

LESSON 8 – *Cherishing God’s Truths*

Questions and Answers – Student Guide

Lesson goal: We have learned about our spiritual identity in this set of lessons. We are God’s people, forgiven and made righteous through Christ and free to serve him. In this final lesson we will answer the question, “What do we, as God’s people, cherish?”

Pre-lesson Preparation: Read Psalm 119:89-94,97,105.

Think

Fill in the blank: One thing I love to eat is _____.

If your answer was (*your answer above*), one might say that you “love” (*your answer above*). But I doubt that anyone would say that you “cherish” (*your answer above*). To cherish is to take love to another level. To cherish is to love someone or something so much that you would do everything possible to keep and protect that thing or person.

Today’s Bible lesson from Psalm 119 will help us answer the question, “What do we, as God’s people, cherish?”

Evaluate

1. Who are the characters in this story?
2. What are the objects in this story?
3. Where did this story happen?
4. When did this story happen?
5. What is the problem?
6. What events occurred in this story?
7. Is the problem solved?

Learn

8. What is the main theme of this lesson?
9. What sin does this lesson teach you to confess?
10. Where do you see God’s love in this story?
11. What does God teach you to do in this lesson?

Lead

12. What would be a good situation in which to share this message?

Additional questions

13. Name some of the things that the psalm writer cherished.
14. In the Bible, the word *law* can refer to all of God’s Word or just to his commands. Either way, we are to cherish his laws. How can you show that you cherish his commands, his laws? The entire Word of God tells us the way of salvation gives us the motivation for obeying his laws. What have we learned that motivation is?

15. Long ago God's people cherished his Word and very carefully wrote down what God wanted them to include in his message of salvation. That Word was carefully passed down from generation to generation of believers. Whose job is it to cherish and protect God's Word now?
16. There are liberals and conservatives in the political world. When churches are described as being liberal or conservative, leave out the political meanings of the two terms. Christian churches that are liberal teach that the Bible tells about God but is not the very words of God. They pick and choose what they feel are God's words and thereby decide what they believe or don't believe. Conservative Christian churches believe that the Bible is the inspired Word of God, written by people who were given the content by the Holy Spirit. God's Word is the source of truth; we base our creeds on these truths.

Read 2 Timothy 3:16. What part of Scripture (the Bible) is "God-breathed" (inspired by God)? How is God's Word to be used?

17. What serious dangers face churches that pick and choose what *they think* is truth?
18. We have our spiritual identity in the saving work that Christ has accomplished for us. We thank God that conservative Lutheran churches teach God's saving truths and support us in our faith journeys! Faithful Lutheran churches:
 - A. Teach that the Bible is the inspired _____ of _____.
 - B. Teach that salvation is 100% a gift from _____, given by his grace and received through _____ in the salvation Christ earned for us.
 - C. We are saved only through Christ's perfect _____ led in our place, his innocent sufferings and _____ on a cross, and his _____ from the dead.
 - D. God also gives us Baptism and the Lord's Supper as tangible ways to show us that we have _____ of _____ through Christ.
 - E. God wants us to study his saving _____. That is how God the Holy Spirit strengthens and encourages us in our _____.
 - F. God teaches us the proper motivation for Christian living: to give _____ to God for saving us through his Son Jesus!

Lesson wrap-up

19. What do we, as God's people, cherish?