

The Deaf Lutheran.

A MISSIONARY MONTHLY.

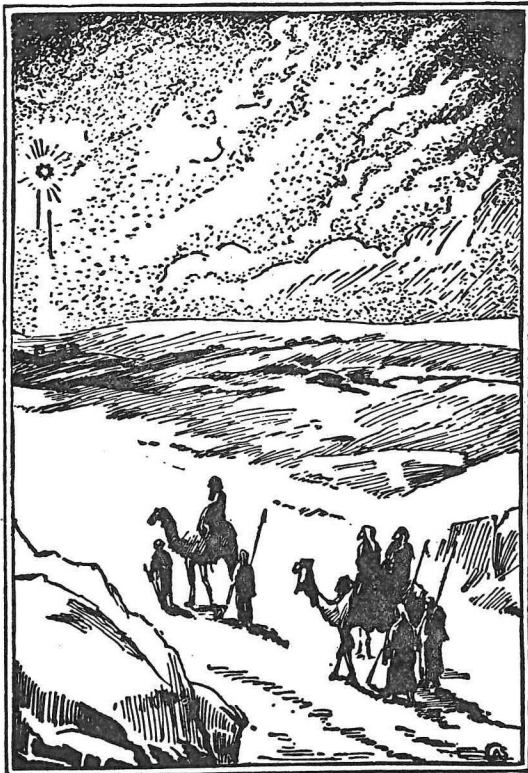
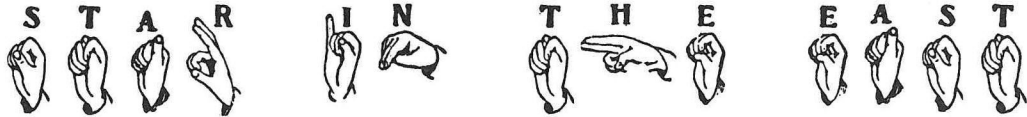
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THE STAR IN THE EAST

Brightest and best of the sons of the morning,
Dawn on our darkness, and lend us thine aid,
Star of the East, the horizon adorning,
Guide where the infant Redeemer is laid.

Cold, on His cradle, the dew-drops are shining;
Low lies His bed with the beasts of the stall;
Angels adore Him, in slumber reclining,
Maker, and Monarch, and Savior, of all.

Say, shall we yield Him, in costly devotion,
Odors of Eden and offerings divine?
Gems of the mountain, and pearls from the
ocean,
Myrrh from the forest, and gold from the
mine?

Vainly we offer each ample oblation;
Vainly with gifts would His favor secure;
Richer by far is the heart's adoration;
Dearer to God are the prayers of the poor.

THE DEAF LUTHERAN

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for the Deaf

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EDITORIAL

Christmas

The greatest day in all the history of the world was not the day upon which man produced scientific marvels, such as the radio, aeroplanes and sound pictures, but it was the day upon which Jesus was born.

If we had no Savior our world would be a dark, dead, hopeless, dismal, morally paralyzed and heathen place in spite of all modern improvements and physical comforts. Jesus, through His incarnation and merits, has made it a bright, glad and hopeful world.

Christmas tells us of the incarnation of the Son of God, begotten by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. The ancient prophets were not in error when they looked into the future in their day and described this event just as it happened centuries later.

Christmas reminds us of the one stupendous fact that God clothed Himself in human flesh to live a sinless life and to pay the debt of sinful man to the throne of justice. Jesus came to seek and to save that which was lost and in the darkness of despair. Love for us, a world lost in sin, was the motive of His coming. A living faith in the Child of Bethlehem alone can enable a man to go forth out of the sepulcher of sin, death, hopelessness and despair into a world of spiritual gladness and salvation.

By the incarnation of Jesus even death to the Christian is not the termination of a happy state, but merely a translation, for our Redeemer died not only to save us, but also to rule over us. He broke the chains of darkness and invites us to share in His success and victory.

Thus Christmas should create in us impulses and impressions to move our soul and to bring it nearer to God. The jazzing, speeding, materialistic children of this world know no love for the greatest name under heaven; their hearts remain cold and indifferent. Eventually they will become bored with the pleasures and treasures of his earth; eternal regrets will be their lot.

Faith in the new-born Child of Bethlehem, however, makes us happy and true to God and our fellowmen; it upholds us in times of peril and affliction; it creates a true state of contentment, peace, hope and progress. Let us therefore remain faithful to our Christian hope in these days of material success and luxurious conditions, just as the early Christians remained true in the midst of persecutions, perils and afflictions! May we ever be able to join sincerely in the hymn of the poet:

“Let us all with gladsome voice
Praise the God of heaven,
Who to bid our hearts rejoice
His own Son hath given.

