

Improved Uniform International SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

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Of The Moody Bible Institute of Chicago.
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Lesson for June 24

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THE NEW CHURCH IN THE PAGAN WORLD

LESSON TEXT—1 Timothy 6:11-16; 1 Peter 4:12-16.
GOLDEN TEXT—Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness.—Matthew 6:33.

The church is world-wide in its ministry. Its first experiences of both advance and attack were in Jerusalem, but in due time the Lord pressed its members out into the Gentile world to preach the gospel. These believers had to meet the challenge of a pagan world, rich, powerful, and steeped in age-old philosophies which ran counter to the teaching of Jesus Christ.

The story of how the church met that situation and came through victorious is one of the most thrilling and important sections of world history. We catch but a few glimpses of that time in the writings of Paul and Peter which make up our lesson today, but even those are full of instruction and inspiration. The church appears here as it went on:

I. Fighting the Good Fight of Faith (1 Tim. 6:11-16).

In the letter to Timothy, the Holy Spirit used Paul to instruct the early church regarding its life in the midst of an unbelieving world. In the verses immediately preceding our lesson we find a solemn warning against the wrong attitude of heart toward worldly possessions. "Godliness with contentment" is declared to be great gain.

But there is more to Christianity than inward grace, for that must show itself in daily fighting "the good fight of faith." That is done in three ways:

1. By godly living (v. 11). Believers are to flee those things which hinder spiritual progress, and give themselves to the cultivation of graces of a true Christian life.

Space does not permit discussion of these fine virtues of the faithful follower of Christ, but note how tremendously effective they could be (yes, and are today) against paganism. It is so true that the best argument for Christianity is a Christian, but he must be a real one.

2. In holy warfare (v. 12). Living for Christ is not accomplished by sitting in a spiritual rocking chair while the enemy is on the attack. No indeed. There is a good fight to be waged, both personally and as a body of believers.

"The Son of God goes forth to war" against evil in our day. "Who follows in His train?" Thank God, there are those who are on the battle line for God, but they need reinforcements. Who will volunteer today?

3. With blessed expectation (vv. 13-16). The soldier is ready to bear the "blood, sweat, and tears" of deadly conflict because he looks for victory. The soldier of Christ has a sure hope, for he follows Jesus Christ, already victorious over death, and one day soon to appear again as King of kings and Lord of lords.

In view of that expectation, the Christian is to live a consistent, clean and irreproachable life. And why not? If we look for the glorious and blessed and only Potentate, should we not be ready?

II. Meeting the Fiery Trial of Persecution (1 Pet. 4:12-16).

As Peter comforted the sorely tried believers in the early church, he urged them to meet their persecutions:

1. Without confusion (v. 12). We should expect trials in this world; yes, severe, fiery trials. Such things are common to all mankind, and the Christian should not expect to escape.

To them, such trials are real tests of their faith, an opportunity to show to the unbelieving world that God is able to deliver those who put their trust in Him!

To be forewarned is to be forearmed. "Think it not strange concerning the fiery trial." 2. With exceeding joy (vv. 13-15). The believer is not to be ashamed of the troubles he bears for Christ's sake. A glory rests upon the one who is privileged to be a "partaker of Christ's sufferings" (v. 14) as he stands with Him who was "a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief" (Isa. 53:3).

Note that the believer is not to do anything which would justify others in making him suffer. It is a disgrace, a shame, which injures the cause of Christ, when a believer has to suffer because he has broken the law, or because he is "a busy body (R. V. "meddler") in other men's matters."

3. For the glory of God (v. 16). The entire life of the believer should be lived for God's glory. If, then, he is called to pass through trials or to be persecuted for his faith, that, too, is something to be so borne as to glorify God.

The follower of Christ does not hang his head in shame as the difficulties of life come upon him. He trusts God, and by his poise and grace in the midst of difficult circumstances, declares to all the world that God is able to deliver.

Creamed Comments On The Sunday School Lesson

Creamed Comments on the Sunday School Lesson, The New Church in the Pagan World, 1 Timothy 6, 11-16; 1 Peter 4:12-16 for Sunday, June 24.

As Peter and Paul were nearing the close of their lives, they saw the struggle the Christians would have to endure; hence, they both gave needed warnings as recorded in this lesson today.

V. 11. "But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness." In the preceding verses are recorded the sin of covetousness of money; so the command is "flee these things." The sin of all ages has been that of being money mad. The way to overcome all sin is to live positive lives making first in life, righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness.

V. 12. "Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses." A good Christian cannot not be wishy-washy. The worth while fight is that inner battle between good and bad motives, impulses, and desires. By all means one needs to meet the conditions that will make possible eternal life.

