



Sermon Study Guide for November 7, 2021

Our Savior Lutheran Church and School

Theme: All Saints Day is a day where we celebrate those who have gone to be with the Lord. It can be a day that brings up painful memories, but it is a day that we can celebrate the faith that those who have gone before us had. That faith, that grace, that conquers sin, death, and the devil, and gives us the ultimate victory through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Getting Started: (sharing with each other)

1. What are some thoughts that you have about those who have died? What thoughts do you know not to be true, (becoming angels) and what are some other things you aren't sure about?
2. What do you do to celebrate or remember those who have gone to be with Jesus? Is there a certain way that you remember them, or something special you do to remember them?

In the Word: Read 2 Corinthians 9:6-15

3. Our theme verse for the next several weeks is 2 Corinthians 9:8. Reread that verse. What sticks out to you the most? Whatever translation you may be using, what in the first part of this verse stands out?
4. When we think of God blessing us abundantly, what does that mean to you? What does it mean that God will bless you abundantly?
5. Paul is writing to the people in Corinth and encouraging them. Another translation of this verse reads this way, "And God is able to make all grace abound to you." What does that mean, and how does it differ in thinking about God blessing you abundantly with His grace?
6. **Read 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17** As you read through this, thinking about the saints who have gone before us, what hope does verse 14 give? (Also read 1 Corinthians 15:51-57)

Putting it all Together (what do we believe or do as disciples?)

7. When we talk about those who have died, we talk about them becoming part of the church triumphant. What does that mean, and how can that give us comfort in grief/mourning loved ones who have gone to be with the Lord?

8. There are many different ideas about what happens after people have passed away. Whether there is the thought that people become angels, or they watch over us, or whatever the thoughts might be, why do you think people come up with these different ideas, and how can they even be harmful in thinking about life after death?"

9. As stewards of what God has given us, including His grace that He grants to us, what does it mean to be stewards of His grace? If being a steward is taking care of or being responsible for what you've been given, how can we be stewards of God's grace in this world that yearns for and NEEDS grace to abound?

10. Thinking of All Saints Day, in what ways can we remember those who have gone to be with Jesus? It can be a struggle at times knowing that in this earthly life we won't see them again, but what brings you hope? What part of the different readings and hearing about God's abundant grace can give you comfort, and almost more importantly, how can you pass that grace on to others around you who are in grief or mourning?

Prayer: Thank God for His grace that abounds so freely to you. Thank God that no matter what we do, when we return to Him with repentant hearts, that He forgives us, and His grace abundantly abounds to you. If you may be facing grief or pain of some kind, ask God to comfort you and remind you that He is there alongside of you, and to comfort you. We also give thanks to God that He brings others alongside of us who can be our shoulder to cry on, especially when we are remembering those who have gone to the Church Triumphant!

Next Week: As we continue through our stewardship series looking at 2 Corinthians 9:8, we look to how God supplies for all our needs of body and soul. God continues to bless us, and in His abundance gives us exactly what we need in all things and at all times. As we walk through remembering what it means to be stewards of the gifts that God gives us, we remember that His grace is sufficient for us in every need of body and soul.