

# CHRISTIAN LIFE NOTES

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## “The Unsearchable Riches of Christ”

A fairly new member of our congregation was chatting with me on the first Sunday that we were able to attend worship services without a mask mandate. She had met most members as only their eyes were revealed. In cases like this, it is natural to form some opinion as to what the rest of their face looked like. She laughed and explained that she had imagined wrong, being surprised at the true shape and features that had been previously concealed —especially she had not imagined men with a mustache.

I wonder if some people have not seen Jesus as fully revealed. Have we presented only a portion of the complete Savior that exists? Or have some of us not looked for the *unsearchable riches of Christ* which Ephesians 3 speaks of? Paul said he had received grace to “*preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things.*” (Ephesians 3:8-9)

While it is nice to know that Paul said he was made a minister of the gospel according to the gift of God’s grace, we cannot let ourselves off the hook of the responsibility to also be ministers of the gospel. As He was preparing to ascend into heaven, Jesus told His disciples to *Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.* (Matthew 28:12-20)

Are you thinking that you are neither Paul nor a disciple? Scripture says otherwise: 1 Peter 3:15 says, “*In your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you.*”

One of my favorite hymns speaks of sharing our faith and revealing the fullness of Christ.

*Hark, the voice of Jesus crying, “  
Who will go and work today?  
Fields are white and harvests waiting—  
Who will bear the sheaves away?”  
Loud and long the Master calleth;  
Rich reward He offers thee.  
Who will answer, gladly saying,  
“Here am I, send me, send me”?*

*If you cannot speak like angels,  
If you cannot preach like Paul,  
You can tell the love of Jesus,  
You can say He died for all.  
If you cannot rouse the wicked  
With the judgment’s dread alarms,  
You can lead the little children  
To the Savior’s waiting arms.*

*Let none hear you idly saying,  
“There is nothing I can do.”  
While the multitudes are dying  
And the Master calls for you.  
Take the task He gives you gladly,  
Let His work your pleasure be;  
Answer quickly when He calleth  
“Here am I, send me, send me!”  
(The Lutheran Service Book, #  
826)*

We are saved by God’s grace through faith. What good news to share! We can find opportunities to reveal Christ to those who do not yet know Him or who have not seen Him as the Lord and Savior who desires that all come to Him, receive the forgiveness of sins and eternal fellowship with the Father. When we know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, we can share it gladly. Let us reveal the righteousness of God in our daily walk. When God calls you for a task, wave your hand and say, “Pick me! Pick me!”