V. 13. "I give thee charge in the sight of God, who quickeneth all things, and before Pontius Pilate witnessed a good confession." A follower of the Lord is to keep from being entangled in all worldly things; to live for and to God, then all will be well. The soul that strives to do the will of God finds a mysterious quickening of the Lord.

V. 14. "That thou keep this commandment without spot, unrebukable, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ." One needs to be ever watchful that the motive, desires, and impulses are not selfish. Keep ever in mind that some day each one must appear before Christ when the inner life will be seen as it was lived on earth will serve the good purpose of making us all be careful. The following verse makes Christ's coming in power with judgment for a positive fact.

V. 16. "Who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light, which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen; to whom be honor and power everlasting." Because God and Jesus are immortal, they whom the Lord redeems by his blood shall also be immortal. The

Home Education

The Secret of Success

We once wrote Dr. S. Parks Cadman to give us in a word the secret of his success and he came back with this answer: "The great secret of success is hard work." He spoke from a reliable experience; when he was eleven years old, he began working in a coal mine and continued in this underground work for ten years that he might support his younger brothers and sisters. He yearned to go to school to get an education. Some would have thought his case hopeless.

He planned to use his spare seconds in reading by the dim light of his torch while his coal cart was unloaded so that during those ten years he read one thousand books. When he came out of the mines, he passed college examinations with honors and won a scholarship to Richmond College, London.

He carried out his idea of well-planned hard work all through his life; here is the picture of a day's work; he rose at 7 a. m. dictated 20 to 30 letters, wrote 1500 words for his newspaper column, prepared a sermon or worked on a book, made five or six pastoral calls, attended two or three meetings, made a talk or two, dashed home, read a book completely through and then called it a day, retiring at 2 o'clock. Surely the secret of success is hard work.

—D. Carl Yoder.



Getting Even

Mr. Perkins and Mr. Jones, two neighbors, were always quarreling, each one trying to outdo the other in things offensive. So one day Mr. Perkins said to Mrs. Jones, "If you don't stop making me angry, I'll buy my wife a new hat, and then you will have to buy one for yours."

greatest mistake man can make is to miss immortality. If Christ is not made first in one's life there is no chance for Him to work in the soul the processes of eternal life.

V. 12. "Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you." Ordinary trials come to all but the hardest trials come to those who follow Christ most closely. The results of trials patiently born will prove the genuineness of our Christianity. Tested character is of great price in sight of God.

V. 13. "But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding great joy." As there is a human tie by a mutual suffering with others, so there is a divine tie by suffering for Christlikeness. To be identified with Christ is cause for the greatest joy.

V. 14. "If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye for the spirit of the glory and of God resteth upon you; on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified." As the Holy Spirit rested upon Jesus, so he rests upon those who are persecuted for Christ's sake. When we come to endure persecutions really for Jesus' sake, suffer it in the right spirit, and know that while our enemies are blaspheming we are glorifying him, we will really rejoice.

V. 15. "But let none of you suffer as a murderer, or as a thief, or as an evil doer, or as a busybody in other men's matters." Let none of you be guilty of anything described in this verse and suffer punishment while claiming salvation. Let it be known that gossiping is a sin.

V. 16. "Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf." One's marvelous endurance when suffering for Christ's sake brings glory to God. The great men in Germany today are those who suffered for their Christian faith; their messages will be heard as one others.



At least 500,000 will be required from public contributions to repair St. Paul's Cathedral in London, over and above the sum that will be payable from government war damage funds. Among major restorations necessary will be that of the high altar, which was destroyed by a bomb, and the great organ, which was extensively damaged by another high explosive.

Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek has asked the National Christian Council in Chungking, China, to enlist a thousand Christian workers as morale officers in the Chinese army. In other words, he is asking that Christians shall organize a force of chaplains to serve with the Chinese army.

There are still many interned Christian missionaries in Japanese occupied China. The China Inland Mission has 255 of such missionaries. The London Missionary Society has 197. Our British Baptist Society has 49. The Methodist Society of Great Britain has 90, while the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel has 81. Many other missionary societies are represented. We gather this information from The Sunday School Chronicle, of London.

One of the results of the scattering of our American men over the South Sea Islands is that they have been able at first hand to form opinions of the missionary work accomplished by the various missionaries. In no single instance have we heard of any adverse criticism. In numerous instances, the praise is of the highest order. So widespread has been the approval of our American fighting men that our domestic journals have discussed mission editorially.

The Y. M. C. A. is sponsoring a committee on friendly relations among foreign students. This committee plans to work with mission boards as a clearing house for information on schools keeping in constant touch with individual foreign students. The committee will unite with the Student Volunteer Movement in attempting to recruit

CHURCHES

First United Brethren Church
R. R. Wilson, Minister
Sunday School 9:15, Curtis Hill, superintendent.

