



This book belongs to



SET APART TO SERVE

LCMS CHURCH WORK RECRUITMENT

GRADES 7–8

STUDENT BOOK



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LESSON 1

1 Corinthians 15:3–4

What Is the Church?

What Is the Church?

Pick a few questions to discuss together.

- How important is the church as part of your identity?
- Do your friends know you go to church?
- Do you plan to go to church when you grow up?

What Is Number One?

Read 1 Corinthians 15:3–4.

- What does Paul mean by “first importance”?
- What is the church all about?
- Why does Paul say that Jesus’ death and resurrection is the most important thing?
- Does Jesus only matter to you at church?



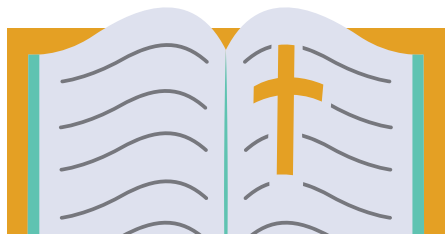
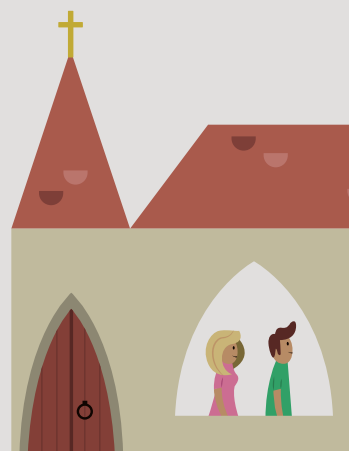
Third Article of the Creed and Explanation

"I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

"What does this mean?" I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him. But the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian Church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers. On the Last Day He will raise up me and all the dead and will give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ. This is most certainly true."

(Third Article of the Apostles' Creed with Luther's explanation)

■ What does the Holy Spirit do for you that you can't do for yourself?



Take It Home

- If you haven't begun a habit of daily Bible reading, start one. Read one chapter of the Bible every night before bed (it will only take a minute or two). Start with the Gospel of John or Romans. Pray the Lord's Prayer.
- Download an audio version of the Bible to your phone so that when you want to listen to something, you can listen to the Bible.
- As you read through the Bible, you will encounter things you don't fully understand. Ask your pastor about these passages. He will be happy to talk to you about God's Word.
- If your family doesn't have devotions together, ask if you can begin at dinnertime or another time when you are all together. You can read through the Gospel of John or Romans one chapter at a time and pray the Lord's Prayer together. You can sing a hymn from the hymnal or confess the Apostles' Creed.
- Pray before you go to bed. The Lord's Prayer and Luther's Evening Prayer (in the Small Catechism) are good prayers to use.

LESSON 2

John 20:19–23

Who Are Our Church Workers?

Represent!

Read **Matthew 16:18–19** and **John 20:19–23**.

- What does Jesus tell Peter to do as His representative?
- What does Jesus tell the disciples to do with the gift of the Holy Spirit?
- How is the work of the office of the holy ministry an extension of what Jesus did while on earth?

Shepherding the Flock

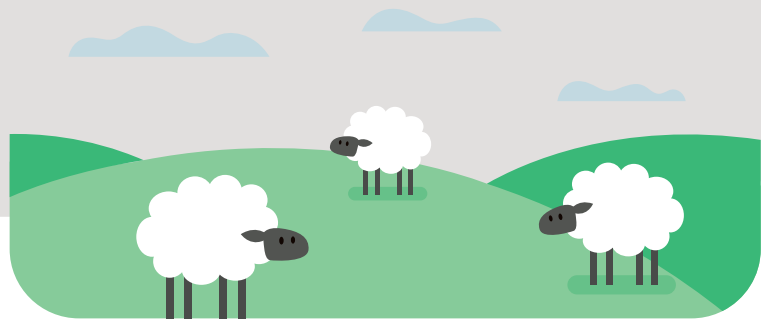
Read **John 21:15–17**.

- What does Jesus tell Peter to do?
- What does the word *pastor* mean?



The Good Shepherd

- Who is the Good Shepherd?
- When will you no longer need a pastor?
- How important is the pastor in the church today?



Set Apart to Serve

What are some church-work roles that you have heard of? Visit lcms.org/set-apart-to-serve to learn more.

A large rectangular area with a light grey background and a grid of small dots for writing.

Take It Home

- Talk to your parents about how you as a family can show your pastor and others who work at church how thankful you are for them.
- Think if there is something you can do for your pastor.
- Consider writing a thank-you note to your pastor, Lutheran school teacher, DCE, or anyone who works at your church.

