" "The way I usually do. I got into the cage, and was pulled to the top." "How much did you pay to come out of the pit?" "Pay?" Of course I didn't pay anything." "Were you not afraid to trust yourself in that cage? Was it not too cheap?" "Oh, no," he

said, "it was cheap for me, but it cost the company a lot of money to sink that shaft." And without another word the truth of that admission broke upon him, and he saw if he could have salvation without money and without price, it had cost the infinite God a great price to sink that shaft and rescue lost men.

— Dr. G. Campbell Morgan.

MISSIONS

The Lord has made command,
"Go witness unto Me;
In every clime and every land
My name adored shall be.

"Jerusalem shall hear,
Judea shall be told,
Samaria to Me draw near
And seek My peaceful fold.

"Earth's uttermost domain,
Where nations die in sin,
Shall see My scepter and My reign
And shall be gathered in."

So Thou hast spoken, Lord,
We know Thy holy will.
Oh, grant that we may heed Thy word
And Thy behest fulfil!

Grant Thou each faithful heart
Unceasingly to sigh;
Thy burning zeal of prayer impart
For victory to cry.

Make strong each servant's voice
Thy Gospel to proclaim;
Cause every sinner to rejoice
And hallow Thy sweet name.

Make quick the willing feet
To leave their kin and home;
Oh, send them out in lane and street
And let Thy kingdom come!

Enrich each loving gift
And speed its blessings on;
Remove sin's dark, accursed rift
And let Thy will be done!

— John Theodore Mueller.

THE LORD'S DAY

"Look at my grain," said a scoffing farmer to a clergyman neighbor. "I plowed on Sunday; I planted on Sunday; I harrowed on Sunday; I harvested on Sunday; and I never had a better crop. What do you say to that?"

"I only say," said the minister, "that the Lord doesn't settle all His accounts on the first of October."

No, He doesn't. Sometimes He settles on the first of November. Thereby hangs a tale.

Some fifteen years ago the writer had a parishioner who gave him great concern because of his continual neglect of Sunday worship. When seen, he would offer the excuse that a poor working-man cannot hire plumbers, roofers, painters, glaziers; he must do this work himself, — or will the church hire these union men for him? No. The poor working-man has to pay it out of his own pocket or do it himself. So he had to work on Sundays.

One Saturday afternoon we called on this member and found him painting the lower story of his house. We congratulated him on the fine job and then invited him to step into the house as we had something to say to him. He was very sorry, but he had to do this painting job while the weather was good, because the poor working man, etc., etc.

The next day was Sunday, and about 1 P. M. we had a telephone call. The pastor's presence was urgently wanted at a certain number which seemed familiar; yes, it was the house of the man who was saving 50 cents an hour by doing his house-painting himself. He had been hurt, and he wanted to see the minister. Well, he did, and this was the story we got from the housewife: Her husband had been painting the second story of the house that morning and was being assisted by a nephew, whom he had engaged by the hour. When the scaffold was on a level with the window-sills of the second floor, he had stepped on the projecting end of the scaffold, which had evidently not been rigged up with union efficiency, caused the nephew on the middle of the platform to slide towards him, and a second later both landed on the brick pavement. The nephew had broken two ribs and a

leg, and the uncle had fractured his hipbone. As a result, this man had to pay a bill for doctor and nurse which ran into hundreds of dollars, lost his wages for a space of three months, had to pay his nephew's loss of time and doctor bill, in all about \$500, probably \$400 more than he had saved by his Sabbath desecration of the entire year.

You want to know, — Did this man become a regular churchgoer after the Lord had taught him this lesson? No; he was one of those of whom Solomon speaks: "Though thou shouldest bray a fool in a mortar among wheat with a pestle, yet will not his foolishness depart from him." Prov. 27, 22.

— Lutheran Annual.

SOUL HUNGER

How prompt we are to satisfy the hunger and thirst of our bodies; how slow to satisfy the hunger and thirst of our souls! Indeed, we would-be practical folks cannot use this word without blushing, because of our infidelity, having starved this substance almost to a shadow. We feel it to be as absurd as if a man were to break forth into a eulogy on his dog, who hasn't any. An ordinary man will work every day for a year at shoveling dirt to support his body, or a family of bodies; but he is an extraordinary man who will work a whole day in a year for the support of his soul. But he alone is the truly enterprising and practical man who succeeds in maintaining his soul here. Have we not an everlasting life to get? And is not that the only excuse at last for eating, drinking, sleeping, or even carrying an umbrella when it rains?

—Thoreau.

THE BIGGEST BUSINESS IN THE WORLD

"Go into all the world and make disciples of all the nations, teaching them to observe all things that I have taught you." This command of Jesus is still in force as the program for the Church. It is so mighty, it demands so much consecration, so much intelligence, so much power, that the Church can not afford to waste its strength over any trifles."

— C. M. Sheldon.

INGRATITUDE

There are those who cannot see
 Who are glad that they can hear,
 There are those who cannot hear
 Who are glad that they can see.
 There are those who can neither see nor hear
 Who are glad that they can feel.
 And there are those who can both see and hear,
 and also feel
 Who know not the meaning of gratitude!

— Myrtle Long Henderson.

