



THOUGHTS FROM THE PASTOR

Shamgar's Three Rules of Success

People who know me understand that I am a straightforward guy who likes to keep it real. So I absolutely love it when God's Word connects to daily living. I found this again recently as I was reading the book of Judges. While many only know the Sunday School lessons of Gideon, Samson and maybe Deborah, a deeper reading of Judges allows for a wide range of connections to everyday life. I find life in the 21st century comparable to the ancient period described in the book of Judges.

One of the minor judges we meet is a judge who has only two verses connected to his legacy (Judges 3:31, 5:6). Yet his story is both interesting and highly implicational for us. His name is Shamgar. From only 42 words we learn that God used an unlikely man to impact an entire nation. Verse 3:31 says that Shamgar **"killed six hundred men of the Philistines with an ox goad and he too saved Israel."** Judges 5:6 tells us that he lived in difficult times not unlike the difficulties we face today. Crime and fear gripped the villages and the clogged the routes people traveled.

Shamgar was not a likely candidate for leadership because he did not come from a believing household. His is not a Hebrew name but a Philistine pagan one likely meaning "stranger or drifter." His father's name is Anath, which is the name of the Canaanite goddess of war, (Baal's sister), or that he was from the Canaanite town of Beth-Anath, suggests that Shamgar was the product of a racially/religiously-mixed home. Judges 3:6 reveals that in striking disobedience to God, the Israelites intermarried with the surrounding pagan nations. As a half-Jew, half-pagan man, Shamgar didn't seem to have the *family background to prepare him for the task God called him to do*. But remember, there is no partiality with God. He will use anyone who completely trusts Him.

Shamgar was an unlikely candidate for leadership because he was poor. He struck down six hundred Philistines with an ox goad. No fancy spear or sword. No powerful chariot or blazing fast horse. He was just a poor farm boy with an ox goad. God turned Shamgar's poverty and lack of sophistication into a powerful victory. So armed with a steadfast faith in God and courageous obedience to God's will, Shamgar rescued Israel from its enemies and turned a nation back to God. Let me

suggest three very practical lessons for success that we can take from Shamgar's life:

First, start where you are. Shamgar didn't wait until every condition was perfect to take action. He didn't wish he was someone else with more talent or resources, nor did he make up an excuse about why he didn't need to step up to lead. Shamgar didn't use his mixed family background as reason to bow out of responsibility. Shamgar just started with reality and knew God could take him forward.

Second, use what you have. Shamgar's solution was creative and innovative because he used what was already in his hand...an ox goad. What a weird weapon! Recall how God used the staff in Moses' hand? But first God asked Moses to throw it down. Letting go of what we have and surrendering it to the service of the Lord is a step toward solving most problems we face. Shamgar understood that he would never have a chariot, or a forged steel sword or a well-balanced spear. What he had was a farm implement that had a sharp point on one end and a small blade for breaking up clods on the other end. Using what he had Shamgar won the victory. God never calls us to use what we don't have; He calls to use what little we do have to win the victory.

Third, do what you can. Shamgar didn't destroy a huge army of the Philistines; nevertheless, he was very effective for the Lord. One of the ways we get ourselves into a defeatist mindset is to compare our output for the Lord to someone else. God does not intend for everyone to have the same scope of ministry. Some are called to cover smaller details others visualize the big picture. Size is not the measure of success; obedience to do what God call us to do is the truest measure of success.

Shamgar committed all that he had and all that he was to the one true God. God used an ordinary man, an awkward tool, and limited abilities to impact an entire nation. When something is completely given into God's hand for His use He will cause it to go further than it is supposed to go and do things it is not supposed to do. So remember Shamgar's three rules of success: First, start where you are. Second, use what you have. Third, do what you can. Then leave the rest up to God.

