

Pastor's Bible Study

October 4, 2025

Proper 22 - Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

#902 "Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now"



1 Lord Je - sus Christ, be pres - ent now; Our hearts in
2 Un - seal our lips to sing Your praise In end - less
3 Then shall we join the hosts that cry, "O ho - ly,
4 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, Son, And Ho - ly



true de - vo - tion bow. Your Spir - it send with
hymns through all our days. In - crease our faith and
ho - ly Lord Most High!" And in the light of
Spir - it, Three in One! To You, O bless - ed



light di - vine, And let Your truth with - in us shine.
light our minds; And set us free from doubt that blinds.
that blest place We then shall see You face to face.
Trin - i - ty, Be praise through-out e - ter - ni - ty!

Read Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

1. In your own words, what is Habakkuk's complaint in verses 2-4?
2. In 2:1, Habakkuk pictures himself as a watchman on the city wall. What does this tell you about his expectations and his role?
3. The message in 2:3 deals with the fall of Babylon in 539 B.C., about 66 years after Habakkuk's prophecy. The Lord tells Habakkuk (and Judah) that fulfillment of the prophecy may "linger," but that he and the people are to expect it. What else does God say about His prophecy and its fulfillment in verse 3?
4. In verse 4, we are told, "the righteous will live by faith." Explain why this verse is so important to us?

Read Luke 17:1-10

5. In verse 1, we are told, “And he (Jesus) said to his disciples.” Then, in verse 5, we are told, “The apostles said to the Lord.” Exactly who was Jesus’ audience?
6. What does this tell us about His instructions in verses 1-2?
7. What does the use of “little ones” in verse 2 mean? Note: The Greek phrase can mean infants or children (see how it’s used by Jesus in Mark 10:24).
8. What does Jesus teach about forgiveness in verses 3-4? See Matthew 18:21–22?
9. How do the disciples respond to this? What do you think about this teaching?
10. What’s easier for you, rebuking or forgiving (17:3)?
11. What is the connection between forgiveness and guarding the faith of the “little ones?”
12. What does Jesus mean when He says in verse 6, “If you had faith like a grain of mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it would obey you.”?
13. Three different commentators make the following statements about verse 6:
 - “It is not so much great faith in God that is required as faith in a great God.”
 - “They must learn that faith exists only by the power of God, seizing the almighty power and therefore a little faith, if it is only the right kind, will perform seemingly impossible miracles.”
 - “It asserts that the power of faith is as unlimited as God's power itself.”

Which of these three positions do you like the most?

Devotional Thought from The Lutheran Study Bible

The tiniest faith accomplishes remarkable things. Like the apostles, we may feel a weakness in our faith. Today, pray for the Lord’s strength. His gift of faith is anything but weak and He will grant you strength to accomplish the impossible (TLSB, 1752).

Prayer

Lord, I believe. Help my unbelief. Increase my faith in You. Amen.