

The Congregation at Prayer

*A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer for the week following
the Twelfth Sunday after Trinity
(August 18th –August 24th)*

CATECHETICAL THEME:

Our Christian Calling (Vocation)

This Week's Catechetical Theme: Our Christian Calling (Vocation)

Every Christian is called to faith by the power of the Holy Spirit. As Paul said it, we have been “called out of darkness” (1 Peter 2:9), and are now a chosen people. As chosen people, called out of the darkness of sin, we stand out as a light in the world, the very salt of the earth (Matt. 5:13-16). But each Christian also receives specific callings which are unique to his or her own person. These are the offices of husband or wife; father, mother, or child; pastor or hearer; governing authority, or citizen. These offices are taken up by the Small Catechism in the Table of Duties, and will be our focus for our summer devotions.

Invocation: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Ten Commandments & The Apostles' Creed

From Luther's Preface to the Large Catechism

Therefore, it is the duty of every head of a household at least once a week to examine the children and servants one after the other and ascertain what they know or have learned of it (the catechism), and, if they do not know it, to keep them faithfully at it (LC Preface 4).

Daily Readings	Catechetical Narrative	Second Reading	Psalm
Sunday	Jesus Heals a Deaf Man Mark 7:31-37		Psalm 150
Monday	Called Out of Darkness 1 Peter 2:4-10	Job 14	Psalm 1
Tuesday	You Have Been Called 1 Peter 2:13-3:7	Job 15	Psalm 2
Wednesday	You Were Called Colossians 3:15-4:1	Job 16	Psalm 3
Thursday	You Have Been Called Ephesians 4:1-4; 5:22-6:9	Job 17	Psalm 4
Friday	What Accords with Sound Doctrine Titus 2:1-10	Job 18	Psalm 5
Saturday	2 Chronicles 28:8-15	Galatians 3:15-22	Psalm 6

Questions to Discuss in the Home

Sun: Reflect upon today's text and sermon. **Mon:** In what did the people of God previously live? Out of what had they been called? Into what were they placed? What does Peter call those who have been called by the Gospel? **Tues:** How is today's reading connected to yesterdays; how does it flow out of it? Does being called to faith seem to impact the way Christians live? Describe the life Christians are exhorted by Peter to live. **Wed:** To what were those Christians called? By what would their calling continue (verse 16)? Why does Paul transition immediately into teaching about the family and other stations in life? **Thur:** To what had the Christians been called? How is Paul's instruction in chapters 5 & 6 dependent upon having been called? What does a Christian's calling mean for everyday life? **Fri:** What various roles does Paul describe in this section? How is this similar to other passages you have read this week? Why does Paul call this "sound doctrine?" If this is sound doctrine, how should that impact our own hearing of these words, and our lives as well? **Sat:** In preparation for Sunday, reflect upon today's texts.

Memory Verse

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. (1 Peter 2:9)

In Our Prayers this Week

For Circuit Vacancies: Messiah Lutheran (Carlyle). **For Those Expecting:** Shelby Maschhoff. **For Those Recovering from Surgery:** Kim Childress (David Childress' Sister) Marilyn Edwards, Kathryn Mines, Dawna Wander (Friend of Dave Childress), Sherri Williams. **For Those Undergoing Medical Treatments/Testing:** Eli Kuper, Marla Corry, Beth Jones (daughter-in-law of Mike Jones), Alexis Tehandon (Granddaughter of Debra Wells). **For Those Who Are Dealing with Chronic Pain:** Barb Mueller, Sam Tepe (brother of Angie Siddell), Ariana Nolte, Randy Zimmermann. **Baptismal Birthday:** Rev. Jonathan Jennings, Mark Kleiboeker (8/20), Ethan Brinkmann, Melba Nolte (8/24). **Wedding Anniversaries:** Elbert & Lois Brink (8/22).

The Lord's Prayer and Morning or Evening Prayer From the Small Catechism

Hymn of the Week: In the Very Midst of Life (LSB 755)