GARAGE SALE



August 11-13, 2022

Thursday and Friday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Saturday 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

It's not far off! We've heard from a number of you that you've been cleaning and sorting through items for the garage sale! **Pricing dots** are now available in the Commons. Pricing your items really gives us a leg-up when it's time to set up the sale. As you know, doing a garage sale is a lot of work which is why most of us don't have one of our own!! It's much more fun coming together and helping at our Holy Cross Garage Sale! So yes, we are asking for your help for a few hours or many. Items may be brought and placed in the Preschool room. Please **put your name on your bags/boxes of stuff**. As in the past, **no clothes**. If something should turn on, move, shake, make sounds or play music, it needs to work! Nothing broken or dirty. Remember, if you wouldn't buy something because of it's condition, don't bring it for our sale!!! Last year we offered grilled food and snacks for the first time which was a huge hit. If anyone would like to help with that this year let us know. All proceeds will help fund our Mission projects. For any questions or clarifications, talk to Buffy Mobroten or Pam Hunter.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

THE HARD SAYINGS OF JESUS

Join us for Bible Study series in the back of the sanctuary after worship. We have begun a series on the Hard Sayings of Jesus, if you have any you are struggling with, come join the bible Study! Feel free to get a cup of coffee first and snack before we start at 10:15 am.

COMMUNITY PICNIC



Calling all members to help with our Community Picnic! We all want our church to grow! Please support our efforts to engage with our neighbors to make this a fun event for all. We will have food, games, prizes, and a petting zoo. Thrivent grants will cover the cost of the games, prizes, food, and beverages. The picnic is July 17th from 12:00-3:00pm. We need your help with set up, serving, supervising the games, and providing some desserts. We will have a table set up to register for Sunday School and another to investigate interest in a preschool in 2023. This is a great opportunity to reach out to our community, and it will take all of us to make this a successful event. Please mark July 17th on your calendars and take a moment to sign up where you can help out. Please contact Buffy Mobroten 612-701-6595 or Shari Schulze 612-387-6469 with questions.

JULY 10 - PROPER 10

Luke 10:25b – “Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?” There is nothing right about this question. What shall I *do* to *inherit*? What can you do to inherit the throne of England? You can't do anything to gain it. An inheritance comes by family ties, not deeds. Our deeds follow and result from our family ties. The Father calls us His own children. So we inherit eternal life by grace, and seek to live out our new calling as the Father's children with our good works.

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You may not be aware, but on our website www.holycross-pl.org there is an email sign up on the home page. It's on the very bottom of the page, where it says "**Subscribe to Blog via Email**". If you enter your email address you will receive updates on church news and events and newsletters. So please sign up if you haven't already, so you don't miss out on anything!

MAIN STREET LIVING NORTH



Main Street Living is an hour-long Lutheran television program that airs new episodes each Sunday morning. The Twin Cities program is broadcast at 9 am Central time on WFTC channel 29/9-2. Each Sunday, viewers enjoy a 30 minute remastered episode of "This is the Life," a popular Lutheran Hour Ministries series from the 70s and 80s. The episode is followed by a modified Lutheran worship service—led by a different local pastor each week. Main Street Living (Twin Cities) is endorsed by the Minnesota South District of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod; however, the program receives no funding from the District. It is totally funded by viewers and congregations of the WFTC viewing area.

www.mainstreetliving.com/twincities

TIME OF GRACE



Straight talk about God's Word and real hope for this life. A strong gospel message delivered in an informal Bible study style.

Subscribe to **Time of Grace** (www.timeofgrace.org) resources to be delivered to your email inbox daily. You will receive daily devotion emails with "Grace Moments" written devotions and "Grace Talks" video devotions.

Pastor Mike Novotny
The Core, Appleton, WI
KARE (NBC 11) 10:30 am
www.timeofgrace.org

FLAMINGO FUNDRAISING

Help support the Holy Cross youth while having a little pink flamingo fun! Call or text 612-964-2178 for flock removal. Make a donation to remove and/or to send a flock of pink flamingos to your friends', family, or neighbors' front yard. The recipient is not required to make a donation. For questions, call or text Kelly Kruse at the number above.



PRAYER TIME

We will meet in the sanctuary on **Thursday evenings at 7 pm** from June through August for informal prayer time. We will be praying for our new Pastor, current needs at Holy Cross, and many more things. Please join us for one or all of these evenings. There will be prayer list available to pray for, or bring your own lists.



STATEMENT ON SCOTUS DECISION

Dear Brothers,

Greetings to you in the name of Jesus, in whom there is life and light in our world of darkness and death.

As everyone in our sharply divided country knows, on Friday the Supreme Court of the United States struck down *Roe v. Wade*, which since January 22, 1973 had endorsed the taking of unborn life as a constitutional right. The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod has consistently and vigorously voiced its opposition to the Court's infamous decision and we have continuously engaged in public and private efforts in support of pregnant women and their babies.