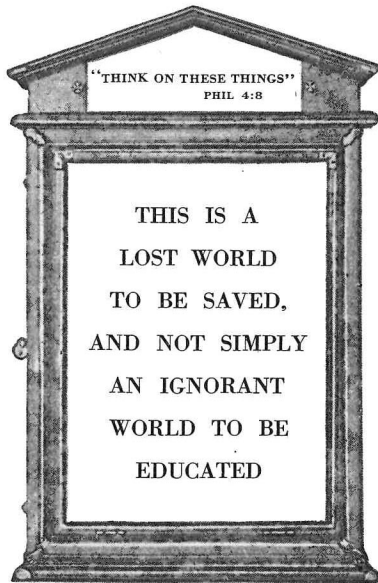
To this vale of tears He comes,
Here to serve in sadness,
That with Him in heaven’s fair homes
We may reign in gladness.

We are rich, for He was poor;
Is not this a wonder?
Therefore praise God evermore,
Here on earth and yonder.” O. C. S.

STUDIES IN THE CHIEF TEACHINGS OF THE BIBLE AND CATECHISM

Jesus Christ, Conceived in the Virgin Mary by the Holy Ghost

Christ was to be born of a woman, and this woman was “of a city in Galilee, named Nazareth, a virgin espoused (engaged) to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin’s name was Mary.” Luke 1. In her Christ was conceived, and it was a great wonder! When the angel Gabriel came and said unto her: “Thou shalt bring forth a son, and shalt call His name Jesus,” she answered, “How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?” And the angel answered and said to her, “*The Holy Ghost shall*



come upon thee, and the power of the highest shall overshadow thee; therefore that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God." Luke 1. And to Joseph who was minded to put her away the angel said: "That which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost," and Matthew then writes: "All this was done that it may be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son." Matth. 1, 20-22. See also Isaiah 7, 14.

Jesus Christ, conceived in the Virgin Mary by the Holy Ghost! Therefore the angel said: "That holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called *the Son of God*," Luke 1. And the prophet writes: "They shall call His name *Immanuel*, which being interpreted is, *God with us*," Is. 7, 14 and Matth. 1, 23. And Paul writes: "God sent forth *His Son, made of a woman*." Gal. 4, 4. Thus God's Son became man and is called "her, the woman's seed," Gen. 3, 15, and Hebrews 2, 14 says that He "took part of flesh and blood."

See how Jesus Christ, the Son of God, humbled Himself. He did not come into this world as a perfect and grown-up man, but was conceived in a sinful woman. Also Mary was a sinner, for also she is among those of whom it is said: "All have sinned," Romans 3. She was

sinful, for when she found her boy Jesus in the temple after a search of three days and said to Him, "Behold, Thy father and I have sought Thee sorrowing," He answered, "*How is it that ye sought Me? Wist (know) ye not that I must be about My Father's business?*" Luke 2, 48. 49. And when she came to her Son at the wedding of Cana, saying: "They have no wine," He said, "Woman, what have I to do with thee?" John 2. In this sinful woman the Son of God was conceived and from her He took His flesh and blood, as we learned before, but without sin. The angel said to Mary: "*That holy thing which shall be born of thee*," Luke 1, and in Hebrews 4, 15 we read: "He was in all points tempted like as we are, *yet without sin*."

And now listen in wonder! The Son of God was conceived in a sinful woman, became like unto us "to make reconciliation (peace) for the sins of the people," for us who like David must say: "Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me." Praise and thank God for it!

Indeed, there are many who think this all foolishness. But that is to be expected, for "the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are all foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned, that is, known only by the Spirit." 1 Cor. 2, 14. Let us, however, believe the word of God and confess with our Catechism in the Apostles' Creed: "And I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was *conceived by the Holy Ghost*," and in the explanation of it: "I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, *born of the Virgin Mary*, is my Lord."

"All praise to Jesus' hallowed name,
He of virgin pure became
True man for us! The angels sing,
As the glad news to earth they bring.

Hallelujah!"

J. L. S.

THE NEW LIFE

The new life will have the reality of religion that comes through putting belief into action, actualizing goodness and brotherliness and all the noble virtues that enrich and beautify life and make it Christlike.

— H. B. Grose.

UNGRATEFUL ACTION

Joe Hardy, salesman for Brown and Company, was driving home for the week-end. As he approached the long bridge just outside his home village, a cry of terror reached his ears, rising above the noise of his motor. With squeaking brakes, he brought his car to a stop, and leaped to the road. At the first glance he saw a canoe strike the concrete abutment of the bridge, and pitch its occupant into the swift current. The girl had foreseen her danger, and realizing her inability to save herself, had screamed for help.

