

Pastor's Bible Class

May 25, 2025

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

Hymn #861 "Christ Be My Leader"



1 Christ be my Lead - er by night as by day; Safe through the
2 Christ be my Teach - er in age as in youth, Drift - ing or
3 Christ be my Sav - ior in calm as in strife; Death can - not



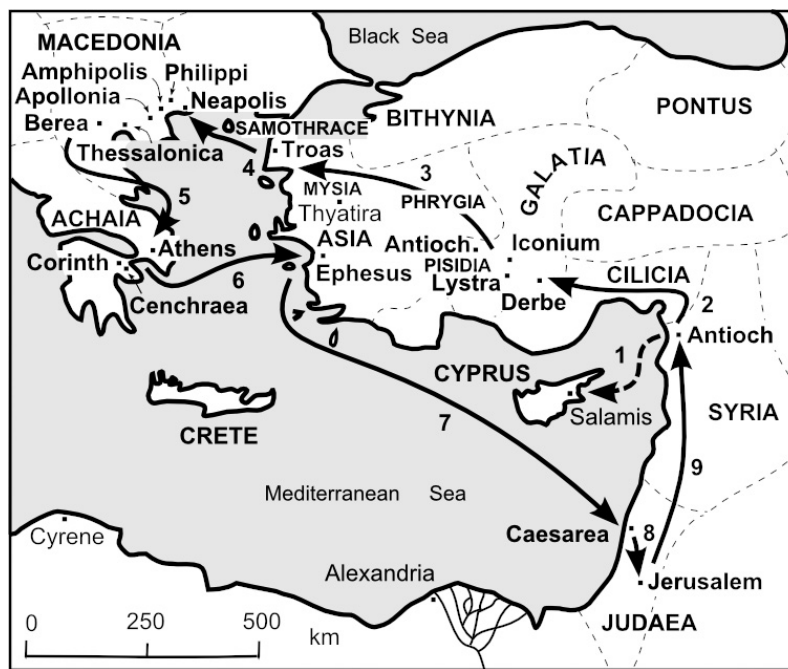
dark - ness, for He is the way. Glad - ly I fol - low, my
doubt - ing, for He is the truth. Grant me to trust Him; though
hold me, for He is the life. Nor dark - ness nor doubt - ing nor



fu - ture His care, Dark - ness is day - light when Je - sus is there.
shift - ing as sand, Doubt can - not daunt me; in Je - sus I stand.
sin and its stain Can touch my sal - va - tion: with Je - sus I reign.

Read Acts 16:9-15

1. The story of Lydia's conversion takes place during Paul's second missionary journey. What is the significance of the call to go to Macedonia?



2. What does the man in Paul's vision ask for?

3. What do Paul and his party conclude about this vision?

4. What information is implied in the pronouns from verse 10?
5. Why do Paul and his friends go “outside the city gate” on the Sabbath, and who do they find?
6. What does this tell you about Phillipi?
7. Read verse 13b through 15. Describe the important action that takes place in these three verses. How does this relate to the way God deals with people in our time?

Read John 16:23-33

8. What does Jesus mean when he says, “In that day...” and why will the disciples no longer ask anything of Jesus? See verse 13 and Ephesians 2:13-18.

9. Dr. Harold Buls writes:

In verses 23 and 26 the original Greek uses two distinctly different words for "ask" or "request". Context decides the meaning of words. In verse 23a the word for "ask" means "ask questions of doctrine" but in 23b the word for "ask" means to make requests for spiritual and physical gifts in the name of Jesus. In 23a Jesus means that there will be no further revelation after the NT has been written (The gift of languages was not for further revelation but for preaching the Gospel). When we have a question about what God says we simply go to the Bible...But when we have particular spiritual or physical needs then we should request in Jesus' name.

With this in mind, what conclusions can we draw from verses 23 and 24 with regard to prayer? See also John 14:14; 15:7; and James 4:3.

10. What is the purpose of prayer?
11. In the meaning of the **Third Petition of the Lord's Prayer** (Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven), Luther wrote:
The good and gracious will of God is done indeed without our prayer; but we pray in this petition that it may be done among us also. How is this done? When God breaks and hinders every evil counsel and will which would not let us hallow the name of God nor let His kingdom come, such as the will of the devil, the world, and our flesh; but strengthens and keeps us steadfast in His Word and in faith unto our end. This is His gracious and good will.
How does this inform our understanding of prayer?
12. What does Jesus mean in verses 25-27?
13. How are we to understand Jesus' response in verse 31?
14. What comfort do you find in verses 32-33?

Devotional Thought (The Lutheran Study Bible)

“Paul begins his work in Philippi through Lydia. At times, Christians may feel isolated from worship and fellowship. Yet, God opens the hearts of people to believe, provides others who are faithful to the Lord, and binds them together in homes and families” (TLNB, 1869).

Prayer

O God, the giver of all that is good, by Your holy inspiration grant that we may think those things that are right and by Your merciful guiding accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.