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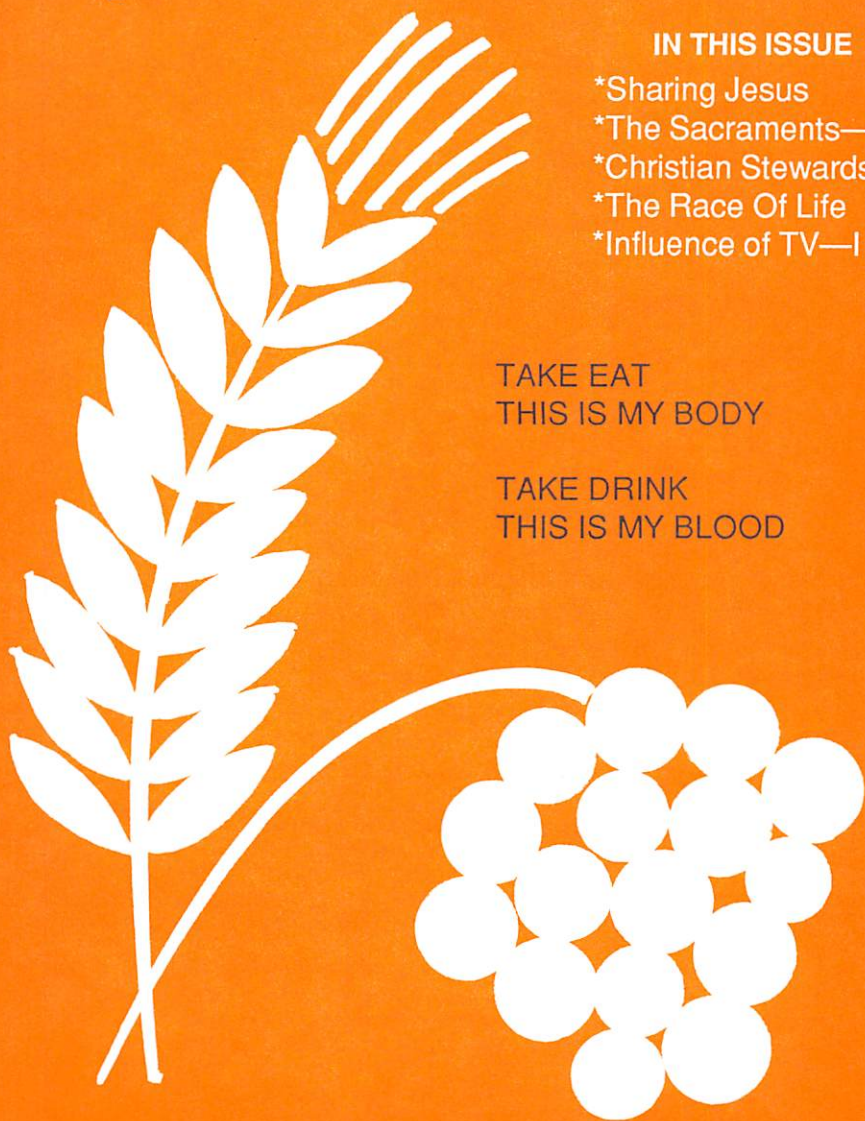
lutheran spokesman

IN THIS ISSUE

- *Sharing Jesus
- *The Sacraments—V
- *Christian Stewardship
- *The Race Of Life
- *Influence of TV—I

TAKE EAT
THIS IS MY BODY

TAKE DRINK
THIS IS MY BLOOD



CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION

SHARING JESUS WITH OTHERS

In his 10th chapter, Matthew tells how Jesus sent the twelve disciples on a missionary journey. The Lord told them: "Go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand" (v. 7). He meant they were to preach God's law and gospel, for after Easter Jesus said that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name among all nations.

Sin and Grace

God's strict law must be preached first, for through it the Holy Spirit reveals our great sinfulness, God's righteous anger over sin, and our impending doom. After the law has troubled people in their minds because of their sins, they should be told the gospel of how Christ Jesus graciously rescued the human race from its deserved punishment by dying on the cross in full payment of all our sins. Through that good news, God the Holy Spirit enables sinners to trust in Jesus for their

salvation.

All Christians are privileged to share this message of sin and grace with others. The powerful words from God enable people to realize they *need* a Savior and that they *have* a Savior, Jesus.

Harsh Treatment

But Christians should not expect this world to thank them for sharing Jesus. Just the opposite! Christ warned His disciples: "Ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake" (v. 22). We are to expect the same treatment from non-Christians that Jesus received from the scribes, Pharisees, Roman soldiers, King Herod, and Pontius Pilate.