Joe hesitated just long enough to toss his coat on the bank, and kick his shoes from his feet ere he plunged into the stream. As the current brought the struggling girl within reach, Joe bade her cease struggling and he would help her to a safe position. Instead of obeying his instructions, she endeavored to grasp Joe in a clutch which would have meant destruction to both. But Joe kept beyond her reach, knowing it was the only safe thing to do. The girl became more frantic in her efforts, but only succeeded in exhausting herself. This was what Joe wanted her to do.

The moment came when the girl ceased struggling, every ounce of strength gone. With a gasp she sank, but only for an instant. Joe grasped the now helpless girl, and brought her safely to shore, something which he could not do while she continued to struggle.

The story of the rescue was soon known throughout the village, and much praise was accorded Joe for his bravery and courage in connection with the rescue. Mary Bryan and her parents did their best to show their gratitude, and acknowledge their debt to him.

"I owe my life to you," Mary told Joe. "But for your noble rescue I should have perished. I never shall cease to thank you."

Five years passed by. Mary's father increased his fortune by good business sense, and with the increase of worldly goods, the family moved to an adjoining city. Mary was now old enough to enter college in that city, and her circle of friends was composed of the girls from wealthier families. In fact, Mary

was now living in a different social circle from what she had in former days.

Joe Hardy, the salesman, visited the city on his quarterly trip. Having interviewed his customers, he decided to stroll about the streets while waiting the supper hour. Mary Bryan and three of her schoolmates had chosen this same street on their way down town from the college campus. And thus it happened that Joe Hardy and Mary Bryan met that day in the city, Joe alone, and Mary in company with three society friends.

"Good afternoon, Miss Bryan." Joe's salutation, spoken in a gentle tone was Mary's first knowledge of his presence. She glanced up quickly, and then without a sign of recognition, she passed on without speaking.

"Was that man speaking to you?" one of her friends asked.

"Yes," Mary replied. "I used to know him back home, but that doesn't mean he has the right to address me now whenever he pleases."

"I should say not," the girls said. "You served him just right by ignoring him."

And this was the man who had saved her life at the risk of his own. The girls made several slighting remarks about Joe, but Mary never opened her mouth to utter one word in his defence.

"An example of base ingratitude," is your verdict toward Mary, and your impartial judgment is correct. There is not the least thing to justify Mary in her conduct on that occasion. But don't neglect to read this next paragraph.

When you were in the stream of sin and rushing onward to eternal destruction, Jesus saved you. You ceased to struggle and trusted your salvation to Him by faith. He placed your feet on solid ground. Do you remember that service, where you stood and acknowledged your gratitude to Jesus Christ for saving you, and you pledged your loyalty to Him? And then do you remember that occasion when in the company of worldly friends, He spoke to you and you refused to recognize Him? Your friends spoke slightly of Jesus Christ, and you kept your silence. Among Christian friends you took your place on the side of Christ, but when you were found in the

company of worldly friends, Christ had no recognition from you. And He is the One who has saved you. Base ingratitude!

Do you wonder that the heart of Christ is often grieved by those who should show gratitude? It is as true today as it was yesterday, — Christ is being wounded in the house of His friends. Instead of saying, "Here is the One who saved my soul for time and eternity," we say by our actions, "I'd rather not have folks know that I am acquainted with You right now. It will be all right on Sunday, but right now it really isn't convenient for me to recognize You." Yes, you and I have been right there, and it doesn't make us feel good when we think of how we have treated Christ on those occasions.

A day is coming when we want Him to recognize us as belonging to Him. Today is the day when He wants us to acknowledge Him before the Father. — L. L. W.

SING YOUR WAY

We can sing away our cares easier than we can reason them away. The birds are the earliest to sing in the morning; the birds are more without care than anything else I know of.

Sing in the evening. Singing is the last thing that robins do. When they have done their daily work, when they have flown their last flight, and picked up their last morsel of food, and cleansed their bills on a napkin of a bough, then on a top twig they sing one song of praise. I know they sleep sweeter for it. Oh, that we might sing evening and morning, and let song touch song all the way through! Oh, that we could put songs under our burden! Oh, that we could extract the sense of sorrow by song! Then sad things would not poison so much. Sing in the house, teach your children to sing. When troubles come, go at them with song. When griefs arise, sing them down. Lift the voice of praise against cares. Praise God by singing that will lift you above trials of every sort. Attempt it. They sing in heaven, and among God's people on earth song is the appropriate language of Christian feeling. — Henry Ward Beecher.