Morning worship 10:30; sermon, "A Pair of Parables; The Tares and the Drag-Net."
Christian Endeavor 6:30.
Evening worship 7:30; sermon, "Seed and the Leaven."
"A Pair of Parables; The Mustard." The young people go to Lake Wawasee on Monday.
Prayer meeting Wednesday evening at 7:00.

Baptist Church
Carey Moser, Pastor
9:30 a. m., Sunday school. C. E. Bell, Supt.

10:15 a. m., Morning worship. Special music by our choir. Sermon by Rev. Albert Swenson.
The union church meets at this hour also. Bring all the children for this hour.

7:30 p. m., Evening service. Inspiring song service and message by Rev. Albert Swenson.

7:30 p. m., Wednesday, the mid-week hour of prayer and praise. Also the monthly business meeting of the church.

Everyone welcome to all the services of this house of Prayer.

Nuttall Ave. U. B. Church

C. N. VanGundy, Pastor
Sunday school, 9:30 a. m.
Cradle roll day.

Morning message, 10:30 a. m.
Evening services will be dismissed so as to attend convention at camp ground, Rockford, Ohio.
Prayer meeting Wednesday evening, 8:00.

CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Ronald Cochran, Minister
Bible School, 9:30. Dorpha Drum, Supt.

A Bible school with a profitable class for every age.

Morning Worship, 10:30. Communion and preaching service. Sermon subject, "Loyalty to the Propagation of the Gospel."

Our seven weeks' Loyalty campaign begins July 1 with "Every Member Present" Sunday. We hope to greatly increase the attendance of every service during this campaign. Our Loyalty campaign will also open our evening services. Sunday evening, July 1, the young people of the church will present a musical pageant, "The Ninety and Nine."

First Evangelical Church

F. H. Willard, Minister
No Sunday school session this Sunday.

Morning worship 10:10 a. m. in the basement of the church.

No evening services Sunday and until September.

Midweek service Wednesday evening, 7:00 p. m.

Youth Choir Rehearsal Sunday afternoon at 2:00 p. m.

Adult Choir Rehearsal Wednesday at 8:00 p. m.

Children's Day program will be given on Sunday afternoon, July 8.

Zion Evangelical and Reformed

William C. Feller, Pastor
Church School at 9:00 a. m. Luther Class, superintendent. Come and bring the family for this Bible study hour. There is a class for everyone.

Worship service at 10:00 a. m. Sermon: "Marks of the Lord Jesus." Persons without a church home in the city are cordially invited to worship with us.

Bethany Circle will meet on Wednesday at 8:00 p. m. in the home of Mrs. Wesley Lehman.

The Friendship Circle will meet on Wednesday at 8:00 p. m. in the home of Mrs. Milton Hoffman.

The Philanthropic Circle will meet on Wednesday at 8:00 p. m. in the home of Mrs. Leo Kirsch.

The Ruth and Naomi Circle will meet on Thursday at 2:30 p. m. at the home of Mrs. A. R. Ashbacher.

Senior choir rehearsal on Friday at 7:00 p. m.

One's behavior is the measure of one's integrity.

ANSWERS TO "DO YOU KNOW?"

1. Timothy
2. "Is great gain."
3. "Is the root of all evil."
4. First Epistle of Peter
5. "That he might bring us to God." (1 Peter 3:18)

St. Mary's Catholic Church

Low Mass 6:00
Low Mass 7:30
Low Mass 9:00
Low Mass 10:15

Last mass followed by benediction. No services in the afternoon. Communion Sunday for the Children of Mary.

Week Day Mass 6:00
Week Day Mass 7:00
Holy Hour, Friday, 7:30
Rev. J. J. Seimetz, Pastor

Church of the Nazarene

North 7th and Marshall Sts.
J. T. Trueax, minister
Sunday school 9:30 a. m. Doyle Lytle, Supt.

Sunday is "Girl's Day." A remembrance to all girls present. Special effort is being made for the boys and girls. See that your child is there. Monroeville Trio will sing to the children.

Morning worship 10:30 a. m. Music is in charge of the trio. Special singing. Message by the pastor.

Junior church 6:45 p. m. A service for the junior age that will help to make them spiritual.

Youth meeting 6:45 p. m. The service will be in charge of the Monroeville Trio.

Evangelistic service 7:30 p. m. Song service and special singing by the trio. Message by the pastor.