The reason for this hatred is that all who are born of earthly parents come into this world full of rebellion against our Maker, inclined only toward evil, and conceited enough to think we can merit God's forgiveness by outward deeds of kindness.

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Editor: Paul Fleischer, E. 11315 Broadway, Spokane, WA 99206; Assistant Editor: D. Lau; Artist: W. Bernthal; Staff (Also District Reporters): V. Fossum (South-Eastern), J. Klatt (West Central), D. Koenig, K. Luebke, K. Olmanson (Minnesota), Rollin Reim (Pacific Coast), Ronald Roehl (Wisconsin), Ross Roehl, P. Schaller, W. V. Schaller, J. Schierenbeck, C. H. A. Schmutzler, M. Sydow, P. M. Weis.

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Romans 8 teaches: "The carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be." Preaching the gospel to every creature is like trying to free a vicious animal from a trap. The beast instinctively attacks his benefactor.

Displeasing Ways

There is no God-pleasing way to avoid such hatred from the world as we carry out the Lord's command to make Christians of all nations, but there are God-displeasing ways to do so.

One of these is to refrain from preaching God's sharp law to willful sinners and instead, picture Him as a doting father who overlooks cocky disobedience to His commands. The world accepts such "do your own thing" religion just as children enjoy a baby sitter who feeds them nothing but ice cream, candy, and Twinkies for supper.

Another God-displeasing way to avoid the world's hatred is to teach that the act of believing in Jesus is meritorious. This error allows proud humans to claim credit for producing and preserving their faith in the Savior, even though Ephesians chapter 2 declares that saving faith is a gift from God. Luther repeats this truth, saying that we cannot by our own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ our Lord or come to Him.

Another harmful way to remain popular with the world is to use Christ's name merely as a springboard from which to launch sensational religious ideas such as: talking with spirits, reincarnation, get-rich promises, the tribulation, the rapture, and the millennium.

Such errors neglect the clear Bible teachings about Christ's unexpected re-

turn on the Last Day, the resurrection of all the dead, His judgment of all nations, the eternal punishment of non-Christians in hell, and the everlasting blessedness of Christians in heaven. The world dislikes those Bible teachings.

"Fear Not . . ."

Yet Christians need not fear the world's hatred. Our Lord told His disciples: "Fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul; but rather fear him (God) who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell" (v. 28).

God is on our side! There is no need to fear the opposition. We can tell the good news of salvation boldly. We can preach it from the housetops. What can man do unto us when the very hairs of our heads are all numbered?

We need not be afraid when sharing Jesus with others, for absolutely nothing in all creation can cancel the love God has for us in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

—Robert Mackensen



The Blessings of Holy Communion

People are usually quick to take advantage of an offer of something free. A supermarket in our area apparently has found such offers an effective way of drawing customers; almost every week they put in their newspaper ad a coupon good for one free item.

If people will go out of their way and line up for a gift as humble as a small loaf of bread or a carton of yogurt, imagine the line if someone offered a gift of gold or diamonds or thousand-dollar bills. The demand would be so great that it could not be met.

Forgiveness of Sins

Yet in the sacrament of Holy Communion God freely offers something far more precious than the most highly prized of material things. He offers the forgiveness of sins; He offers full pardon and release from punishment for all the sins we have committed against Him; He offers completely to forgive that hopeless, crushing debt we all owe Him.

What He offers us freely cost His Son dearly. The forgiveness of our sins was bought with the blood of Jesus Christ. Something of the greatness of the price He paid can be seen in the darkness of Good Friday and the cry from the cross: "My God, my God, why hast Thou forsaken me?" God's Son suffered the wrath of His own Father to

free us from our sins.

Christ offers forgiveness in Holy Communion where He gives His own body and blood, the same body which was given into death for our sins, the same blood which was shed for the remission of our sins. He offers forgiveness to every sinner with the words of the sacrament: "This is my body GIVEN FOR YOU" and "This is the new testament in ^{my} blood SHED FOR YOU."

Received by Faith

All who believe these words of Christ have what they say and declare, namely, forgiveness of sins. What Christ offers in the sacrament is received only by faith. A careless or unbelieving eating of the sacrament is not only not beneficial, but actually harmful. The communicant who does not discern—that is, recognize—the Lord's body in the sacrament, either through carelessness or unbelief, eats and drinks judgment to himself (I Cor. 11:28-29).

These are sobering words, but they are not intended to scare us away from the Lord's Supper. Only faith is required of those who come to receive the sacrament. To receive the blessings of the sacrament it is only necessary that we believe.

No certain level of strength of faith is required; God does not require that we become super Christians before He

will give us the blessings of the Lord's Supper. These blessings are intended for all who need forgiveness and recognize their need.