BIBLE STUDIES FOR SUNDAYS IN DECEMBER, 1930

"God sent forth His Son, made of a woman"

The wonderful story of Christ's birth we read in the Gospels according to Matthew and Luke. And from the Gospel according to St. John we learn that this Christ-child is the everlasting God. This month we shall begin to study this Gospel and we shall learn to rejoice in Jesus Christ, our God and Savior. John who wrote this Gospel is not John the Baptist, but one of the twelve disciples, often called "the one whom Jesus loved." He wrote this Book, led by the Holy Ghost, to set forth that the little Child of Bethlehem is the mighty God and Savior. He writes in the Twentieth Chapter: "These are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through His name." Such a Savior we need, only such a Savior can save us from sin, death, and devil! May God bless these Studies in your heart that you in true faith worship this Child in the manger, born for you, and say: "My Lord and my God."

Study for Sunday, December 7

"Jesus said, It is finished."

John 19, 30

Bible Lesson: Luke 24, 44-47

"And He said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me. Then opened He their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures, and said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem."

Christ is risen! The disciples saw His pierced hands and feet, and He ate before them. Yes, Jesus lives! And the Bible is fulfilled, not one word has failed! Jesus often had spoken to them of this while He was yet with them, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the Old Testament, in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning Him. They wrote that the Christ must suffer and die and rise again. And now it is all fulfilled, and they ought to rejoice, and we with

them. Every word of the Bible is true. "Thus it is written, and thus it behoved (was necessary) Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day."

But man with his mind cannot understand these things. God must give light and understanding. Therefore Jesus opened the understanding of the disciples, that they might know the Scriptures, the things written in the Bible. So God must give us His Spirit and understanding. Therefore, when we read our Bible, when we come together in church, let us pray with David: "Teach me, O Lord; give me understanding." Ps. 119, 33. 34.

And why must Jesus suffer and die and arise again on the third day? "That repentance (turning from sin to God with sorrow) and remission (forgiveness) of sins be preached in His name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem." O if Jesus had not suffered and died on the cross, then we could not preach forgiveness of sins in His name. But now He has died for the sins of the world and is risen again; the Bible is fulfilled and salvation is finished; and now this good news can be preached among all nations and peoples. Friend, we are saved! Let us trust in this Savior and thank God for it!

Again read this Bible lesson and answer these questions in writing: 1. What should we pray when we read our Bible or come together in church? 2. Why must Jesus suffer and die and rise again on the third day?

Prayer: Mighty Savior, thanks to Thee for Thy suffering and death and rising again on the third day! Every word written in the Bible concerning Thee is fulfilled and our salvation is finished. Let us all trust in this Thy salvation and thank Thee now and forever. Amen.

Study for Sunday, December 14

"We will rejoice in Thy salvation."

Ps. 20, 5

Bible Lesson: Luke 24, 48-53

"And ye are witnesses of these things. And, behold, I send the promise of the Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high. And He led them out as far as to Bethany, and He lifted up His hands, and blessed them. And it came to pass, while He blessed them, He was parted from them, and carried up to

heaven. And they worshipped Him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and were continually in the temple, praising and blessing God. Amen."

The disciples saw the risen Savior, and we rejoiced with them in His finished salvation. But now He says to them and to every one of us: "Ye are witnesses of these things." The disciples should go out and tell the world of these great things. And so we should bring this good news of forgiveness of sins by faith in Jesus to all people. We should speak to our friends and neighbors of sin and the Savior and gladly we should give our money and help send out men with the saving Gospel to all the world so that many more people be saved with us now and forever. Will you be a witness for Jesus, my friend?

You perhaps will say: "O I am so weak and helpless! How can I be a witness for Jesus?" Surely, the disciples felt the same way. Therefore Jesus said to them: "Behold (see), I send the promise of the Father upon you; but tarry (stay) ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued ((filled) with power from on high (heaven)." This promise of the Father is the Holy Spirit. Him the Lord Jesus poured out upon His disciples on Pentecost, fifty days after Easter, and they were filled with power and they boldly spake to all. O let us also ask for His Holy Spirit that also we go out filled with power and boldly speak to all the world of sin and the Savior, and so win them for Christ!

The work of Jesus now was done, and He was ready to go to the Father. Therefore He led His disciples out to Bethany, and He lifted up His hands, and blessed them; and while He blessed them, He was parted from them, and carried up to heaven. With a blessing He left them, and this blessing was with them at all times, also still is with His church to-day. Therefore as the disciples so we ought to do this our work for Jesus with joy. We know He is in heaven ruling over all things, and His blessing is upon us, therefore we ought to worship Him with joy. Indeed, they who know this Jesus who was crucified and dead for sinners, and then arose again with the victory over sin, death, and devil, and now is gone to heaven ruling over all the world and blessing His people, I say, they who know Him must worship Him with joy. Do you know Him? Yes? Then like the disciples con-

tinually (always) love to be in the house of God, praising and blessing (glorifying) God for this great salvation in Christ Jesus. Amen.