MISSION NEWS

Minneapolis Mission—Every Sunday, before the services in Grace Chapel, we have a half-hour Bible study. February 3 we finished Second Thessalonians, and the following Sunday we took up the study of the Catechism. We are this year celebrating the four hundredth anniversary of this precious book, for it was in 1529 when Luther first published it. Surely, there is no more fitting way of observing this anniversary than by studying the precious truths of the Bible as set forth in this Catechism. We intend to do this also at our preaching stations. We have begun with it in Fergus Falls, and we are sure the deaf of the other stations will be glad to do likewise. Luther says of this study: "I consider myself but a child that is being taught the Catechism, read and recite to myself every morning, or whenever I have time, the Ten Commandments, the Creed, the Lord's Prayer, Psalms, etc. Every day I must continue to read and study, and yet cannot claim to have graduated, but must remain a child and pupil of the Catechism — and gladly remain it." Likewise let us gladly remain children and pupils of the Catechism. J. L. S.

Omaha Mission—The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Ward of Ft. Dodge, Ia., had a very serious mastoid operation. She has been in the hospital at Des Moines for four weeks. We hope and pray the Lord will grant her a speedy recovery.

Mrs. Aug. Gutting (Omaha) is up and around again after about 8 or 9 weeks on her sick bed. She has been a most patient sufferer and has daily brought her cares to the Lord in prayer. We will be happy to see her at church services again.

We were pleased to see some out-of-town deaf at our service at Ft. Dodge on February 10th. In spite of the extremely cold weather and bad roads these friends came to attend services.

The following are receiving instructions in the Catechism prior to joining the Church: Mrs. B. Newton, Mrs. Corrado and Mrs. Banks. Mrs. Albert Klopping has finished the course.

About eight new pupils have joined the class at the Council Bluffs School. Among these there are four whose parents are members of the Dutch Reformed Church. The parents have requested us to instruct their children in the Bible truths since their Church has no missionary for the deaf.

During the winter months services at Sioux City, Ft. Dodge, and Boone have been held at the homes of various members. This has been a very satisfactory arrangement and we wish to express our thanks to those who permit us to use their homes.

Edward Mann was a visitor at our last service in Sioux City. He promised that we shall see him often at services in the future.

On his way to Ft. Dodge the pastor frequently stops off at Manning, Ia., to instruct a deaf lady, Miss Rose Schwiesow, who has no opportunity to attend church. It is the Lord's wish that the Gospel of salvation should be brought also to such individual souls who live scattered throughout the country. The Good Shepherd careth for His sheep and does not wish that any be lost.

Sorrow entered the homes of two of our regular attendants at Boone, Ia. Miss Grace Payne lost her mother and Mrs. L. Wood lost her father through death. Mrs. Wood's father was buried on February 3rd and Miss Payne's mother on February 6th. May the Lord comfort the bereaved in their sorrow.

Chicago Mission—A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. G. Lauby on January 7th. Our congratulations!

Mr. Hayman and his son were passengers in the Northwestern train which was in a collision and wreck on January 26th. Both not hurt. Surely the Lord sends His angels to accompany and guard His people, always. A. C. D.

Kansas City Mission—On December 22nd, Miss L. R. Honeyman and Mr. V. A. Brunke were united in holy matrimony at Kansas City, Kansas. Mr. and Mrs. Brunke reside in St. Joseph and attend our services regularly.

In checking over our list of deaf friends in our field for the new Deaf Lutheran mailing list it was discovered that we now are in touch with interested friends in 65 cities of Kansas; 36 in Missouri; 12 cities in Oklahoma; 4 in Arkansas, etc.

Our friends are enthusiastic about the new policy of the Deaf Lutheran. We are glad to be able to report fine subscription increase, and, hope that the magazine may help to lead many to Christ.

A. E. F.

St. Paul Mission—"Lo, children are an heritage (gift or present) of the Lord." Psalm 127:3. On November 28th God gave Mr. and Mrs. Albert Thomas a son. And as our regular monthly service in Rochester was planned for December 11th, plans were promptly made to present the child of God in

holy baptism that day. Eight days later God took His child unto Himself again. On December 21st the body was laid to rest to await that great day of joy for all believers, when Jesus will come again to lead His children into heaven. May God provide the sorrowful parents with abundant comfort and teach them to say with Job: "The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord." Job. 1: 21.

From this sad event we Christians all should learn not to postpone the baptism of our children. Every child is born in sin and "baptism works (gives) forgiveness of sins." What wonderful comfort these parents now have! In holy baptism God made a solemn agreement with their son, Donald Herbert, that He would be his God and he should be God's child. And God remembers His agreements and keeps His promises.

Christian parents, bring your children to holy baptism at an early date.

Lucy Rosa, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. Pino, was born December 1, 1928, and baptized in Dubuque on January 8, 1929.

With joy we bring them, Lord,
Devoting them to Thee,
Imploring, that, as we are Thine,
Thine may our offspring be.

God answered the prayers of Mr. Matthew Krech and relieved him of all suffering on January 29th, at the age of 88 years. We extend our sympathy to the bereaved family, especially to his daughter, Miss Tillie Krech, a member of our St. Paul Congregation.

Mrs. L. W. Kramer of Rochester suffered a stroke of paralysis on December 26th and was confined to her bed for several weeks. At the time of our last service she was able to be up again, much improved. "He hath torn, and He will heal us." Hosea 6: 1.

Miss Sarah Hammel of Dubuque was obliged to spend a number of weeks in a hospital following an operation upon her eye.

"May the Good Physician bring
Perfect health and strengthening."

J. A. C. B.

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