Received Personally

But is not forgiveness ours through faith in the Gospel without Holy Communion? What then is the purpose of Holy Communion?

It is true that the gift we receive in Holy Communion is the same that we have through faith in the Gospel Word, But when the Gospel is preached, it goes out to everyone at once. In Holy Communion the Lord gives us forgiveness in a personal and individual way.

Each communicant, one at a time, receives the body and blood of Christ with the bread and the wine. Each communicant, one at a time, hears the words: "This is the true body of Christ,

given for YOU . . . This is the true blood of Christ, shed for YOU." In this way Christ assures you, not just that He died for the whole world, but that He died for you; your sins are forgiven.

Since it is a precious gift that God offers in the sacrament of Holy Communion, and since it is a gift we all greatly need, how can we fail to take advantage of His offer?

How can we treat His gift as something of little value by neglecting it in favor of sleeping late or going fishing or whatever other trifle may keep us from communion on a Sunday morning?

If we understand and remember what Christ is offering us when His Holy Supper is celebrated in our church, we will want to be there to receive it thankfully.

—John Klatt

Evaluating Our Stewardship

". . . as good stewards of the manifold grace of God" (I Peter 4:10).

". . . it is required in stewards that one be found faithful" (I Corinthians 4:2).

The word STEWARDSHIP is often used in connection with the Christian's handling of earthly riches. But money is not the Christian's only useful gift—nor is it the most valuable one God gives us. For we have been bought with a price immeasurable—and by faith receive the riches of God's grace in Christ: forgiveness, life and salvation. To these inestimable riches the Lord who bought us adds the wealth of His

equipping Word and invests our lives with meaning and purpose by His call. "As my Father hath sent me, so send I you."

Now, 1st-century Israel was not great among the nations and many in that land had misfocused their lives, yet the Father-sent Son daily found opportunities to minister the grace of God to individuals in need. Surely it will be no less true for the Son-sent stewards in

the 20th century. The Lord daily and richly supplies opportunities for us to meet the Gospel-need of individuals around us.

Jesus' Stewards

These great truths the essayists of the 18th Convention of the CLC laid once more on the hearts of the delegates, pastors, teachers, and guests present. The convention participants were in an especially good position to grasp anew the work of a steward. Because they represented their congregations each day at the convention, faithfulness in discussion and decision, both on the floor and in committee, was important to them. No matter how eager and willing they were to be there as individuals, they simply were not present only in their own behalf.

This is also true for every Christian every day of every week we are here on this earth. We are Jesus' representatives, appointed and authorized to manage and administer, not merely our own money or even the offerings of the CLC, but the riches of the grace of the Lord of all. If the convention delegates were concerned about faithfully discharging their duties, how much more shouldn't each of us be concerned

about being good and faithful stewards in our daily lives—Jesus' stewards.

A steward is an individual to whom goods of great value have been entrusted for management. That the Lord of Creation entrusts us with material goods and personal abilities is remarkable. That the Lord of Life places in our hands and on our lips the Word of Life, that is the highest possible privilege and honor.

It is not surprising that we are inclined to look around for others better qualified or better equipped than ourselves. But, the fact is, while Jesus has given His people different gifts and abilities, different positions and opportunities, to each of us is given the glorious Gospel of salvation. Each of us. Not just pastors, teachers, councilmen, deacons or elders. Not only men or older people. Not just those with certain abilities. Each and every one of Christ's people is a steward of God's grace.

That means YOU, Christian reader. There is no question regarding your appointment. The only questions are: How will you fulfill your charge? What kind of manager will you be? Remember, the chief requirement of a steward is faithfulness.

Taking Stock

As a steward of God's grace, may I suggest you begin where any good manager would. Take stock of what you are appointed to administer. "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly" (Col. 3:16). Become thoroughly acquainted with the Word. Become intimately familiar with the life Christ lived and the death He died. Let the power and promise of His resurrection



Convention Essayists: Teacher Ross Roehl, Pastor Emeritus Robert Reim, Pastor David Sweet

fill your living and take the fear out of your dying. Know the power, purpose, and meaning of your Savior's sacraments.

It is not unusual for the manager of an estate or a business to daily walk the property placed under his stewardship, that he might be ever ready to act in the best interest of the employer who has put these things in his keeping. As God's Gospel-manager be sure to take your daily walk in the Word. Remember, the same apostle who urges you to be a good steward, offers this word of guidance in your stewardship: "Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope you have" (I Peter 3:15).

Remember the story Jesus told about the man who left various servants in charge of varying amounts when he went on a long journey? (Matthew 25) The fellow who did nothing with his allotment but hold on to it (he buried it!) until his master returned was wicked and unfaithful.