Again read this Bible lesson and answer these questions in writing: 1. What should we do as witnesses for Jesus? 2. Why should we worship Jesus with joy?

Prayer: Blessed Savior, Thou wast crucified and dead for sinners, Thou didst rise again with the victory for us over sin and death and devil, and now Thou art in heaven over all things and dost still bless Thy church. Therefore we worship Thee with joy and praise and glorify Thee and Thy Father and the Holy Spirit for this great salvation forever and ever. Amen.

Study for Sunday, December 21

"Unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord."

Luke 2, 11

Bible Lesson: John 1, 1-5

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by Him, and without Him was not anything made that was made. In Him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness, and the darkness comprehendeth it not."

This is the Sunday before the joyful Christmas Day! Why this great joy on this day? Because a wonderful Child was born on that day about 1900 years ago. And who is this wonderful Child? Our lesson for to-day will tell us.

In these verses you read about "the Word." This "Word" is the only begotten Son of God who was made flesh as v. 14 tells us. Therefore for "the Word" you can put the name "Jesus Christ," and then you read: "In the beginning was Jesus Christ, and Jesus Christ was with God, and Jesus Christ was God. The same (Jesus Christ) was in the beginning with God." These verses therefore teach us that the Child of Bethlehem is the true God. He was in the beginning with God, He is from everlasting, and therefore He is God. We therefore sing during the happy Christmas-tide:

"A great and mighty wonder
Our Christmas Festal brings;
On earth, the lowly Infant,
Behold the King of kings!"

Indeed, many people will not worship this Child of Bethlehem as God. They will not believe that this little Child in the manger is true God. They will accept Him only as a good man and a great teacher. But God's word tells us that He is God. The angel on Christmas Day said to the shepherds: "Unto you is *born this day* in the city of David a Savior which is *Christ the Lord.*" And our lesson furthermore says: "All things were made by Him; and without Him was not anything made that was made." This Child of Bethlehem is the Maker of heaven and earth. Do not let men deceive you with their wisdom about Jesus, but believe His word and sing of this Child:

"'Tis Jesus Christ, my Lord and King,
He doth to all salvation bring."

Yes, He brings salvation, for we read: "In Him was life, and the life was the light of men." The whole world was dead in sin and sat in darkness. And now this Jesus came, and He brought life to a dead world and the light of salvation shone into its darkness, and so He has become the light and salvation of men. Therefore the angel's message to the shepherds and to all the world reads: "Unto you is born a Savior." O joy, a Savior for the world! But, how sad, the darkness, the people who sit in darkness and sin, comprehends (receives) Him not. So many will not believe in Him, they love sin and do not want this light, and therefore must go to everlasting death and everlasting darkness. Come, receive this Light as your King and Savior and thank Him for this life and light, His precious Christmas gifts!

Again read this Bible lesson and answer these questions in writing: 1. Who is this wonderful Child of Bethlehem? 2. Why was this wonderful Child born?

Prayer: O Thou Child of Bethlehem, I rejoice in Thee and Thy precious Christmas gifts. I was dead in sin, and Thou gavest me life; I sat in darkness, and Thou broughtest light and salvation to me. How shall I thank Thee? Grant that I always receive Thee as my King and Savior and help to bring Thy life to many others who still sit in death and darkness. Amen.

Study for Sunday, December 28

*"I am the light of the world."**John 8, 12*

Bible Lesson: John 1, 6-14

"There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe. He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made by Him and the world knew Him not. He came unto His own, and His own received Him not. But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name: which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth."

"Thy Light is come!" was the message of the happy Christmas Day. Of this Light John the Baptist spoke to the people. He was sent from God to bear witness or to speak of this Light. He came and pointed to this Jesus, the Light of the world. This was the true Light, that lighteth or brings salvation to every man that cometh into the world knew Him not. So many knew Him not while He was in the world, and so many know Him not to-day. Yes, also His own people received Him not. Sorrow must fill our hearts. Here is a Savior for all the world, and many will not believe in Him.

But did all the world receive Him? Did all the world rejoice in His salvation? O no, He was in the world, and He made the world, and the world knew Him not to-day. Yes, also His own people received Him not. Sorrow must fill our hearts. Here is a Savior for all the world, and many will not believe in Him.

