

St. John's Journal

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LUTHERAN DISTINCTIVES

IV. Lutherans believe that the Bible alone is the final authority for Christian teaching. Part 1

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It is distinctive of the Lutheran Church to hold to the *sola scriptura* principle of the Reformation. That is to say, we Lutherans believe that "Scripture alone" is the final authority that determines Christian teaching. God's Word alone has the final say-so in what we believe, teach, and confess.

Authentic Lutherans believe that the Holy Scriptures are God's inspired Word, and therefore without error (inerrant) in all that they assert. As such, these Scriptures are the ultimate authority for judging doctrine in the Christian church. Lutherans sometimes call the Bible the "norming norm." That means the Bible is the supreme norm or standard by which all other norms or standards are judged.

We believe this because God has brought us to believe what the Bible says about itself. Paul wrote, "All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness." *2 Timothy 3:16* To say that all Scripture is "inspired by God" or "God-breathed" is to state that, in a miraculous way known only to God, He worked in the human authors of the Bible to write exactly what He wanted them to write. As a result, God is the true Author of the Bible.

In a similar way, Peter wrote, "no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, because no prophecy ever came by the impulse of man, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God." *2 Peter 1:20-21* This is another assertion that God Himself is responsible for the words of the Scriptures.

The Bible also gives us good examples of godly men who believed everything the Scriptures say and used them to judge religious teaching. Paul professed that he worshiped God, "believing everything laid down by the Law or written in the Prophets." *Acts 24:14* "The Law and the Prophets" designated all the books of the Old Testament – all the Scripture that had been completed and compiled at that time. We also hear how the Jews in Berea "received the word (that Paul preached) with all eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so." *Acts 17:11* They used the Scriptures – at that time, the Old Testament – to test Paul's preaching to be sure it was God's truth! That's exactly what we Lutherans strive to do!

Therefore genuine Lutherans boldly and cheerfully confess: "We pledge ourselves to the prophetic and apostolic writings of the Old and New Testaments as the pure and clear fountain of Israel, which is the only true norm according to which all teachers and teachings are to be judged and evaluated." *Formula of Concord, Solid Declaration, Rule and Norm:3* We also confess, "The Word of God shall establish articles of faith and no one else, not even an angel." *Smalcald Articles II.II:15* (For further reading in the Book of Concord on this subject see the Augsburg Confession, Preface:8 and Art. XXI, Summary:1.)

May we always hold fast to the Bible alone as our highest authority for Christian teaching, humbly trusting that the sacred Scriptures are always true, and will always "instruct (us) for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus." *2 Timothy 3:15*

- Pastor Bishop

Matthew
Mark
Luke
John

**Christian
Education**

**Sunday School
Perfect Attendance**

May 2024

None

**JULY
BIRTH-**



July 1
Mike Ashbaker

July 2
Maxton Montgomery

July 3
Jane Heberer
Ethan Sego
Morgan Sego

July 5
Vincent Ruder
Michael Sipka
Cody Watson

July 7
Matthew Lappie
Thomas Lappie
Elliot Nelson

July 09
Judy Nizzia
Eileen Tiona

July 10
Kay Aulenbach
Gavin Ruder

July 11
Donald Dobbelaire

July 12
Courtney
Dobbelaire
Anna Knussman
Austin Pool
Brycen Warenburg
Rachel Wooden

July 13
Jamie Gaitros

July 15
Christopher Miller
Elizabeth Sayles
Eric Smith
Susan Wertz

July 16
Gary Allan
Joe Szadkowski
Robert Thompson

July 17
Jeffery Jackson
Ashleigh Kelley
Mason Schoch
Michael Wilson

July 18
Brendan Hillman

July 19
Sandra Vice

July 20
Julia McCammon

July 22
Isabelle Anderson
Daden Ruder

July 23
Alida Calhoun
Valerie Dobbelaire
Adryan Edmiston

July 24
Daniel Heisel

July 25
Donna Corso
Daniel McClure
Christy Watson
Verlyn Williams

July 26
Rodney Bollinger
Lena Otey

July 27
Susan Swibold

July 28
Caralee Bohannan
Aaron Schmidgall

July 29
Christina Abatie

**JULY
ANNIVERSARIES**

July 4
Melvyn & Shirley
Gentry

July 07
Cody & Jennifer
Neal

July 11
Vince & Sandra
Tennell

July 14
Stephen & Amanda
Webb

July 15
Eric & Lisa Oller
Jeremy & Amber
Winstead

July 16
Darrell & Donna
Hansen

July 18
Paul & Jamie Driskell

July 19
Jeffrey & Angela
Theleritis

July 20
George & Tammi
Andrae
Chris & Shelly Bitner

July 21
Martin & Sheila
Matthews
Ryan & Joy Rusk

July 26
Tim & Ashley
Chambliss

July 27
Shane & Jami Beene

**AUGUST
BIRTHDAYS**



August 01
Jane Hawkins

August 02
Sarah Calhoun
Robert Houge
Alexander Vasterling

August 03
Alan Gudzinkas
David Miller
Amanda Wertz

August 04
Shelly Bitner
Nancy Drockelman
Robin Smith

August 06
Melvyn Gentry

August 07
Sharill Andrae
Allison Harley

August 08
Shirley Gentry
Avery Theleritis

August 09
Susan Vasterling

August 10
Addie Burling
Lillie Martin

August 11
Velma Widby

August 12
Susan Jackson

August 13
Elyse Hopping
Steve Kesselmayer

August 15
Benjamin Becker
James Lonergan

August 16
Deanna Bishop
Patrick Flatley
Sierra Pool
Robert Rosa

August 18
Jennifer Rosa Hinkley
Ben Rahn, Jr.

August 19
Rhonda Lappie
Sandra Tennell

August 21
Noah Kesselmayer
Angela Theleritis

August Birthdays
(cont'd)

August 22

William Ashbaker

August 23

Marilee Gregory
Heath Norman

August 25

Honor Deiss
Dan Englebright
Marlana Montgomery

August 26

Julianna Johnson
Beverly Wieland

August 27

Faye Kesselmayer
Casey Watson

August 29

Khloe Owsley
Jeffrey Theleritis

**AUGUST
ANNIVERSARIES**

August 01

Thomas & Erin
Theleritis

August 04

David & Karen
McCammon

August 06

Rev. Daniel & Deanna
Bishop

August 07

Robert & Vernice Funk
Robin & Cindy Smith

August 08

Richard & Dianne
Lohnes

August 09

Steven & Faye
Kesselmayer
Adam & Rebecca
Miller

August 10

Eric & Allison Harley

August 11

Shane & Jennifer
Decker
Steve Depew/Liuda
Filbert

August 12

Curtis & Pamela
Woolsey

August 13

Quest & Elizabeth
Dobbelaire

August 17

James & Joyce
Lonergan

August 20

Robert & Barbara Rosa

August 21

Trent & Carrie
Schmidgall

August 23

Jeffrey & Joanne
Ferree
Thomas & Rhonda
Lappie

August 26

J. Scott & Jennifer
Rosa Hinkley
Trevor & Ellie Shaw

August 30

Brian & Annette Ford

PARISH NOTES

Church Attendance

		Services
May 2024	478	15
May 2023	477	13
May 2022	591	16

Sunday School Attendance

Through May 2024:	618
Through May 2023:	662
Through May 2022:	624

Acolytes—July

July 14

8:00	Elizabeth Sayles
10:30	

July 28

8:00	
10:30	Elizabeth Sayles

Acolytes—August

Aug 11

8:00	Elizabeth Sayles
10:30	

Aug 25

8:00	
10:30	Elizabeth Sayles

Elders Communion Assistance July

July 7

8:00	Tom Ivey
10:30	Ross Gould

July 21

8:00	Jon Bolt
10:30	Ross Gould

Elders Communion Assistance August

Aug 4

8:00	Randy Couch
10:30	Jon Bolt

Aug 18

8:00	Tom Ivey
10:30	Brian Ford

Videographers—July

Lexi & Lilly Daniels

August

Jim Lonergan

Worship Chairman—July

Paul Tackmann

August

Jim Lonergan

Ushers—July

8:00

Jim Lonergan
Scott Stalter
Merle Wiseman

10:30

Brian Ford
Nate Ford
Trent Hoover
Brian Umbach

Ushers—August

8:00

Jerry Bohannon
Randy Couch
Steve Kesselmayer
Noah Kesselmayer

10:30

Ross Gould
Jacob Gould

Special Meetings

Parent—Confirmation Meeting

There will be a meeting with the parents of confirmation students on Sunday, August 18, at 11:45 a.m.

Confirmation class will begin on Wednesday, August 21, at 4:00 p.m.

GSLs Parents

We will have a meeting with the parents of GSLs students on Sunday, August 11, after the 10:30 service.

Sunday School Teachers Meeting

will be Wednesday, August 21, at 7:00 pm.

CHURCH INFORMATION

Please notify the church secretary of any corrections that need to be made for addresses, birthday, Baptism, or wedding anniversary lists, etc. If a date is wrong or somebody has been omitted from something, we want to get it right. We want to have all our lists and records fully accurate and as up to date as possible. Thank you for your help.

You may phone the church office (348-2136) with your information, send a note in the mail, or email Sandy at the church office: stjohnsec@grics.net.

College Students

Parents, we would like the name of your college student and his or her address and the name of the college or university that your child(ren) will be attending this coming fall. We would like to send them the Journal. Thank you.

Church Picnic

The Board of Christian Education is planning a church picnic on Sunday, August 25 in the gym so we can use our new tables and chairs.

Watch future bulletins for more information about the picnic.

REMINDER

that September is the month that St. John's collects nonperishables for Christian Civic Outreach.



If you know of someone in one of the Carle Health hospitals, please call the church office. At this time they are not able to let us know. Thank you.

Transferred To The
Church
Triumphant

Ellen R. Morrison
06-16-1944
06-13-2024

TREASURER'S REPORT May, 2024



	May	Y-T-D
INCOME	23,475.41	142,425.89
EXPENSES	32,590.56	162,984.73
INCOME	- 9,115.15	- 20,558.84
EXPENSE		

General Fund Accounts

General Fund	13,493.25
General Fund Total	13,493.25

Educational Fund Accounts

Educ. Grant Fund Checking	1,948.56
Ed Grant CD LCMS 12/21	51,863.96
Ed Grant CD LCMS 12/22	51,835.93
Ed Grant Fund #2 Vanguard	63,209.40
Educational Fund Total	168,857.85

East Bluff Property

East Bluff Property Vanguard	38,481.32
East Bluff CD LCMS 12/21	53,741.35
East Bluff CD LCMS 12/22	53,770.40
Cat Stock at FMV	124,914.94
221,908.01	

Memorial

Memorial Fund Checking	31,367.12
Memorial Vanguard	94,603.80
Memorial Fund Total	125,970.92

Building Fund Checking	31,788.33
Sunday School Fund Checking	13,046.85

TOTAL ASSETS **624,065.21**

Checking Acct Balance	91,644.11
91,644.11	

LIABILITIES

Payroll Liabilities	2,784.92
Misc. LCMS Orgs Fund	125.49
Total Liabilities	2,910.41

Fund Balance

Net Income (Loss)	8,261.28
Capital Accounts	612,893.52
Total Fund Balance	621,154.80

TOTAL LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCE **624,065.21**

**HI-LITES OF ST. JOHN'S VOTERS ASSEMBLY
June 10, 2024**

Ross Gould called the meeting to order. A quorum was present. Randy Couch opened with devotions.

The May Parish Report was reviewed. A motion was made by John Neumann, seconded by Cheryl Ivy, to approve the May Parish Report. Motion carried.

The May meeting minutes were reviewed. A motion was made by Bob Oliverius, seconded by John Neumann, to approve the May meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – Nancy Drockelman presented the May Treasurer's Report. For the month of May we had a deficit of \$9,115.15. Year-to-date, we are showing a deficit of \$20,558.84. A motion was made by John Neumann, seconded by Bob Oliverius, to accept the May Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

Board of Trustees – Dave Kesselmayer reported that the Trustees held a work day this past Saturday. Work was done on the flower beds as well as some cleaning in the church. They had a good turnout and Dave thanked the volunteers who helped. The Trustees would like to proceed with getting the bell tower project completed this fall. The estimate received last fall was for \$18,415. Dave indicated that he would expect costs to have risen slightly so the Trustees would like to make a motion that would include room for an increase.

The Trustees motioned, seconded by Cheryl Ivey, to spend no more than \$20,000 from the Building Fund to repair the bell tower this fall. Motion carried.

Board of Elders – Ross Gould reported that the Elders had one request for assistance for approximately \$200.00 that was approved by the Elders. The Elders continue to reach out to inactive members.

Board of Finance – No report.

Board of Christian Education – Leslie Hauk reported that the youth's activity for May was helping Mrs. Perry with yard work. Vacation Bible School is this week. We are in need of 3 Sunday School teachers this fall. August 25th is the church picnic which will be held at the church this year. September 1st is Rally Day. John Neumann reported that the Good Shepherd Board approved the capital campaign to start August 5th. The school board meeting for June was moved to the 25th due to vacations. The school is in need of several teachers. The ability to offer all grades next year depends on whether enough teachers can be hired. The school budget for next year has been approved. The amount each church contributes will not change for the next school year. At the current time attendance is projected to stay relatively the same.

Board of Worship – Julie Wagner reported that the committee met on June 6th. In May, the committee handed out carnations for Mother's Day. The committee is still in need of another member. Their next meeting will be September 5th.

Board of Evangelism – No report.

Board of Stewardship – No report.

Long Range Planning Committee – No report.

Educational Grant Fund Committee – No report.

East Bluff Property Committee – No report.

Constitution By-laws Committee – No report.

Unfinished business – No unfinished business.

New business – No new business. Steve Kesselmayer did thank those that were involved with putting on the pork chop dinner. Steve indicated that it was very nice.

A motion was made by Bob Oliverius, seconded by Dave Kesselmayer, to close the meeting. Motion carried

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Wagner
Secretary

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**Lutheran Women of Greater Peoria
Fall Mum Fundraiser**

LWGP is sponsoring a Fall Mum Fundraiser in conjunction with the Picket Fence foundation. The plants are sourced through Picket Fence Foundation in Chillicothe, which is a Nonprofit organization that provided employment and training opportunities to people with disabilities. The mums come in an 8" pot in a variety of colors for only \$10 each.

For more information regarding this, see brochures on the bulletin board in the gym.

Confirmation Class of 2024

Elizabeth Nichole Sayles
Daughter of Jeffrey & Brenda Sayles
Born: July 15, 2009
Baptized: August 23, 2009



SHUT-INS for the MONTH: Even though some of our shut-ins this month.

Shut-ins for July are: Vernice Funk, Villas of Holybrook, 2720 S. 14th St., Apt. 44, Pekin; Ray and Wilma Garber, 1111 S. 18th, Pekin; Elaine Hapke, (Elaine is at Bickford Senior Living on Heartland Dr. in Bloomington) mailing address is 1092 Hershey Rd., Normal, IL 61761-2521; and Tom and Rhonda Lap-
pie, 13634 Glenmar Dr., Pekin.

Shut ins for August are: Loretta Newman, Sunset Rehab & Health Care, 129 S. 1st. Ave., Canton 61520; Hazel Nichols, 1106 S. 8th., Pekin and Sharon Parry, 1721 Valle Vista, Pekin.

Thank you from your St. John's Ladies Guild.

LIBRARY CORNER

By Eileen Tiona



"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

I haven't any new books to report on this month, but you are welcome to come into the library and check out all the other wonderful books that are available for your enjoyment.

Reversing Roe v. Wade: Part 1 (provided by Peoria Area Lutherans for Life)

Probably most adults in our nation are aware that two years ago in June, 2022, the US Supreme Court reversed its earlier decision in two cases known as Roe v. Wade and Doe v. Bolton. Those cases had stood for 49 years and made abortion-on-demand legal in every state. In the June, 2022 decision known as Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health the justices said the supposed "right-to-abortion" identified by the US Supreme Court in 1973 never existed in our Constitution. It would no longer be the law of the land that had allowed the killing of more than 60 million unborn babies! Now it will be up to the citizens of every state to determine through their legislators whether abortion will be legal or illegal in their state. Most Americans probably never expected to see Roe overturned, so how did it happen? The fascinating and inspiring story of how Roe was reversed is told by the man who spent 22 years listening to God's voice and guiding The Justice Foundation which he leads in Texas. His name is Allan E. Parker Jr. and he tells this story in his book Reversing Roe v. Wade – My Journey With Roe, Doe and God. You can read the story yourself or return here for Part Two next month.

In conjunction with the Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours **GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN SCHOOL** will be hosting an Open House on Tuesday, July 23, from 4:30 – 6:30 p.m.

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Good Shepherd is in urgent need of 3/4, 5/6 and 7/8 grade classroom teachers. Good Shepherd offers a competitive salary as well as an amazing benefits package. If you are interested or know of anyone interested, please send a letter of interest and resume to Mr. Joel Kilgus. jkilgus@goodshpherdpekin.com

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St. John's Lutheran Church (Sand Prairie)

Is having a Fish Fry on Friday, July 19, 2024 from 5 to 7 p.m. Cost is \$15 for Adults and \$10 for children ages 6-11.

Menu: All you can eat Fried Fish with potato salad, cole slaw, baked beans, bread & butter, drink and dessert.

This is by Reservation only!! Please call the church office (309-348-3180) to make reservations for your tickets. See bulletin board in the gym for more information.

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IN OUR PRAYERS

If you know of anyone who needs to be added, please let the church office know.

All our shut-ins

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Pastor Niemann | Sandy Morgan |
| Robert Rilea | Jeff Ferree |
| Peggy Farlin | Debbie Miller |
| Marlana Montgomery | Addie Burling |
| Julie Rilea | Eileen Tiona |
| Gabriella Kesselmayer | Paula Jensen |
| Pat Proehl | Suzanne Reising |
| Kellen Norman | Joyce Barnes |
| Lee Morgan | Ray Garber |
| Roy Dagit | John Durdle |
| Suzanne Reising | Stefanie Wilson |
| Scott Ruschmeyer | Keith Gleason |
| Anna Knussman | Butch Williams |
| Hayden Jackson | Megan Gould |
| Bobby Gregory | Marilee Gregory |
| Megan Gould | Rosetta Turner |
| Kathy Daly-Unfricht | Melvyn Gentry |
| Bob Hurst | Ruthanne Scott |
| Deanna Oltman | Michelle Watson |
| Beth Kammeyer | Sharon Parry |

Bible Wordsearch

Wordsearch 255

Matt. 11:4-17

B	J	P	E	G	R	I	D	E	P	L	A	Y	E	D
M	E	R	J	R	D	A	E	H	A	N	E	M	O	W
O	S	O	O	E	G	N	I	L	L	I	W	P	L	E
D	U	P	H	A	J	I	L	E	A	D	B	N	T	S
G	S	H	N	T	R	E	P	D	W	A	E	H	T	W
N	R	E	C	E	I	V	E	O	P	R	G	R	R	R
I	L	T	O	R	S	L	R	T	D	I	O	I	A	M
K	P	U	O	K	E	C	I	L	S	P	T	I	O	R
G	B	R	F	A	N	S	I	S	E	T	S	U	T	D
D	N	L	E	E	T	H	E	R	E	E	R	T	R	H
C	E	I	E	P	C	C	O	N	D	N	S	A	E	E
U	C	Y	L	S	A	R	C	L	O	T	H	E	S	A
R	N	V	A	L	S	R	O	T	R	U	T	H	E	V
E	A	E	A	W	A	E	E	F	L	U	T	E	D	E
D	D	P	M	E	S	C	D	E	S	S	E	R	D	N

John the Baptist

AHEAD	BAPTIST
CROWD	BLESSED
CURED	CALLING
DANCE	CHILDREN
DESERT	CLOTHES
DIRGE	DRESSED
ELIJAH	FORCEFUL
FLUTE	GREATER
JESUS	HEAVEN
JOHN	KINGDOM
MOURN	PALACES
PLAYED	PREPARE
RAISED	PROPHET
REPORT	RECEIVE
RISEN	REPLIED
SIGHT	SWAYED
SPEAK	WILLING
TRUTH	WOMEN
	WRITTEN

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Bible Wordsearch

Wordsearch 271

Matt. 17:1-16

N	L	A	E	H	J	H	D	R	E	T	E	P	B	D
H	D	I	E	C	A	U	D	O	T	L	B	R	E	A
O	T	I	S	N	I	N	S	A	O	R	I	R	S	D
J	H	V	D	T	U	O	L	T	O	G	A	K	W	D
M	G	S	E	O	E	K	V	T	H	E	E	O	R	E
O	I	U	R	N	I	N	H	T	P	D	R	O	L	H
U	L	G	O	N	S	E	L	P	I	C	S	I	D	C
N	S	H	G	D	R	E	A	M	E	R	C	Y	S	U
T	S	H	E	T	E	A	C	H	E	R	S	T	A	O
A	J	W	E	R	N	H	L	A	D	A	S	S	C	T
I	A	F	A	L	O	T	S	O	F	I	E	I	O	C
N	M	O	R	T	T	T	L	I	V	S	S	T	M	L
J	E	S	U	S	E	E	S	E	W	E	O	P	I	O
G	S	U	F	F	E	R	R	E	N	D	M	A	N	U
H	A	J	I	L	E	I	V	S	R	K	E	B	G	D

Transfiguration

ASKED	APPEARED
ELIJAH	BAPTIST
FACE	BROTHER
GOOD	BRIGHT
HANDS	CLOUD
HEAL	COMING
JAMES	CROWD
JESUS	DISCIPLES
JOHN	GROUND
JUST	MOUNTAIN
KNELT	MOSES
LIGHT	RAISED
LISTEN	RESTORE
LORD	SHELTERS
LOVE	SUFFER
MERCY	TALKING
PETER	TEACHERS
SHONE	TOUCHED
VOICE	WISHED
	WATER

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Bible Wordsearch

Wordsearch 276

Matt. 19:15-30

R	L	G	R	A	E	C	B	T	I	R	E	H	N	I
E	E	N	T	R	Y	R	H	N	E	V	A	E	H	O
N	A	H	U	J	O	M	U	I	R	R	D	S	E	L
E	R	T	T	T	U	N	O	S	L	R	E	V	R	A
W	S	E	H	A	P	D	O	T	A	D	I	T	N	N
A	I	E	L	I	F	E	G	H	H	E	R	G	N	R
L	R	T	L	T	H	R	T	I	C	E	R	E	T	E
S	P	E	R	F	E	C	T	E	N	A	R	T	N	T
O	F	U	Y	H	L	N	R	O	R	G	M	U	W	E
T	T	S	C	F	B	N	O	S	I	S	T	E	R	S
H	K	A	S	O	I	E	R	R	S	S	A	E	L	U
R	E	V	D	L	S	E	V	E	H	L	E	K	A	S
T	P	E	N	L	S	D	L	A	T	T	G	I	V	E
N	T	D	A	O	O	L	T	H	T	I	M	E	S	J
R	I	C	H	W	P	E	S	U	O	I	R	O	L	G

The Rich Man & The Kingdom

CAMEL	BROTHERS
ENTER	CHILDREN
GIVE	ETERNAL
HANDS	FATHER
HARD	FOLLOW
HONOR	GLORIOUS
INHERIT	HEAVEN
ISRAEL	JUDGING
JESUS	MOTHER
KEPT	NEEDLE
LEFT	PERFECT
LIFE	POSSIBLE
PETER	RECEIVE
RICH	RENEWAL
SAKE	SISTERS
SAVED	TEACHER
SELL	THRONE
TIMES	TREASURE
TRUTH	WEALTH

After you find all the hidden words the left over letters spell out a Bible verse reading from the top left to the bottom right

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