What good is a manger who doesn't manage? Christ has not placed the riches of the Gospel in our hands so that we might make of it a buried treasure! We in the CLC must take special care that we are not satisfied with just preserving the Word of God pure, thereby making our conservative stand a "deep freeze" for the Gospel.

Nor will convention decisions regarding missions and missionaries, or our offerings in support of this work, completely fulfill our individual management responsibilities where the Gospel is concerned. Jesus wants us personally involved. He wants us *each* to have the joy.

Plan And Pray

A good manager plans his work. He

not only takes stock of all that has been placed in his keeping, he also considers with care the administration of these things—looking ahead to opportunities and possibilities. Management planning and management decisions are daily concerns of a good manager, who must then act on his plans and later evaluate the steps he has taken.

As stewards of God's grace we Christians need to daily plan and pray as we look to the opportunities the Lord places before us. Consider those around you, their needs and how Christ meets those needs. Relatives, neighbors, friends, fellow workers. Much of the Gospel-wealth you have is meant for these people. Think about those you will be meeting during a given day, the situations you will face. Pray about them with your Gospel stewardship in mind.

The place of prayer in the planning of Jesus' stewards reminds us that, unlike the man in Jesus' parable, our Master is not far off in some distant land. He is right here with us as He has promised. We can speak to Him as we plan. We can turn to Him for help and strength in acting upon those plans. And because our Master lives both to equip and to forgive His stewards, we need not be afraid either to respond to our opportunities or to evaluate our stewardship.

But, enough of these generalities, as important as they be. Now, *you* get specific. What Gospel-opportunities has the Lord placed before you? What people? What circumstances? What will you do? Pray and plan. Pray and act. Pray and evaluate and pray again. Be faithful in your stewardship of God's grace. Let your Master's faithfulness be your strength.

—W. V. Schaller



The Race of Life

Go "swifter, higher, stronger" was the word,
The motto, heard at Christian camp this week.
It is a striving, fighting, to be sure—

An agonizing struggle to remain
In faith in Jesus as we travel towards
The prize of our high calling in the Lord. (Phil. 3:14)
As athletes train and strain, exert themselves,
So, too, must Christians shun the easy road
Against all sin—the devil, world, and flesh.
'Tis this unholy three each day and year
Which work relentlessly to kill, destroy,
What God Himself by grace has done for us:
Enrolling each, by Spirit's work and Christ's,
For victory in the battle for our souls.

"Swifter"

But back to motto now—the words we said.
The three words are official 'lympic rule.
Just how do words of God, the Scriptures true,
Direct our thoughts along these very lines?
The swiftest runners win the race in Seoul,
But "race is *not* to swift" says Solomon. (Eccl. 9:11)
Far more important, crucial, we should note,
For Christians is a speed, a hast'ning on
To hear—just hear!—the words from mouth of God.
"Let ev'ry man be swift to hear" the Word! (Jms. 1:19)

The living God sends His Word swiftly forth (Ps. 147:15)
To trip, to halt, the mischief men devise (Prov. 6:18)
To stir His hatred, nullify His rule.
There is no future for the foolish man
Who lets his life, like weaver's shuttle, pass (Job 7:6)
Ignoring, as he goes, the Word of Life.

*This is an adaptation of an Ode prepared for the campers at our CLC youth camp near Spokane, WA in July of this year. The camp theme and Bible studies tied the Christian's "race" in with the Olympic Event. The Scripture references are either quoted or alluded to in the Ode.

No future? Wrong! Destruction swift awaits
The speedy Seoul Olympian and all
Who "ride upon the swift" but fail to see,
To know, the mettle that in men exceeds
All trophies, medals—silver, gold, and bronze.
That mettle was and is and e'er shall be
Repentance, faith, and trust in Jesus Christ.

(Is. 30:16)

"Higher"

From speed the motto turns to altitude:
Olympic heights are reached and set, attained,
By vaulters, skiers, high jumpers *et al.*
How tense the muscles, nerves, and sinews as
Frail mortals, finely-toned, reach for the stars—
Yes, for the topmost rung on winner's stand!



But back to God's own Word and sober view:
You want to speak of reaching for the heights?
Begin at the beginning and note well:
There is no God like Him who "dwells on high"
And with Him Christ the Son, the great High Priest,
Made "higher than the heav'ns." This His prize
When He had finished all He came to do
On planet earth, redeeming sinful man.