O thanks to God that there are some who receive Him. To them who received Him, He gave power or the right to become the sons of God. And who are they? They that believe on His name. Yes, they who believe in Him and receive Him as their King and Savior have become children of God. And how did they become God's children? They were born not of blood, nor of the will (wish) of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. It is not by their reason or strength or any man's will that they

have become children of God. No, they are born of God by faith in Jesus, the Word, the true God.

And how did this Word become the salvation of men? Our lesson answers: "The Word was made flesh." This is the Christmas wonder, the greatest of all wonders! God's Son was made flesh, He came into this world as a little Child, and dwelt (lived) among men. This man Jesus truly was the Son of God, for John writes: "We beheld (saw) His glory, the glory as of the only begotten (Son) of the Father." The disciples heard His wonderful words and saw His wonderful works, and again and again they had to confess: "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God." And of Him John furthermore says: "Full of grace and truth." This Son of God made flesh brought grace and forgiveness from heaven, He came and spoke the truth about sin and the way to life and salvation. And He is full of grace and truth also unto us. May God help every one of us that we learn the truth of Jesus and by faith in Him receive God's grace and forgiveness!

Again read this Bible lesson and answer these questions in writing, and then send all your answers to your pastor: 1. What must fill our hearts with sorrow? 2. What is the Christmas wonder, the greatest of all wonders?

Prayer: Jesus Christ, Thou Son of God made flesh, help that we believe in Thy name and by faith become children of God and children of light. To-day, on the last Sunday of the year, we thank Thee for Thy grace and truth during the old year and pray Thee, let Thy grace and truth be with us also during the new year. Amen.

J. L. S.

"A child brought up on the frequent, thorough, continuous story of the whole Bible, is more likely than any other child to be free from the vices that are sapping the mental, moral, and physical strength of our boys and girls and young men and women. But the child who is brought up on infidel literature and conversation is the easiest prey there is to the seducer. The next easiest is the one who through neglect of the Bible is left in ignorance of the pitfalls of life."

— T., in Sunlight.

DO YOU KNOW

- That some deaf travel twenty to thirty miles to attend church services?
- That a deaf-mute-blind lady was the first Lutheran member in the Pacific Northwest?
- That we have deaf members who give one tenth of their earnings for church support?
- That one member has all copies of the Deaf Lutheran from its first edition?
- That we have Lutheran deaf in Alaska?
- That a deaf-mute-blind man has built a correctly designed reading lecturn for his church?
- That one missionary preaches by the use of two separate types of signs and spelling?
- That a deaf-mute-blind lady has memorized 80 hymns and all the verses of our Lutheran Church Hymnal?
- That our Deaf Mission originated the work of Blind Missions by editing Braille and Moon religious magazines?
- That the officers of the Board of Missions receive no salary for their work and bring a great sacrifice in attending to the problems of Deaf Missions?
- That a missionary for the deaf can preach in three languages at the same time?
- That every Sunday our seventeen missionaries are preaching in thirty-six cities of the country?
- That the missionary of New York is oldest in point of years of service, and younger in years than our St. Louis missionary who served twenty-five years and is older than the New York missionary? G. W. G.

A WONDERFUL PRESENT

Somewhere I remember reading of a strange Christmas gift once received by a young woman. The young woman had expected some valuable present. She had set her heart on a piece of jewelry which she had reason to believe would be given her by a very dear friend, a charming woman, the hospitality of whose home she had often enjoyed and highly prized. But when Christmas Day dawned and the young woman opened the gift of this friend, it turned out to be

just an ordinary door key, tied with a piece of ribbon, on which was a card. The young woman was at first so disappointed that she did not even read the inscription on the card; but when she did, this is what she saw: "The key to the door of the house of a friend. It is yours to use. Use it every day if you wish." The lovely significance of the gift then broke fully upon the young woman; that lovely home with the special guest chamber in which she had on several occasions rested in peace and comfort — this home opened whenever she minded to use the key!

O beautiful symbol! To let the Great Guest into your hearts but once a week or once a year is not often enough. Give Him the key — the key of loyalty and love! Let Him in — let Him in to stay. "I will come and sup with thee and thou with me," said Jesus. Let the blessed Savior into your life, and the spirit of Christmas will abide forever and ever.

MISSION WORK

Mission work is not a work of man's own choosing, but rests on the command of God. God commands us to do mission work. Christ plainly says to His Christians: "Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature," Mark 16, 15.

Mission work is the greatest of all works, for its direct object is the salvation of immortal souls, for which Christ, the Son of God, shed His own precious blood. "He who converteth a sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death," James 5, 20. Man's soul is of far greater worth than all the world. "What shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul?" says Christ.

