



Week 1 - September 7th

Our Foundation of Word and Sacrament

The Week's Memory Verse: Psalm 119:105

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path."

*"Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways
to keep his statutes still!*

*Oh, that my God would grant me grace
to know and do his will."*

The familiar words of hymn 462 in Christian worship form a prayer that is certainly found in the heart of every Christian. God, guide me I pray! Daily we do battle with the world, devil and our sinful nature. It is so easy to get caught up in the thinking of the people around us. The devil lurks around every corner in life, like that prowling lion he is pictured as, looking for opportunities to harm our relationship with God. Often I cave into the desires of my sinful heart, desires that lead me away from God and not to him. What does God want for me? How do I know his will? As we discovered in Sunday's Bible study (and will be further exploring over the course of the next two weeks) God's Word alone is the foundation for life. God's Word alone is where life and truth are found. The sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper draw their tremendous power from the Word, thereby also strengthening us in our walk with God.

Growing in Faith

Use Meditations (available at church) which place you into daily contact with God's Word.

Memorize the Bible verse for this week.

Set aside daily time to complete the 90 Day (New Testament) Bible Reading Plan. When you are finished with the day's segment, reflect upon the meaning of what you have covered. (The plan is available on the website.)

Read the story of Jesus in the home of two sisters (Luke 10:38-42)

- ✓ How can you relate to the busy lives of two sisters with a houseful of company to serve?
- ✓ Consider their two very different choices when it came to the spending of time.
- ✓ Reflect upon times when you have resembled each of these two women in your decision making.
- ✓ What is God's will for your life when it comes to the hearing of his Word?
- ✓ What changes is the Holy Spirit pointing to in your life through this time of reflection?

Read St. Paul's teaching concerning the Lord's Supper (1 Corinthians 11:17-32)

- ✓ What was happening when the Corinthian congregation celebrated the Lord's Supper?
- ✓ What is the Lord's Supper?
- ✓ Confessing our sin as we come to the Lord's table, Christ's body and blood assure us in a personal way of forgiveness. If misused, however, the Supper can cause harm. Our congregation instructs people prior to their communing as an action of love. Reflect on the very personal blessings Christ gives you in his Supper. Reflect upon a congregation caring enough to avoid people harming themselves by misuse of this Sacrament.