(Ps. 113:5)

(Heb. 7:26)

Dare any finite creature then presume
To reach the highest goals—apart from Christ?
Let ev'ry "high" indulged or earned by men
Be tumbled from its proud and lofty throne:
Oh "cast down ev'ry argument and thing
Which would enshrine itself on pedestals
Above the wisdom Christ alone imparts!"
The agonizing Christian's theme is this:
"Let Thy salvation, O my God, suffice
To set me up on high."—"Your ways, not mine
Are highest, best for me." Oh, help me, Lord,
To stay the course 'til trav'ling days are done.

(2 Cor. 10:5)

(Ps. 69:29)

(Is. 55:9)

"Stronger"

And now to "strength" we turn our racing tho'ts—
An attitude, official motto says,
Of all who would excel in track and field.
Perhaps 'tis so, yet keep the bearings here!
The Triune God, Creator, rules our world:

"The daily sun goes forth at God's command,
 Rejoicing as a strong man in a race." (Ps. 19:5)
 Let ev'ry soul in Seoul's up-coming Games—
 And those who watch on modern media—
 Remember this: In battle, fight, for Life
 "The vict'ry is not to the strong" of flesh (Eccl. 9:11)
 But comes to those whose might is Christ, the Lord.
 For proof ask Pharaoh, Goliath too— (Ex. 14 &
 I Sam. 17)
 Two mighty men who felt the wrath of God
 And fell before His mighty, outstretched arm. (Ps. 136:12)
 To sinners, mortals all, the message is:
 "Be strong in *Him* and pow'r of *His* might!" (Eph. 6:10)
 Be strong in *faith*, to God all glory give!
 "God's weakness far exceeds the strength of men." (I Cor. 1:25)

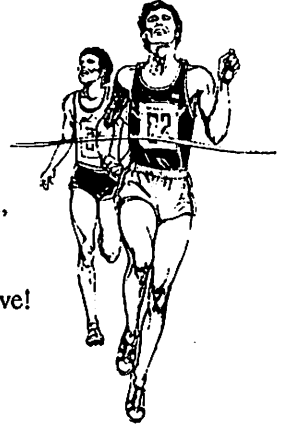
Recap

So now it's on to Seoul from Calgary
 To Summer Games from Winter's fading gold.
 But, Christian youth and elders, ponder this:
 For you, for me, life's hardly such a game!
 Far more's at stake than most would fear to hear:
 We're pressing toward the mark, the heav'nly prize,
 Of our high calling in the Savior, Christ. (Phil. 3:14)
 In Him, by faith, we stand, and walk, and run
 Until the everlasting crown He won
 For us on Calvary becomes our own.
 Indeed, the gold is won by those who look
 To Christ—the Author, Finisher of faith. (Heb. 12:2)
 Despising all its shame, He bore the cross,
 Its curse of sin and death. As Forerunner
 He ran into the fray in evil day
 And won the prize of peace and joy and Life!

So Christian youth—and all—let's run the race
 Of life remaining patiently and hard. (Heb. 12:1)
 God's armor all put on, from head to toe. (Eph. 6:11)
 Keep heart and mind, yea, body, soul and strength
 Well fastened on the goal laid up for us.
 No man that strives for masteries can gain (2 Tim. 2:5)
 The victor's crown by sitting idly by;
 By playing games with devil, world, and flesh.

Such games of costly fun, yea, deadly weight, (Heb. 12:1)
 Include the likes of free and open sex,

Of drug addiction, alcohol, and pills,
And all the rest; yea, "doing one's own thing"
Regardless of what parents, teachers, say,
Or even God Himself "if He exists."
Alas this land we love, home of the brave,
America, this land of flowing grain,
Is filling to the brim the wrath of God.
Dear precious souls, redeemed by Jesus' blood,
Beware of humanism, trust in things,
Of evolution's lie—the devil's tools.
The call, the challenge is: trust Christ—and Live!



So let us pray: We thank you, Lord, for camp;
But pray and beg and plead, before we close,
For blessings on the efforts there set forth.
In Jesus' Name and for His glory, cause,
Instill in one and all the Spirit's strength.
Help youthful Christians fight the fight of faith,
And know the breadth and length and depth and height (Eph. 3:18)
Of Jesus' Savior love. May not a one
Fall victim to the wiles of evil foes,
Or lose the race of Life, the crown of gold!
Let each remember this: there's simply none
That's "swifter, higher, stronger" than the one
Who strives by faith in Christ to win the prize!
To Him all glory be for now, fore'er!

Amen.

—Paul Fleischer

"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing" (2 Tim. 4:7-8).

The Influence of Television—I

Satan, as we all know, is a master of deception and guile. He will do anything to come into our homes and steal our hearts from God. If he cannot get in through force, or with some of his more vile deceptions, such as drug abuse or open rebellion, he will try to sneak his way in through more subtle means.

