

2/21/18

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Richard enjoyed visiting the Museum of Modern Art. He appreciated the different styles and mediums with which the artists expressed their visions. On one trip a new sculpture had been added. As he studied the new piece, he contemplated what the artist had envisioned. While he admired the artist's talent, he couldn't quite understand his concept.

On a subsequent trip with his wife, the two of them slowly walked around the sculpture. After changing positions several times, they finally recognized what the artist was portraying. Both Richard and his wife agreed, it took the right perspective to see things clearly.

Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days." The Jews replied, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple and you are going to raise it in three days?" But the temple he had spoken of was his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples recalled what he had said. Then they believed the Scripture and the words that Jesus had spoken. John 2:19-22

The disciples were also in need of the right perspective. Jesus boldly proclaimed, "Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days." Like the Jews who had heard his words, they were confused. How could he do something as incredible as this? It wasn't until Jesus was raised from the dead that they understood and believed. It took the right perspective.

Like the disciples I need to view Jesus and his ministry from the right perspective. Without the help of the error-free and inspired testimony of the Scriptures, I would find it hard to believe anything about Jesus.

With the right perspective, I come to know Jesus as the Son of God and the Son of Man who was perfectly qualified to be my Savior. I also know he was perfectly obedient in life and in death to secure

my rescue from sin, death and the power of the devil. All of this becomes even clearer when I view it from the perspective of Jesus' resurrection from the dead.

Because Jesus rose I know what God has declared is valid and certain. I can approach God the Father in boldness and confidence with my prayers. I can rejoice in his never-failing supply of forgiveness to release me from my sin. I can anticipate a joyful welcome into his eternal, heavenly kingdom.

Without Jesus' resurrection I would always be lost in doubt and confusion. Now, through Jesus' resurrection from the dead, I not only have the right perspective, I also know what Jesus did for me.

***Prayer:** O blessed Lord, I thank you for the precious gift of your holy Word. It is the truth from which I learn about the Savior. It also provides the perspective through which I see Jesus as my Savior. Amen.*

(WELS E-Devotion, adapted)

This Week In God's Grace

Today:	10:30 a.m. Bible Class at Bethany Noon Meal at Bethany 1:00 p.m. Midweek Lenten Service at Bethany 5:00 p.m. Soup Supper at Christ the King 6:00 p.m. Midweek Lenten Service at Christ the King 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal at Christ the King
Thursday:	8:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast at Peter's at Christ the King 9:30 a.m. Church Council Meeting at Christ the King 10:30 a.m. Membership class at Christ the King Pastor at Christ the King
Friday:	Pastor at Bethany

Saturday: 1:00 p.m. Christian Victory Service/Graveside for Herb Phillips

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. Worship Service @ Bethany
9:30 a.m. Fellowship @ Bethany
9:45 a.m. Open Forum
9:30 a.m. Bible Class @ Christ the King
10:30 a.m. Worship Service @ Christ the King

...See you in worship.

Keep looking up because the Lord is always looking down – Psalm 121

Pastor Alan W. Gumm

Phone: 630-947-4317 - revagumm@hotmail.com