Mission work is the most necessary work, for through the preaching of the Gospel it brings to man the one thing needful which man cannot obtain without God's Word.

Mission work is not done in vain. It bears glorious fruits, even if we do not always see these fruits in this world. Christ, who gave the missionary command, added the promise: "Lo, I am with you always." Since He is with us we cannot fail. Success is certain. God will take care of the results of our labor. He has given us the

sure promise: "As the rain cometh down and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater; so shall my Word be that goes forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it," Is. 55, 10. 11.

Mission work especially has the promise of a reward of grace. "They that turn many to righteousness shall shine as the stars for ever and ever," Dan. 12, 3.

Let us, then, not grow weary in mission work. "In due season we shall reap, if we faint not," Gal. 6, 9. — Sel.

TESTIMONY

The following experience of a boy employed as timekeeper in a large factory exemplifies, how our testimony and life may act as a call to repentance to the unbeliever.

This boy was a Christian by profession and he tried to live the life of a Christian, speaking a word for Christ whenever opportunity offered. Many of the boys in the factory, not wanting a Christian among them, were as unpleasant to him as they could be; but he was just the same quiet, faithful follower of Christ. Then they resolved that he must leave the factory. They stole some money and tried to throw suspicion on him. For a time his prospects were dark. But there was a thorough investigation, and the culprit was discovered. The timekeeper was given back the place that had been taken from him, while he was under charges. His employer ever after reposed full confidence in him; and his influence for Christ by words and by life began to bear fruit also among his fellow workers.

A. H. G.

FAITH

When we are confronted by misery which needs relief, suffering which requires sympathy, folly which should be reprov'd, ignorance waiting for counsel, sin pleading forgiveness, the true prayer is, "Lord, increase our faith." Nothing is impossible to faith.

GIFTS TO THE LORD

Some gave Him shelter, clothing, food,
And some the love that cheers;
One gave to Him — 'was all she could —
Her spikenard and her tears.

And one his fish and barley bread
Right joyfully did bring;
One gave a colt; one palm-leaves spread
That He might ride a King.

One gave a seamless robe — how meet! —
And one an upper room;
One gave the Lord a winding-sheet
And one a new-made tomb.

And as his earthly life he led
In old Jerusalem,
He took gifts graciously and said,
"The Lord hath need of them."

So still the Lord hath need of these,
The gifts that men can bring;
Our lives, our wealth, our services
Are welcomed by our King.

The simplest gifts to Him are dear
Which friends to Him impart,
If but the giver is sincere
And gives with them his heart.

— Alex. Small.

In a Scottish village lived a doctor noted for his skill and piety. After his death, when his books were examined, several accounts had written across them in red ink: "Forgiven — too poor to pay." His wife, who was of a different disposition, said: "These accounts must be paid." She therefore sued for the money. The judge said: "Is this your husband's handwriting in red?" She replied that it was. "Then," said the judge, "there is not a tribunal in the land that can obtain the money where he has written, 'Forgiven.'" So when Christ says, "Thy sins are forgiven," we are released from our spiritual debts. — Sel.

When God judges, He also overcomes; and sinners will either bend or break before Him. "At the Name of Jesus every knee shall bow." Philippians 2, 10.

UNDER THE CHRISTMAS SNOW

Christmas is a good time to straighten out kinks that have entangled your life during the year. That harsh word you spoke which went like a knife to the soul — you have never sought pardon for it as certainly you expect to do some time. When will you find a better time to make it right? And is there any coldness between you and any one else? Melt it before the glowing Christmas fires and never let it freeze again. Peace in the heart, peace in the home, peace with everybody everywhere — peace on earth!

Are there some things that would better be left untouched? Then let bygones be bygones. Bury differences under the Christmas snow and let them sleep quietly beneath the mantle of white.

Do this in the name of the Christ-child and with the strength that faith in this child provides. For this child came to bring you God's forgiveness and to establish God's peace in your heart.

REFUSE TO HAVE AN ENEMY

Speaking of enemies, don't have them. Don't fight. Don't get even. Ignore. Life is too short for grudges and vengeance. Go on. Let the other fellow stew. If a man doesn't like you, keep away from him. It's a large, roomy world. And, thank God, there is always another side of the street. — Selected.

THOSE WHO DO NOT SLEEP

While many are sleeping and taking it easy, we, as overseers, are struggling under the burden resting upon us, weeping and warning and begging for help to battle against the forces of evil around us.—Jonas Mininger.

MISSION NEWS

Minneapolis Mission—October 18 Mr. Oscar E. Hanson and Elsie E. Erickson, who several years ago attended our oral Sunday School, were united in holy matrimony. They will make their home in Minneapolis. May the Lord Jesus be with them! We hope to see them in our Oral Bible Class Sunday mornings.