He will spread his vile deceit through things that appear very sweet and innocent. He will come through things we may think are funny and entertaining. The apostle Paul says that Satan transforms himself into an angel of light (cf 2 Cor. 11:14) showing how he even sneaks into churches through false doctrine. If he can do that, certainly he can find his way into our homes and lives through "cute" and "entertaining" things we may see in TV.

It is also a well-known fact that when children are young they are the most impressionable. That is the time their thoughts and ideas, morals and values are being formed. Satan also knows this. He would like nothing more than to have a part in molding our children's ideas and morals. You can be sure Satan will use whatever means he can to influence them. God warns us: "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary, the devil, walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour" (1 Pet. 5:8).

Knowing this, we as parents who are responsible for the well-being of God's children, want to be very careful not to let Satan influence them.

A Baby Sitter?

Consider this family example and compare it with your own. Mrs. Doe is a good, loving mother of two youngsters, ages 2-1/2 and 4. She is very in-

involved with her children and always wants what is best for them. But during the mornings she just can't get any of her housework done. Little Bobby and Michelle are always under her feet wanting to "help" and just basically getting on her nerves.

So they got cable TV. Now Mrs. Doe can sit her children down in front of the TV and they can watch cartoons and Sesame Street and the Disney Channel all morning. It works great. Better than a baby sitter and cheaper too. The children are happy, quietly entertained, even learning many good things, and Mrs. Doe can finally get some work done.

TV makes a handy baby sitter. There is no doubt about it. But whom do we want baby sitting our children? Whom do we want influencing them during these formative years? This is the big concern. Do we want some unbelieving script writer baby sitting and influencing them? Do we want Satan influencing them?

Statistics don't always mean much, but there is one that I found that is interesting and probably fairly accurate. It states that children ages 2 through 12 watch TV an average of 25 hours a week. The results we got from our own small survey of children in this conference were very close to that. By the time the typical child finishes high school, he has spent more time in front

of the TV than in a classroom. That would seem to indicate that for many children the TV is one of the biggest, if not the biggest, influence in their lives.

Trends and Fads

Just think how TV is used to influence people in regard to fashion and style. For example, Alexis S. Tan, Ph.D of the University of Washington in Seattle found that beliefs of adolescent girls about the importance of physical beauty and youth were changed as a result of seeing a series of television commercials. One group saw commercials that used sex appeal, beauty, and youth as selling points. The teens and pre-teens who saw the advertisements stressing youth and beauty were more likely to say that those characteristics were important to men. And it made being young and beautiful more important to them too. They came away believing that these physical attributes were more "personally desirable," ranking them higher than intelligence and competence.

Though TV is, as some contend, "not real," it does depict real life situations, and we can get involved in it as though it were real. Some have said that TV is a magic window on reality. Think of the reactions at movies. One can go away from some movies feeling emotionally drained because one got so

involved. If we didn't associate what we see with reality we wouldn't get so involved. If this is true with regard to adults, it is even more true with children.

Young children have a difficulty in distinguishing between reality and fiction. A good example of this is something my wife experienced when teaching kindergarten. Almost all of her children had seen the Michael Jackson video, "The Thriller." My wife says they were terrified and didn't even want to be raised from the dead and go to heaven because they thought they would look like the ghouls on that video. And even after spending a great deal of time explaining to them that it wasn't real, that those were only men in costumes, they still were troubled by it and didn't totally believe her because they had seen it.

Like father like son. That familiar saying is so true. Children imitate whatever their parents do. That is an important part of their learning process.

But this is also true of any other influence. If a child spends a lot of time in front of the TV he is going to begin imitating what he sees there too. Children can and do choose role models and heroes from the TV and they can and do learn standards and morals from them.

(To be continued)

—David Reim



DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR OCTOBER 1988

As the Israelites were on the verge of crossing the Jordan River and entering the land of promise, King Balak of Moab became alarmed. He hired the prophet Balaam to curse Israel. But the Lord God made it impossible for Balaam to curse Israel. Rather, the Lord through Balaam's mouth spoke wondrous blessings on Israel, including even the blessing of Israel's future Messiah-King, our Lord Jesus. Yet the Israelites were still in great danger of idolatry, especially when that idolatry was com-

bined with seductive adultery. The priest Phinehas understood the need for drastic measures to ward off this threat; the Lord was pleased with Phinehas' zeal for the honor of God.

