

CHRISTIAN LIFE NOTES

Oregon District LWML

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"The Bottomless Gift Bag"

A gift bag can turn into a treasure hunt. With all the tissue paper inside, you better look through each piece to be sure you don't miss hidden items.

God's Word, the Bible, holds many gifts, like a bottomless gift bag. When you take it all in, it may seem overwhelming!

Let's start with forgiveness, making peace with God. ***"For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ our Lord."*** Romans 6:23.

Next, you find you have eternal life. ***"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life."*** John 3:16

The Holy Bible itself is a tremendous gift, God-breathed, without error ***"for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work."*** 2 Timothy 3:17.

A personal and dear privilege is 24/7 access to God, the creator, the all-knowing, ever-present, all-sufficient, and all-powerful listener to all your thoughts. ***"Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God."*** Philippians 4:6.

You think, that must be all the big items in the gift bag. Those were tremendous and very expensive too. I mean, they were bought with an incredible price. ***"He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, will he not also give us all things with him?"*** Romans 8:32

Look deeper, there's still more...peace, rest, adoption as children of God, and the promises...over 7000 promises. That's a lot of tissue paper to look through. The Holy Spirit guides us into all truth (John 16: 13, 14) and He produces in us fruit (Galatians 5: 22, 23) and wisdom (James 2:17, 18) as we grow in our understanding and do God's will.

Have you found the bottom of God's gift bag yet? The Bible tells us that we receive gifts from God for the building up of the church, the body of Christ. ***"As each has received a gift, employ it for one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: whoever speaks, as one who utters oracles of God; whoever renders service, as one who renders it by the strength which God supplies; in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus. To him belong glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen."*** 1 Peter 4:10.

And that, my friend, is the big bow on the bottomless gift bag.

This gift, as explained in the Bible, is fully paid, supplied by God, for the growth of the Body of Christ and for God's glory.



Gifts For Serving
1 Peter 4:10

Please join us at the LWML Oregon District Day Retreat at Living Savior Lutheran Church in Tualatin, OR on Saturday, August 21, 2021 11 am to 4 pm. What gifts do you have?

The event will be informal, inspirational and fun. There will also be an ingathering event and box lunches will be provided. Registration is due August 1st. Call Deb Weaver, 503-543-2229 for more information.

The Christian Life Committee