We urge you, brothers, by the mercies of God, that you use this opportunity to provide your parishioners with a public and private example of Christian clarity and compassion on this matter which strikes at the very heart of what it means to be man and woman made in the image and likeness of God. This is especially true with the flood of social media arguments which show not only a divided people, but many seared consciences who need the peace our Lord provides.

This is not a time for arrogant triumphalism. Keep in mind there are undoubtedly people in your flock and many in your community who have themselves had abortions or encouraged them. You can be a voice of calm reason and empathy in the highly charged domestic debates and disturbances which are sure to follow in the wake of this decision. As MN Governor Walz stated on Friday: "This ruling changes nothing in Minnesota... We will not turn back the clock on reproductive rights." Therefore, we must maintain advocacy and care for all life in our Minnesota communities. All life young or old, male or female, is precious. Each is a soul for whom our Lord Jesus Christ bled and died.

Above all, tend to your calling as a servant of Christ and steward of God's mysteries. Preach the Law of God uncompromisingly, of course, but preach the Gospel as well, without equivocation or apology. The blood of Jesus Christ, God's Son, cleanses from all sin – even the

sin of abortion. There is mercy, forgiveness, and restoration for every penitent soul.

Finally, lead your people in prayers for our governor, the President, Congress, and all judges and magistrates, that they may provide for the common good and ensure domestic tranquility, so the gospel may continue to be preached to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people and they may serve Him in quiet peace.

Prayer

Lord God of Hosts, You establish government to reward good and punish evil. We praise You for the defeat of rulings and precedents that harm the innocent. Continue to move lawmakers and leaders, judges, and justices, to pursue what is good and right for the people under their care. Grant safety to them and their families, and give them the courage to meet violence and discord with appropriate justice.

Heavenly Father, raise up the people of Your Church to commit ourselves anew to Your gift of life. Help us to love our neighbor in word and in deed. Bless and defend the unborn, the elderly, and those who have disabilities of any kind. Prosper the work of people who serve them, that all people may know their lives are a gift from You through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

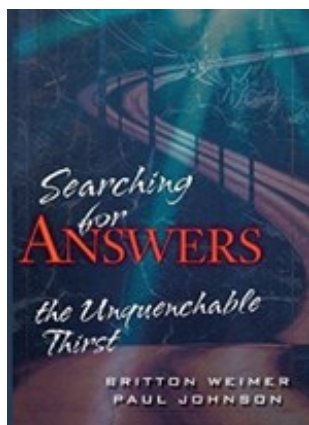
I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. [2 Timothy 2:1-4]

Your brothers in Christ,

**Rev. Brady Finnern,
President
Minnesota North District**

**Rev. Dr. Lucas V. Woodford,
President
Minnesota South District**

BIBLE BOOK ENDERS



Bible Book Enders will be meeting on Tuesday night July 26 to discuss **Searching for Answers - The Unquenchable Thirst** written by our own Brit Weimer and Paul Johnson. Join us for a potluck dinner at 6:00 pm with a book discussion to follow with Brit at 7:00 pm. Bring your friends, everyone is welcome and invited, even if you have not had a chance to read the book. After our discussion you will WANT to read it! Questions contact Michele Lein or Bonnie Nowak.

COFFEE TIME



There's nothing like coffee and a treat after worship; it's the Lutheran way!!! A signup is posted in the Commons, so please sign up to help out! Never provided goodies or made coffee? Talk to Pam with any questions. We ALL enjoy the refreshments, please be a part of putting a smile on everyone's faces!!!

MOWING VOLUNTEERS



We are in need of volunteers willing to mow at the church this summer. Please call or text Dave at 952-913-0006 or Denny at 952-454-7097 if you are interested in helping, and we can get your name on the list.

HELLO, MY NAME IS...

Please wear your name tag at church. This will help Rev. Gade get to know you during his time as vacancy pastor.



PRAYER REQUESTS

If you have a prayer request on Sundays, please fill out the form in the pew and put it in the offering plate. Pastor will include them in Prayer of the Church during the service. You can also email weekly prayer requests, and any prayers that should go out to the whole congregation, to the office at megan@holycross-pl.org.