As the Israelites were on the verge of crossing the Jordan River and entering the land of promise, God's appointed leader Moses reviewed with the people God's mighty works in their behalf as well as His many words of instruction. How necessary it is for us at all times to read and reread and ponder the words of God recorded in Holy Scripture! When our Lord Jesus was tempted in the wilderness by Satan, He turned to this portion of Scripture (Deuteronomy) for ammunition against His enemy and ours. May our Lord direct us also to use the Scripture we read for growth in grace and strengthened zeal for the battle against our old evil foe. The Lutheran Reformation of the sixteenth century, which we commemorate in October, was a reformation based on the Word of God, and for that reason it accomplished great things.

Date	Scripture	Theme	Hymn
1	Numbers 22:1-14	Balak tried to hire Balaam to curse God's people.	467
2	Numbers 22:15-30	"A dumb donkey restrained the madness of the prophet."	286
3	Numbers 22:31-40	Balaam was again told to speak only the Word of God.	263
4	Numbers 22:41-23:12	Balaam could not curse those whom God had blessed.	469
5	Numbers 23:13-26	The sin of God's people is not counted against them.	269

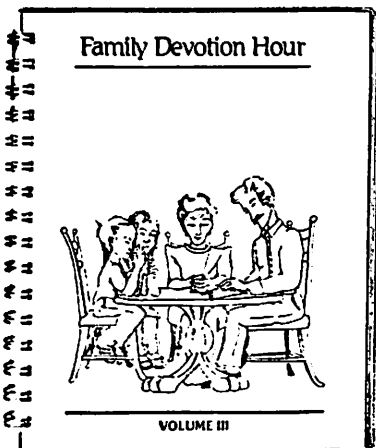
FAMILY DEVOTION HOUR—VOL. III

Prof. C. M. Gullerud has made available a third book for family devotions. The *Foreword* explains that this volume "completes the trilogy of devotional material which had been planned for publication. The numbering, therefore, continues with No. 201 and concludes with No. 300."

This volume contains devotions based on selected psalms. In his introductory message to the readers, the professor explains that "As one moves along in a regular reading of the Psalms, it becomes very evident that here the Holy Bible presents a very precious Book of Devotions. Holy men of God were moved by the Spirit to write their petitions to their Maker, Redeemer, and Comforter . . . You might say they bare their souls that we may see that they too were tempted and drawn by the tugging of the flesh and the allurements of the world. We find ourselves offering

the same prayers and supplications as they did. Indeed our needs are the same as theirs and the hope of salvation is found in the same Lord and Savior with His Gospel of Forgiveness and Pardon for all our sins. May these devotions serve to lead us deeper into the Word and to a greater appreciation of the Book of Psalms."

Those who have used one or both of the previous volumes in the *Family Devotion Hour* series will attest to the biblically-based nature of these devotions as the writer lets the Word of God speak to God's people in these latter days of the 20th century and of the world. The third volume may be ordered from the CLC Book House at ILC, or directly from the author at 218 Grover Road, Eau Claire, WI 54701. The cost per copy is \$6.25.



6	Numbers 23:27-24:11	God through Balaam repeated His ancient blessing.	268
7	Numbers 24:12-25	God let Balaam see and prophesy even the coming of Christ.	90
8	Numbers 25:1-18	God was pleased with the zeal of Phinehas.	260
9	Numbers 27:1-11	The Lord had concern for the daughters of Zelophehad.	471
10	Numbers 27:12-23	The Lord provided a successor for Moses.	489
11	Numbers 31:1-18	The women of Midian were held responsible for their seductions.	265
12	Numbers 32:1-19	The eastern tribes were willing to fight for their brethren before enjoying their inheritance.	464
13	Numbers 32:20-33	Moses warned the eastern tribes to keep their promise.	462
14	Numbers 33:50-56	The Lord calls us to a continuing struggle against evil.	258
15	Deuteronomy 1:1-18	Moses began to review God's dealings with His people.	566
16	Deuteronomy 1: 19-33	Unbelief had been the Israelites' greatest problem.	262
17	Deuteronomy 1:34-46	The Lord had pronounced judgment on their unbelief.	433
18	Deuteronomy 3:21-29	Even Moses once received from the Lord the answer: NO.	532
19	Deuteronomy 4:1-14	No other nation had been privileged to hear the Ten Commandments.	261
20	Deuteronomy 4:15-28	The Lord had clearly denounced all idolatry.	40
21	Deuteronomy 4:29-40	Even greater than God's Law is His covenant mercy.	38
22	Deuteronomy 5:1-22	The two stone tablets contained God's Ten Commandments.	287
23	Deuteronomy 5:23-33	Israel recognized a need for a mediator.	289
24	Deuteronomy 6:1-15	How easy it is to forget the Lord and His goodness!	27
25	Deuteronomy 6:16-25	The Lord's gracious acts need to be reviewed and remembered.	404
26	Deuteronomy 7:1-11	God's threat to punish stands next to His promise of blessing.	477
27	Deuteronomy 7:12-26	If God is with us, we can do brave things.	267
28	Deuteronomy 8:1-10	It is God who provides us with earthly blessings.	584
29	Deuteronomy 8:11-20	What is more spiritually dangerous than human pride?	443
30	Deuteronomy 9:1-12	Israel needed to remember the rebellion in its history.	329
31	Deuteronomy 9:13-29	Moses prayed for Israel as a true mediator.	264

—D. Lau



Wisconsin Pastoral Conference

Time: Sept. 27-28, 1988 beginning at 8:30 a.m.