Rev. E. Hischke, one of the St. Louis candidates we secured for our work among the deaf, has been with us since September 1, in order to get a better knowledge of the sign-language and the necessary practice. It did not take long before he could also be

of help to us. The last Sunday in September he preached his first sermon in the sign-language in Grace Chapel, and as the deaf testified, was understood by all. Since then he has made several trips for the Minneapolis and St. Paul missionaries. Among the stations he visited are the State Hospital at Fergus Falls and the State Home for Feebleminded in Chippewa Falls, Wis., and thus has come in contact also with institutional work. The first Sunday in November he delivered the confessional address both orally and in signs, since the members of our oral class and the other deaf have communion services jointly. That was his first experience in this line. And in the afternoon of the same day he took over one of the classes of our oral Sunday School. His being with us and taking over part of our work has enabled us to instruct our classes in Faribault every Saturday, where we have 17 children under our spiritual care. Otherwise we can go there only once every two weeks. Rev. Hischke, however, also has had several sad experiences. Twice he came to a place and was ready to preach, but nobody came. Such experiences also are for our good, for they urge us to look unto the Lord for His help and blessing! May God grant both of our new men, Pastors Hischke and Borchardt, the latter working among the deaf in Ohio, strength and joy and willingness to continue in this blessed work unto the salvation of many souls!

J. L. S.

Cleveland Mission—At a recent meeting of the Greater Cleveland Pastoral Conference we made a few brief remarks with regard to the change in the Cleveland Mission and introduced our new worker, Pastor N. E. Borchardt. The Conference showed an interest in our work; we are receiving quite a number of requests to speak about the Mission for the Deaf and Blind in the various churches and at the meetings of church societies.

On November 9 we met the Lutheran students of Gallaudet College for the Deaf, Washington, D. C., at the Y. W. C. A. headquarters on the corner of K Street and 17th Avenue, where a comfortable meeting room has been placed at our disposal.

After a Bible Class and address by the missionary we discussed the chief points explained in our pamphlet "Tokens of Salvation." The students were greatly interested and promised to go over the tract carefully and to report at the next meeting.

Although some of the Lutheran students did not attend the meeting, those present promised to bring their friends to future services.

Young people at colleges and universities are inclined to neglect the spiritual side of life. It is our purpose to arouse Lutheran students to the importance of the Christian religion in the making of a successful life and the achievement of eternal happiness. May the Savior grant us His blessing to that end!

O. C. S.

Omaha Mission—The voters of the Omaha congregation in their last meeting decided to purchase two lots each 50 feet by 150 feet (corner lot) for the price of \$2,750.00. This church site is located about eight blocks from the Omaha School for the Deaf and affords splendid opportunity for all our Lutheran children at the school to attend services regularly.

We were glad to see our deaf friends from Huron and Hitchcock, So. Dak., at services in Mitchell on October 26. Services are held alternately at Mitchell and Tripp in order that a larger number of deaf in that vicinity might be served. The deaf north of Mitchell can attend at Mitchell more easily and the deaf south of Mitchell and south of Tripp prefer services at Tripp. We hope all of our members will cooperate in this arrangement since it is the best arrangement that can be made at present.

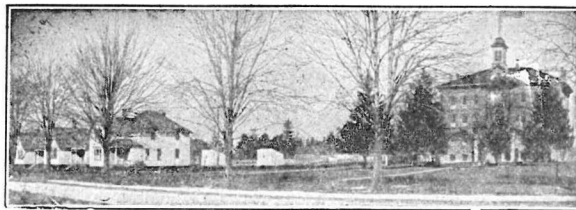
Services were held in the auditorium of the Sioux Falls School on the evening of October 26. Sixty-six attended the services.

Mr. Ed. J. Humphreys of Sioux City has finished his course of instruction and will be accepted as a member of the Lutheran Church by confirmation at our November service. In Omaha Mr. and Mrs. Emil

Hladik are receiving instructions prior to confirmation.

St. Paul's Lutheran congregation of Ft. Dodge, Iowa, lately finished the new addition to their church. The Ft. Dodge deaf rejoice with this congregation over their new and up-to-date structure. Our deaf have worshiped in this church ever since the first service was conducted there about six years ago.

Billie Lou, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Randolph of Omaha was received into the Church by the act of Holy Baptism on November 4. The Lord bless her and keep her in the true faith. E. M.



Lutheran School For The Deaf, North Detroit, Michigan.
Rev. Wm. Gielow, Superintendent.
6841 Nevada Avenue. Detroit, Michigan.

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