



a STEWARDSHIP CHALLENGE
GOD-LIVED
life

A Life of Being a Disciple

November 3rd, 2024

All Saints Day

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WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

God became man and lived life in our place. Christ lived the perfect God-lived life. Living as a Christian, a little Christ, we have the privilege of demonstrating what God looks like in how we live our lives, in living lives that show God. So for the next 4 weeks—God’s Word will be challenging us and we’ll be challenging one another to live a God-lived life. In today’s worship, the particular emphasis of the God-lived life is that of being a disciple, a learner, one who grows in God’s Word. May God’s Word cause us to crave that pure spiritual milk so that by it we grow up in our salvation.

This month, we focus especially on ways to strengthen our following of Jesus. This is our stewardship of God’s Word.

Week One: A Life of Being a Disciple

Week Two: A Life Lived for Others

Week Three: A Life of Generosity

Week Four: A Life of Thanksgiving

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Lord God, in coming to hear your Word this morning, you have planted us like trees beside streams of water. Grant that we may ever delight in your Word and yield abundant fruit in our lives, through Jesus Christ, your Son our Lord. Amen.

ORDER OF SERVICE

OPENING HYMN: B342 *We Gather Together*

GATHERING RITE

Music begins playing underneath spoken word.

M: We begin our worship in the same way we were baptized: In the name of the Father and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

M: Heavenly Father, you have given us indescribable riches in your Word. But we have failed to appreciate your Word as we should. We have not read or learned it as we should have and so we can be deceived. Forgive us and let your peace rule our lives.

C: ♪ May the peace of God my Father Rule my life in everything, That I may be calm to comfort Sick and sorrowing. (CW467:3)

M: Dear Savior Jesus, we admit that by our sinful nature we lack complete confidence in the power of your Word which you give us to share with others. We easily give way to doubt or fail to fully trust that you speak with power in your Word. Forgive us and let your love fill our lives.

C: ♪ May the love of Jesus fill me As the waters fill the sea, Him exalting self abasing – This is victory. (CW467:4)

M: O Holy Spirit, give us and all believers unity in your word. Teach us to discern what is truth and what is deception. Forgive us for not taking seriously your warnings about false teachers. Give us and all believers wisdom and unity through your Word, and live within us.

C: ♪ May his Spirit live within me As I seek the lost to win, And may they forget the channel, Seeing only him. (CW467:6)

M: As a called servant of the Triune God, I announce to you his grace and forgiveness. On behalf of and by the command of our Savior Jesus Christ, I forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**C: ♪ May the mind of Christ my Savior Live in me from day to day,
By his love and pow'r inspiring All I do or say.**

**May the Word of God dwell richly In my heart from hour to hour,
So that all may see I triumph Only through his pow'r. (CW467:1-2)**

M: We pray:

Lord, we pray that your mercy and grace may always go before and follow after us that, loving you with undivided hearts, we may glorify you in the way we use the gifts you give us to manage. Help us to live a God-lived life; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

**C: ♪ May I run the race before me, Strong and brave to face the foe,
Looking only unto Jesus As I onward go. (CW467:5)**

READING: *1 Peter 1:22-2:3*

*The truth of God's Word changes us to live God-lived lives,
to love one another and to live the life of a disciple of the Word.*

²² Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for each other, love one another deeply, from the heart. ²³ For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God. ²⁴ For,

"All people are like grass,

and all their glory is like the flowers of the field;

the grass withers and the flowers fall,

²⁵ but the word of the Lord endures forever."

And this is the word that was preached to you.

2 Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind. ² Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, ³ now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.

RESPONSIVE READING: African American Heritage Hymnal

#101: Stewardship

GOSPEL: *Luke 18:9-17*

Here is an example of someone who appeared to live a God-lived life but was living for himself. The one who trusted in the life God lived for him went home to live a truly God-lived life.

⁹ To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everyone else, Jesus told this parable: ¹⁰ "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹ The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. ¹² I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.'

¹³ "But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, 'God, have mercy on me, a sinner.'

¹⁴ "I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

¹⁵ People were also bringing babies to Jesus for him to place his hands on them. When the disciples saw this, they rebuked them. ¹⁶ But Jesus called the children to him and said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these." ¹⁷ Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.

M: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

HYMN OF THE DAY: B339 *For All the Saints*

SERMON TEXT: A God-Lived Life is One that Craves the Word

1 Peter 1:22-2:3

1. The Word makes you who you are.
2. The Word makes itself important to you.

CONFESSION OF FAITH: *Apostles' Creed*

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Amen.