CALLING ALL WOMEN CHALLENGE



Join us this summer for a study on the book of Lamentations. All are welcome, invite your family, friends and neighbors. We will have a great time discussing this unique book in the Old Testament. Read the book of Jeremiah and commentary on Jeremiah in preparation. May God prepare your hearts and minds for the AMAZING study of HIS WORD. **The remaining dates for Bible Study are July 6, 20, 27 from 7:00-8:30 pm.** Contact Michele Lein with any questions.

VOTER'S MEETING

The next Voter's Meeting is Sunday, July 31st at 10:15 am after the Sunday service.



THE LUTHERAN HOUR



The Lutheran Hour can be heard each Sunday on WCCO (830 AM) at 6:05 am. And it can be streamed online too, www.lhm.org. Check-out LHM's daily devotions too.

JUNE 5

"A Place in the Choir"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

God's world is like a big, beautiful choir in which everyone has a place and a part to sing. (Colossians 1:15-20)

JUNE 12

"God Comes with a Community"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

Dr. Michael Zeigler says, "God wasn't and isn't a hermit. From eternity, God is the God of community and conversation." (Acts 2:38-39)

JUNE 19

"What's on Your Playlist?"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

The Book of Ecclesiastes offers perspective on life's alternating seasons of joy and sadness, gain and loss, war and peace. (Ecclesiastes 3:11)

JUNE 26

"Nurse Logs"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

(Ecclesiastes 3:12)

2 MINUTE MULTIPLIER



A weekday 2-minute devotion that helps you see Jesus at work in your world.

Famine

This past weekend majored in food and drink. Shared with family and extended family. Brats. Hamburgers. Steaks. Cheeses and olives and prosciutto. Washed down with Topo Chicos. St. Arnold's Summer Pils and Karbach's Crawford Bock. Grocery store shelves might be lacking. Not my pantry. Not my frig. We had plenty. With plenty leftover. Unlike many in my county. Country. World.

The same goes double when the food moves from physical to spiritual. The Old Testament prophet Amos speaks of people experiencing a famine of God's Word. He could tell because God's people no longer acted like God's people. They took advantage of the underserved. Those less fortunate than them. Those who lived in a smaller house and had no clue what prosciutto is. They were seeking their own direction. Took their own counsel. Lived as they pleased.

Forgetting how God's Word doesn't just create curbs. Doesn't just map out the course. Doesn't simply explain how life works. (Although it does all of those. And more.) God's Word is life. It gives life. It fills life with our Father's infinite love. His infinite grace. Not just for us but for all people. God's Word is the Door into a life of peace and contentment because it offers us the Door Jesus. Chances are if you're running low on peace, on contentment, on generosity, on caring... you're running low on God's Word. You're in a famine of your own choosing. Stop going hungry. Ton's of food in God's pantry.

Rev. Bill Woolsey,

President and Founder, FiveTwo Network

Sign up to receive the 2 Minute Multiplier emailed to you! www.fivetwo.com/2mm

JULY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

July 3	4 th Sunday after Pentecost	"Rejoice in This"	Luke 10:1-20
July 10	5 th Sunday after Pentecost	"Standing Strong in Jesus"	Colossians 1:1-14
July 17	6 th Sunday after Pentecost	"Stop in the Name of Love"	Colossians 1:15-23
July 24	7 th Sunday after Pentecost	"Who Is Christ For You?"	Colossians 2 6-15
July 31	8 th Sunday after Pentecost	"Our Inheritance in Christ"	Colossians 3:1-11

NEW TESTAMENT STANDARD GIVING

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod Newsletter Article – July 2022

Whenever the topic of stewardship and giving comes up, the conversation inevitably turns to the question: “How much should I give?” Answers will vary because the motive behind such questions vary also.

Sometimes the motive behind asking this question is for self-justification. Even though as Lutherans, we know that we are not saved by our works but by grace through faith because of Jesus’ substitutionary atonement. Yet the natural religion of fallen man is to earn God’s favor by what we do.

Take for example the response of our Lord to the rich young ruler who asked, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?” Jesus first tells him to keep the commandments. The rich young ruler responds by indicating that all this he has kept from his youth. But Jesus tells him that he lacks one thing: He must sell all that he has and give it to the poor and then follow him. This rich, young ruler went away sad because he was quite wealthy and could not part with his possessions.