The Monroeville Trio, composed of Mary Alice and Mezzetta Hawkins and Betty Roth, former students of Olivet Nazarene College, will sing. They are talented singers and the public is cordially invited to hear them. Prayer meeting Wednesday, 7:45 p. m.

First Presbyterian Church

Mercer Avenue and Adams St.
John W. McPeeters, Jr., Minister
9:00 a. m., Bible study class for all ages, conducted by Mrs. W. A. Lower.

9:30 a. m., Church school. Mr. W. P. Schrock, superintendent.

10:30 a. m., Morning worship. Sermon: "Effectual Calling." Special music. The nursery will be in charge of Mrs. Stanley Clark and Mrs. James Kocher, Jr.

6:00 p. m., Westminster Youth Fellowship. Worship led by Carl Beecher. Discussion led by Barbara Sauer; topic, "When Shall I Follow the Crowd?" Recreation! Tuesday, the 26th, 1:30 p. m.

Worship Committee of the Westminster Youth Fellowship.

Wednesday, the 27th, 6:30 p. m. CHURCH FAMILY SUPPER! Everyone interested in the church is invited! Everyone is to bring a covered dish and his own sugar!

The rolls, coffee and cream will be furnished by the Ladies' Aid Society. 7:30 p. m. BIBLE INSIGHTS. "Practical Living for a Critical Time" is the conclusion to the series of studies on the Epistle to the Hebrews.

Friday, the 29th, 7:00 p. m. The Session, deacons and trustees will meet. All adult and young people who wish to join the church are asked to meet with the Session.

8:00 p. m., Advisory Board. All the officers of the church are invited. 7:00 p. m., Choir practice.

Church of God

Glen E. Marshall, pastor
9:30-11:20. Unified service. Worship for three groups is provided in this service: Beginners, Juniors,

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NOTICE!
We will be Closed from July 1st until July 9th.

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and Adults.

Junior worship will be led by the girls from Anderson College. The message to the adult group will also be given by one of the college girls.

6:30, Shining Lights.
6:30, Christian Crusaders.
7:30, Evening evangelistic service. Message by the pastor.

7:30, Mid-week prayer service. Miss Coral Weigle and Miss Pauline Hawkins in charge.

The Daily Vacation Bible School conducted by this church will begin Monday morning, June 25, at 8:45. Boys and girls of the church and community are invited to attend. An enrollment of one hundred can be accommodated. Boys and girls from four years through Junior High are invited to enroll. Miss Coral Weigle and Miss Pauline Hawkins of Anderson College will direct the school.

The public is most cordially invited to attend all the services of this congregation.

"Where being a Christian makes you a member."

Zion Lutheran Church
Monroe and Eleventh Sts.
Paul W. Schultz, Pastor
Sunday school and Bible class, 9:00 a. m.

Divine worship, 10:00 a. m.
Lutheran Hour, 11:30 a. m.

First Methodist Church
Merrill O. Lester, Minister
Llewellyn J. Smith, Supt.
Church School at 9:29.
Public Worship, 10:20.
Mid-week service, 7:30.

"Realism of Conversion" will be the sermon subject Sunday at the worship period. Conversion is imperative, conversion is a reality. "Except ye be converted." There will be no Sunday evening services weekly week at Epworth Forest, until further notice. This is As-An inspiring program has been provided—even one day in attendance will be of great worth.

The more you enshrine self, the more false to other men you become.

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Philip Giggis, world-famed journalist, in his book *The Day After Tomorrow*, writes: "I am old-fashioned enough to believe that ultimately the world can only be saved by getting back or forward to the Christian ideal and law of life, with a spiritual authority admitted humbly and worshipfully in the hearts of men and women and with power above and beyond reason and not wholly to be explained by reason—which will be obeyed cheerfully or with resignation when it denies one's selfishness; when it demands

sacrifices for others and charity to all men; when it says, 'Thou shalt not kill,' though we want to kill when it says we may gain the world but lose our soul; and when it seems most divinely unreasonable and totally inexplicable by scientific formulae or patristic principles.

It is the Church that presents Christian ideals and the law of life with spiritual authority. Why not accept the invitation and COME TO CHURCH NEXT SUNDAY? —D. Carl Yoder.



Six Ways to Work

Dr. Van Kirk, who is secretary of the department of international justice and good will of the Federal Council of Churches, described six ways in which churches of America can "work" for peace. They can, he said:

1. Gain an informed mind. 2. Exercise vigilance with respect to current international developments. 3. Accelerate the movement for inter-church co-operation and Christian unity. 4. Constantly emphasize the futility and hopelessness of a post-war settlement dictated by consideration of hatred and revenge. 5. Rise above the spirit of defeatism and make Christians out of pagans, and 6. Rededicate themselves to the task of evangelism.

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