



“What’s your ‘Life Verse’?”

I had to “wing it” a little with the answer to this question, since I wasn’t exactly sure what a “life verse” was. (And the answers I found when I “googled” it were all over the board.) The meaning I attached to “life verse” is this: A verse that I keep coming back to over and over again. A verse that helps me remember some aspect of God that I frequently need to be reminded of.

Three verses popped into my head at the time. The first was my confirmation verse:

“You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last.” John 15:16

My confirmation pastor chose that verse for me, and it was very prophetic. At the time I was confirmed, there is no way that I would have chosen to become a pastor. But God had indeed chosen me for that ministry, and put all kinds of experiences and people into my life to lead me in that direction.

The second verse is one that has been a great reminder:

Jesus said, “In this world you will have trouble. But take heart (have courage) I have overcome the world.” John 16:33

Jesus never sugar-coats what life will be like. He always tells us what we can expect, so that when it happens we don’t lose faith. And, boy, can we expect trouble! It will come. To everyone. More often than any of us would like. But when it comes we should always remember that Jesus has power over any trouble. That means He has the power to get us through it - and make something good come from it!

The final one is a verse I talked about in a recent sermon. It’s from the Proverbs which I’ve referred to as “God’s practical wisdom for everyday life.” We have decisions to make literally every day, and this verse is the perfect guide for those decisions - big or small:

*“Trust in the Lord with all your heart
and lean not on your own understanding.
In all your ways submit to Him,
and He will make your paths straight.”* Proverbs 3:5-6

As I mentioned in the sermon, when we have decisions to make we tend to ask the wrong questions. Questions like, “Can we afford this?” “What are other people doing?” “Do I feel like doing this?” “What will ‘they’ think of us if we do this?” “Will this be easy - or make my life easier?” The answers to all those questions could be summed up as “Leaning on our own understanding,” and God has point-blank told us NOT to do that.

This passage is a reminder that the ONE question to answer is:

“Is this something God wants me/us to do?”

Pray and ask Him (as a first-response, not a last resort). If God wants you to do it, He will provide everything necessary to accomplish it.

Thanks for asking,
Pastor David

Send your questions to pastor@livingwordlutheran.net