

Pastor's Bible Study

September 9, 2020 – Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

LSB 760 What God Ordains Is Always Good

- 1 **What God ordains is always good:**
His will is just and holy.
As He directs my life for me,
I follow meek and lowly.
My God indeed
In ev'ry need
Knows well how He will shield me;
To Him, then, I will yield me.
- 2 What God ordains is always good:
He never will deceive me;
He leads me in His righteous way,
And never will He leave me.
I take content
What He has sent;
His hand that sends me sadness
Will turn my tears to gladness.
- 3 **What God ordains is always good:**
His loving thought attends me;
No poison can be in the cup
That my physician sends me.
My God is true;
Each morning new
I trust His grace unending,
My life to Him commending.
- 4 What God ordains is always good:
He is my friend and Father;
He suffers naught to do me harm
Though many storms may gather.
Now I may know
Both joy and woe;
Someday I shall see clearly
That He has loved me dearly.
- 5 **What God ordains is always good:**
Though I the cup am drinking
Which savors now of bitterness,
I take it without shrinking.
For after grief
God gives relief,
My heart with comfort filling
And all my sorrow stilling.
- 6 What God ordains is always good:
This truth remains unshaken.
Though sorrow, need, or death be mine,
I shall not be forsaken.
I fear no harm,
For with His arm
He shall embrace and shield me;
So to my God I yield me.

Read Genesis 50:15-21.

1. Who are the Josephs you remember from the Bible?
2. What do you remember about this Joseph?
3. How does the brothers' predicament sit with you? Relatable? Manipulative?
4. Why does Joseph weep?
5. How does Joseph show that he knows his place?
6. What assurances does Joseph give to his brothers?

Read Matthew 18:21-35.

1. Why might Peter pick 7 times in his question?
2. What does Jesus' number indicate to us?
3. How do you understand the vast difference between the two servants' debts?
4. What do you make of the question of the first servant?
5. What impact does the first servant's actions have on others around him?
6. Why did the king revoke his forgiveness?
7. What does it mean to forgive from the heart?

Read Romans 14:1-12.

1. When and when aren't we to judge?
2. What always guides our judgments?
3. What are some specific examples that Paul gives?

Devotional Thought

Jesus teaches that God has forgiven us far more than we will ever be called on to forgive. Our willingness to forgive a brother or sister is grounded in God's abundant mercy toward us. To forgive is to exercise our childlike faith. Pray for such simplicity of heart; trust likewise in the simple, enduring love of your gracious heavenly Father, who daily forgives all your debts (*TLSB, pg. 1622*).

Prayer

Jesus, Your forgiveness for my sin has no limits. Move me likewise to forgive those who sin against me. Amen.