

Lutheran Church Extension Fund



#### **Discipleship**

Don't be a hearer who forgets but a doer who acts. James 1:25 (ESV)

#### A Good Listener

Mother was very much surprised. "Why, Grace, you have the table all set!" she said.

> "Isn't that what Pastor told me to do in his sermon Sunday?" asked Grace. She was trying to act as though she weren't trying to surprise her mother.

"I don't remember that he said anything about setting the table," her mother answered.

"Well, he said that children can please God by helping their parents," Grace told her. By now she couldn't help showing how happy her good deed had made her.

Maybe Grace didn't know it, but she was also being a good Bible listener. Did you know that the Bible says we should all be good Bible listeners?

The apostle James said, "Don't be a hearer who forgets but a doer who acts." It doesn't help much to listen to a sermon if we don't do what the sermon says. Nor does it help to read the Bible or have family devotions if we don't try to live what we learn.

Grace was a hearer who acted when she set the table for her mother. How good of a Bible listener are you? That depends on whether you do what it says.

#### Dear God,

We often do not do what You have said in the Bible. Please forgive us for Jesus' sake. Help us to do whatever we learn from You, so that we will be happy hearers and learners of Your Word. For Jesus' sake we ask it. Amen.

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#### **Lutheran Church Extension Fund**

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## Kids Into Discipleship & Stewardship

#### Stewardship

For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. 1 Timothy 6:7 (KJV)

#### What Good is Money?

An old lady lived all alone in New York. She was very, very rich, but she hid all her money and never used it to help anybody, not even herself.

One day the old woman died because she didn't even buy enough food for herself. Her neighbors paid for her funeral. They thought she was very poor.

When the police searched the woman's house, they opened a chest of drawers. It was full of money and bank papers. In a closet they found some boxes full of money.

What good did it do the woman to have so much money? Her relatives got it all when she died.

The Bible tells us, "For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out." What God gives us for just a while He wants us to use in good ways. When God gives us more than we need, He wants us to help others. Money is good to have when we use it for what we need and for helping others.

Children as well as grownups need to learn how money should be used. Some people love money. Some waste it. We must remember that our money or anything else we have is given to us by God only for a short time and that it is to be used for good reasons. Then we have the secret of how to enjoy God's gifts.

God also wants us to be satisfied and happy with what He gives us. We can be happy when Jesus is in our heart, because then we know that God loves us, no matter what He gives us.

#### Our Prayer,

Forgive us, dear heavenly Father, for often wanting to keep things selfishly for ourselves. Help us to see how You want us to use our money and things, and make us glad to use them in ways that are pleasing to You. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

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### **Choose Gentle Words**

Jesus will help you use gentle words like He did. Read each sentence. Color the hearts by the words Jesus would say. Cross out the unkind words and change them to kind words.

# $\heartsuit$ Let's play. 🗘 I like you. $\heartsuit$ You are dumb. igvee You can ride first. 🗘 Go away. $\heartsuit$ I feel happy with you. $\heartsuit$ You can't share my snack. $\heartsuit$ Let's be friends. 🛇 Come back again soon. igvee You are fun to play with.

Cravora

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