OFFERING: B595 *When the Saints Go Marching In*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Almighty God, Creator of this world, all good gifts come from you. We give you thanks for all that you have given to us—the bounties of the earth, fruitful labor, meaningful relationships, enjoyment of your gifts, and contentment. We confess that we have not always acknowledged you as the giver of all that is good. We confess that we have not always seen the good in all that you send into our lives. We confess that we have often complained instead of praised. Lord in your mercy:

C: Hear our prayer.

M: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world. We give you thanks that you became man to set us free. You lived a perfect life in our place—living to please our Father, running in the path of his commands, and learning and loving his ways. You died the death we deserved. You rose to ensure our forgiveness and eternal life. Lord, in your mercy:

C: Hear our prayer.

M: Holy Spirit, you brought and continue to strengthen faith in our hearts through the gospel in Word and sacrament. You send preachers and teachers who teach us your truth. You enlighten our minds, strengthen our hearts, and loosen our tongues to give you praise. Now give us the fervor of seeking you first and your kingdom, O God. Send us godly and faithful ministers and teachers of your Word. Grant us wisdom to meditate daily on your promises.

Strengthen us to follow your will and commands. Grow our desire for your truth and your Word that we may better understand your love, your ways and your peace. Lord, in your mercy:

C: Hear our prayer.

M: Triune God, bless our *God-Lived Life* stewardship series. Make it an opportunity for each of us to grow in your Word and in our lives of living it. Use us to be a blessing to others. Help us encourage one another in our commitments and grow us in your grace. Lord, in your mercy:

C: Hear our prayer.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions. *Silent prayer.*

**READING OF THE NAMES OF MEMBERS WHO ARE NOW PART OF
THE CHURCH VICTORIOUS IN HEAVEN**

PRAYERS

LORD'S PRAYER

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

A Note to Our Guests:

The Bible tells us that those who receive communion together are to:

1. *Recognize that Christ's true body and blood are present in the Sacrament (1 Corinthians 11:29),*
2. *Examine themselves (1 Corinthians 11:28),*
3. *Be united in faith with the congregation with which they commune (1 Corinthians 10:17).*

Since it is not possible for us to know whether unity in these areas exist apart from a person's public confession, we practice close communion. That is, we ask only those who have publicly confessed oneness with us by membership in our congregation or another WELS congregation to come forward to join us for Holy Communion. If you have questions concerning this practice, or would like to establish a communion fellowship with us, please speak with our pastor. He would be happy to explore God's Word with you.

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up unto the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: It is good and right so to do.

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock till he comes again in glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and ask you to help us live the life of a disciple.

All: Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is ✠ my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my ✠ blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

M: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

All: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us your peace. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION: R397 *Just As I Am*

M: Lord, now you let your servant depart in peace according to your word.

C: For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared before the face of all people.

M: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

C: And his mercy endures forever.

M: O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day, through Jesus Christ, our

Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: AMEN.

BLESSING

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace.
Live in harmony with one another.
Serve the Lord with gladness.
The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and give ☩ you peace.

C: AMEN.

CLOSING HYMN: R473 *Savior, I Follow On*

Bible Class | Wednesdays | 7:00 pm

Google Meet: <https://meet.google.com/xzp-nphi-sdt>

<u>Serving at CoL:</u>	<u>Today</u>	<u>Next Sunday</u>
Pianist	Karis, Elijah	Katherine, Elijah
Ushers	Lee, Keith	Mike
Reader	Noah	Mike
Altar		
Streaming	Noah	Noah
Refreshments	Celeste, Yolanda	
Cleaning	Quiana	Quiana
Mowing		

CALENDAR

Wednesday	7:00 PM Online Bible Class
Thursday	10:30 AM Bible Class at Summerhouse, Slidell
Sunday	10:00 AM Bible Class, Sunday School
Sunday	11:00 AM Worship
Nov 24 th	Council Meeting

OFFERING	Total	Budget	%Budget Met
Last Week	\$1,784.00	\$2,548.40	70.0%
Last Month	\$8,766.05	\$11,043.08	79.4%
Qtr-to-Date	\$8,766.05	\$33,129.25	26.5%
Year-to-Date	\$101,838.93	\$132,517.00	76.8%



*"...give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."
II Corinthians 9:7*

