

Eastern Mission
Apostolic Lutheran Church of America

September 2022

Greetings of God's Peace and Blessings to each of you:

I pray that your summer has been filled with Joy. God is with us always and we can find Blessings in each day. We now come into a new season, with colors beginning to change, the fruits of our gardens are beginning to be ready. Our young will now begin a new school year. There will be many pressures and influences to conform to ways sometimes different than what we teach at home. Our young may have many questions on what they have been told in their schools. We must be watchful and listen to them when they have questions.

This summer we had bible school reunion, and I had the opportunity to gather with friends I grew up with in the 1970's. One of the verses that was shared was: **Proverbs 22/6: 6**Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it. We saw that promise fulfilled in those that attended the reunion. Now that we are parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles, we must continue teaching our young in the way of the Lord. When we teach the Word of God, and the ways that Jesus taught us in how to walk in this life, we know that God will be with and near to these young. They might be influenced by other people and other things but when the Word has been put within them, they will at least hesitate and question these influences. We continue to teach our young daily as we are told in: **Deuteronomy 11:** **18**Therefore shall ye lay up these my words in your heart and in your soul, and bind them for a sign upon your hand, that they may be as frontlets between your eyes. **19**And ye shall teach them your children, speaking of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.

We talk about going out as a mission/church and teaching the Gospel and repentance of sins, to bring the Word of God and Jesus to all around us. It is so important that we do not grow weary in this. For we do not know if there may be that one heart that is searching for a new way. Each day we go and shine the light of Jesus to all around us. We must start our teaching at home. If we cannot have our home be a home of Christ, how can we expect to go out and share Jesus to the world. We must be so careful not to be hypocritical in our living and sharing. We know that we are watched by many, by unbelievers, believers, and our children in how we live. How is it that you live your life? Is it that you are walking on the holy highway that has been set before us? Or is it that one feels Sunday is enough and strays from that path into the shadows or darkness of sin and deception? There is not an excuse in falling into sin intentionally. What is it that others see in your walk in life? God has told us he puts his Word into everyone. We all know right and wrong. We all know the blessings and the curses. We choose Love or hate, Light or darkness, Life or death, God or satan. Jesus freed us from our bondage, so we are free to be controlled no longer by these things of sin. Look within and know how you are living and teaching in your home and life?

Look at your heart, know what is most important to you, where is your treasure? This is what our young, and our neighbors will see in how we are living. Teach The Word every day at home, be an example of holiness in all you do. Our mission work starts in the hearts of our young. Be not afraid; for Jesus walks with you in your serving. Each day see and treat the world through the eyes of Jesus and by the Love of God.

It is a wonderful thing that brings Joy to one's heart when you can say: **3 John 1/4:** **4**I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth. Look at your children and be not negligent in giving them the opportunity to walk in the truth.

Enjoy this new season on our calendar. Be watchful of what our young are being taught. As our gardens bear fruit, continue to bear the fruits of the Spirit in sharing with all around you each day. Be that example of holiness in your walk with the Lord and share Jesus and the Gospel.

God's Grace, Mercy and Peace be with you all,

Jon Salo
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