



KIDS' LECTIONARY LEARNING TEACHING SUPPLEMENT

17TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24TH, 2023

BIBLE LESSON:

PSALM 27:1-9

MATTHEW 20:1-16

The Lord is My Light and My Salvation Psalm 27: 1-9

These verses are a beautiful expression of the Psalmist David's confidence, thankfulness and love for the Lord and his desire to spend time worshiping God in thanks for all the gifts he has received.

The opening verse sings God's praises and describes His protective power over all our earthly challenges and fears.

In verse 2 when David provides examples for the times when he has needed God's protection. When he talks about evildoers

who "eat up my flesh" he is using wonderfully descriptive language to depict the horrible feeling that overcomes us when someone speaks lies or spreads rumours about us.

These situations can be particularly comforting to young people who have encountered or are dealing with gossip and lies about themselves or others. David shows such confidence in verse 3 and isn't afraid to face literal armies that are lining up against him, and we also can have confidence in God's protective power. We may go through difficult times, but God is beside us, helping us through it while those people who make fun or try to damage our reputation will "stumble and fall".

When he shifts his focus to worship in verse 6, it is not out of any obligation or duty, but because of his thankfulness to God for His mighty protection.



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(Continued)

 LUTHERAN LAYMEN'S LEAGUE
OF CANADA

David knows that there is nothing he did to deserve the victories he has won or the gifts he has received and wants to add his own voice in celebration of God's wonderful blessings.

The Labourers in the Vineyard Matthew 20: 1-16

In the Psalm for today, David modeled a thankful heart that knows God is responsible for all the gifts we receive in our lives. In this parable found in Matthew, Jesus reminds us that doing good things will not earn us a place in heaven but that the works we do should come from a thankful heart.

Today's Gospel provides a lesson in Grace that children may be able to relate to, as you can imagine the workers from the first hours of the day saying "it's not fair" when they received the same amount of wages as those who were hired in the last hour of the day.

If they can imagine themselves in a situation where they might have been the "last ones" and still received the same reward, then they may be able to understand just how God could love them even when they have made mistakes.



Prayer

Let us pray together: Dear Father in heaven, thank you for sending Jesus to be my Saviour even though I am unable to do anything to deserve your love and forgiveness. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Notes: