

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER



Hello April ♥

LCMS Stewardship Ministry

Whose Is It Anyway?

If you have ever bought or sold a house, you are acquainted with the concept of a “title search.” Before you can sell your house, and before anyone else will feel comfortable putting down the money to buy it, you have to prove that you really own it. So a title company looks through the public records to ensure that you bought it from the person who really owned it, who bought it from the person who really owned it before that, all the way back to the earliest records of your state, including when your state was only a territory or colony of England.

Peak into a preschool classroom during playtime and you’ll see a simplified version of this. A child starts playing with a ball, but another child says, “That’s mine: I had it first.”

You can’t understand the Seventh Commandment without understanding this concept of ownership or title. As the Small Catechism puts it:

You shall not steal. What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not take our neighbor’s money or possessions, or get them in any dishonest way, but help him to improve and protect his possessions and income.

Your neighbor’s possessions are his: you don’t have a right to take them. And likewise, your possessions are yours. Ownership and property rights are foundational to any functioning society.

But there is something deeper to know about ownership, and that is the question of who has the title and ownership to you? Paul says, “Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price” (1Corinthians 6:19–20).

If you yourself are owned by God, then of course everything that you own, you really only possess by God’s leave: all of it, at bottom, belongs to Him since you belong to Him. For you were bought with the blood of Christ.

This notion is the foundation of all Christian stewardship. It all belongs to God. It should all be used for things that bring honor to His name, blessings to our neighbors and the extension of His kingdom.

MANNERS AND CUSTOMS OF BIBLE TIMES

Meat and Fish

Meat and fish were luxury foods and were confined to the wealthy except at times of festival and sacrifice. King Solomon had meat in regular variety – beef, mutton, game, and fowl. Solomon's daily provisions were thirty cors of fine flour and sixty cors of meal, ten head of stall-fed cattle, twenty of pasture-fed cattle and a hundred sheep and goats, as well as deer, gazelles, roebucks, and choice fowl (1 Kings 4:23). Abraham served veal to his guests (Genesis 18:7), and Gideon's guests ate goat meat (Judges 6:19). Meat was normally boiled as part of a stew because this naturally followed the draining of blood that was required by the law (Deuteronomy 12:15-25). However, meat could be roasted if care was used. The sons of Eli preferred roast meat to boiled meat (1 Samuel 2:15).

Meat from herded animals was supplemented by meat from hunting. The valley of the river Jordan was plentiful in wild animals during Bible times. Trapping of animals in a net (Job 18:8-10) or in a pit (Jeremiah 48:44) was common, and birds were trapped, too (Amos 3:5).

Fish were also available, but some varieties were forbidden for food (Leviticus 11:11-12). The work of the disciples of Jesus is evidence that much fishing was carried on at that time on the Sea of Galilee. Fish were familiar enough for Jesus to use in his parables (Matthew 13:47-48; Luke 11:11). Eggs do not seem to have been used for food until late Old Testament times, although they were familiar enough to Jesus (see Luke 11:12).

Salt

Seasoning was limited to salt, obtainable from the endless supplies in the salt hills near the Dead Sea. It was used to flavour and preserve food (Job 6:6). In New Testament times there was a thriving industry, based at Magdala, where fish were salted and exported. Not until Greek and Roman times were other seasonings (spices) readily available, and this developed as trade grew.

Salt was believed to have healing properties (2 Kings 2:19-22) and was also used in sacrificial offerings (Leviticus 2:13). This may have led to the custom of using it in a meal held to celebrate the signing of an agreement (Numbers 18:19).

Contributed by Beverly Steele



- 4/1 Curtis Wiese
- 4/3 Pat Risley
- 4/6 Nate Lepper
- 4/7 Lisa Schwartz
- 4/7 Herb Hardwick
- 4/8 Lou Hanson
- 4/8 Tom Foster
- 4/9 Kelly Keller
- 4/9 James Bier
- 4/10 Kathy Shaw
- 4/11 Faith Seagle



- 4/12 Allen Binkley
- 4/12 Angie Anderson
- 4/14 Jill Morgan
- 4/14 Grey Roberts
- 4/15 Marie Berkowitz
- 4/17 Mark Riggerbach
- 4/17 Keith Amiel
- 4/19 Parker Seagle
- 4/23 Carol Franklin
- 4/24 April Adams

Hello April ♥ 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Office Closed	2 Homeschoolers	3 9:30 AM Quilting 10:00 AM Bible Study	4 5:00 PM American Heritage Girls 6:00 PM Elder's Meeting	5	6 8:00 AM Praise Band 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study
7 Early Communion Mite Collection Both Services 8:00 AM Traditional Service 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Contemporary 2:00 PM Confirmation 6:00 PM Youth Group	8	9 Homeschoolers	10 9:30 AM Quilting 10:00 AM Bible Study	11	12	13 8:00 AM Praise Band 9:00 AM Life Team
14 Late Communion 8:00 AM Traditional Service 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Contemporary 2:00 PM Confirmation 6:00 PM Youth Group	15	16 Homeschoolers	17 9:30 AM Quilting 10:00 AM Bible Study	18 5:00 PM American Heritage Girls 6:00 PM Council Meeting	19	20 8:00 AM Praise Band
21 Early Communion 8:00 AM Traditional Service 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Contemporary 2:00 PM Confirmation 6:00 PM Youth Group	22	23	24 9:30 AM Quilting 10:00 AM Bible Study	25	26	27 8:00 AM Praise Band
28 Late Communion 8:00 AM Traditional Service 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Contemporary 2:00 PM Confirmation 6:00 PM Youth Group	29	30				

Visiting Band from Indiana



American Heritage Girls



Carpets were cleaned in Sanctuary and Education Building



Eagle Scouts Project on the Nature Trail





Sunday School kids planting flowers



Property beautification



Lenten Meal



Youth Group painting and preparing for Easter Egg Hunt





Palm Sunday Collection



Easter Egg Hunt







Palm Sunday





Regular Sunday Worship Times
Traditional Worship @ 8:00 AM
Contemporary Worship @ 10:45 AM

Sunday School @ 9:30 AM



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