Place: Immanuel Lutheran College in Eau Claire, WI

Agenda: O.T. Exegesis of Isaiah 42:1-8—J. Ude
N.T. Exegesis of 2 Cor. 1:12ff—M. Bernthal
Book Review—E. Albrecht
Paper of essayist's choice—J. Reim
Church History—Luther's Death to 1614—D. Lau
Combating the Negative Influence of Television—D. Sweet
Form and Value of Pre-marital Counseling—J. Sandeen
Homiletical Study—G. Radtke

Conference Speaker: M. Sydow (P. Tiefel, Alternate)

Chaplain: E. Albrecht (A. Schulz, Alternate)

—Mark Gullerud, Secretary

South-Eastern Pastoral Conference

When: September 27-29, 1988 beginning at 9:00 a.m. (Eastern Time) on Tuesday and closing about 10:00 p.m. on Thursday.

Where: Immanuel Lutheran Church, Winter Haven, FL

Agenda: Exegetical Study of I Thess. 2—Vance Fossum
Home Bible Reading—Ways and Means—Arvid Gullerud
A Study of the Divine Call—Terrel Kesterson
Exegetical Study of Psalm 69—Michael Thom
Sermon Study—John Schierenbeck
Wednesday Night Communion Service—Robert Mackensen, speaker

Chaplain: Michael Roehl

—Mike Roehl, Secretary

West Central Pastoral Conference

Dates: Sept. 20-22, 1988; beginning at 10:00 a.m. (MT) on Tuesday through 12 noon on Thursday.

Place: Mt. Olive Lutheran Church, Lamar, CO

Agenda: NT Exegesis: Matthew 16:13-20—Pastor W. Schaller
OT Exegesis: Joel 3:9-17—Pastor P. Naumann

Book Review: *Martin Luther: Prophet to the Church Catholic* by James Atkinson—Pastor P. Reim

Book Review: *Commentary on Ephesians* by Irwin Habek—Pastor T. Schuetze

What Should be the Christian Attitude Toward the Jews of Today?—Pastor P. Gurgel

Self-love, -esteem, -image: A Consideration of the Worldly View; Is There a Proper Scriptural View?—Pastor R. H. Gurgel

A Study of the Means/Manner in Which God Spoke to the Old Testament Prophets—Pastor J. Klatt

How Can and Should Concerned Christian Citizens Get Involved in the Political Scene? Can We Support the Moral Majority, etc., in External?—Pastor P. F. Nolting

Isagogics: Song of Solomon—Pastor J. Albrecht

The Importance of the Sunday Sermon in Our Contemporary Ministry: A Re-evaluation—Pastor D. Fuerstenau

Doctrinal Controversy: The Antinomian Error—Pastor W. Mielke

Conference Speaker: Pastor M. Eichstadt

Conference Chaplain: Pastor D. Reim

—D. Fuerstenau, Secretary

Change of Address

Pastor Michael Sprengeler
2106 Forest Trail Rd.
Rio Rancho, NM 87124
Phone (505) 892-6934

Schedule of Services

The following is the schedule of services for Immanuel Ev. Lutheran Church, Mankato, Minnesota. From September through May worship is at 9:30 a.m. with Sunday School and Bible Class

Pastor P. W. Schaller
1119 14th Street
Clarkston, WA 99403



at 8:30 a.m. From June through August worship is at 9:00 a.m.

Installations

Authorized by Pres. D. Fleischer, I, the undersigned, did install Thomas Schuetze as pastor of Redeemer Lutheran Church, Bowdle, SD on June 26, 1988. Pastors John Klatt and Walter Schaller assisted.

—Leland Grams

With the authorization of President Daniel Fleischer, the undersigned installed Pastor Douglas A. Libby as Assistant Pastor/Teacher of Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church and School, Mankato, Minnesota, on July 24, 1988.

—L. D. Redlin, Pastor

As authorized by President Fleischer, the undersigned ordained Michael Sprengeler into the holy ministry on July 3, 1988, installing him as pastor of Holy Spirit Lutheran Church, Albuquerque, NM.

—Norbert Reim