Here we see that those who seek to justify themselves by their giving will hear a response that intensifies the duty that God places upon them. Indeed, they will hear a response that makes it impossible to win God’s favor by their works.

But to those who genuinely desire to know what their duty is, as Christians, in the arena of giving, we look to the Bible for our answer. We believe that the Bible is the Word of God. And we know that the Word of God has been “breathed out by God and profitable 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 Tim. 3:16–17).

So, we begin to answer the question, “What should I give?” with the question, “What does the Bible say about how much we should give and to whom?”

The Old Testament is explicit. The expectation is that the people of God would give a tithe, that is 10 percent, of the first fruits of their labor to support the full-time ministry of the Levites. This is what the Lord gave Moses to teach the people:

“You shall tithe all the yield of your seed that comes from the field year by year. And before the Lord your God, in the place that he will choose, to make his name dwell there, you shall eat the tithe of your grain, of your wine, and of your oil, and the firstborn of your herd and flock, that you may

learn to fear the Lord your God always. And if the way is too long for you, so that you are not able to carry the tithe, when the Lord your God blesses you, because the place is too far from you, which the Lord your God chooses, to set his name there, then you shall turn it into money and bind up the money in your hand and go to the place that the Lord your God chooses and spend the money for whatever you desire—oxen or sheep or wine or strong drink, whatever your appetite craves. And you shall eat there before the Lord your God and rejoice, you and your household. And you shall not neglect the Levite who is within your towns, for he has no portion or inheritance with you.

“At the end of every three years you shall bring out all the tithe of your produce in the same year and lay it up within your towns. And the Levite, because he has no portion or inheritance with you, and the sojourner, the fatherless, and the widow, who are within your towns, shall come and eat and be filled, that the Lord your God may bless you in all the work of your hands that you do.” (Deuteronomy 14:22–29)

This principle of tithing is carried over into the New Testament, though not explicitly by calling it a tithe. St. Paul teaches the Church at Corinth this: We are to give to the church regularly (1 Cor. 16:1–2), proportionally (1 Cor. 16:1–2; 2 Cor. 8:12), and generously (2 Cor. 8:20) of our first fruits (1 Cor. 16:1–2; Gen. 4:4; Prov. 3:9; Lev. 27:30) with a spirit of eagerness (2 Cor. 9:2), earnestness (2 Cor. 8:7), cheerfulness (2 Cor. 9:7), and love (2 Cor. 8:23). And all of this is because the “Lord has ordained that those who preach the Gospel should make their living by the Gospel” (1 Cor. 9:14), just as the Levites did.

This our New Testament standard. Since Christ became poor for us in order to make us rich in Him – blessing us with the riches of heaven – so we also have been so blessed to follow the example of our Lord and Savior and give of ourselves and the work of our hands to bless others with the same.

If we have been lax in this, let us – like our Lord, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross and scorned its shame – likewise begin to work toward this goal of regular giving of a generous proportion of the first fruits of God’s giving to us. And let us do so not begrudgingly, but for the joy set before us—with a spirit of eagerness, cheerfulness, and love—to share the blessings of God with those placed into our care.

– LCMS Stewardship Ministry: lcms.org/stewardship

Upcoming

EVENTS

July 6

Women's Bible Study

July 9-13

National Youth Gathering in Houston, TX

July 17

Join us and bring friends to our Community Picnic

July 20

Women's Bible Study

July 24

Celebration Sunday for Pastor Jim and Vivian Jobst

July 26

Bible Book Enders

July 27

Women's Bible Study

July 31

Voter's Meeting

August 11-13

Annual Garage Sale

September 9

Mum Sale

October 15

Fall Festival

November

Samaritans Purse Shoe Boxes

December 4

CAP Agency Adopt a Senior



Mikes Hentges	July 5
Bonnie Nowak	July 5
Meg Batchelder	July 7
Shari Schulze	July 8
Daniel Vannett	July 9
Brad Lein	July 12
Norma Jabs	July 16
Tyler Drangstveit	July 17
Larry Sasse	July 18
Randy Drangstveit	July 20
Corey Einarson	July 20
Steve Cordell	July 21
Doug Schulze	July 24
Olivia DeRosier	July 25
Jonas Petrie	July 31

July 2022



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	
3 Fourth Sunday After Pentecost 9:00 am Worship/Communion 10:15 am Bible Study	4 	5 7:00 pm Elder's Meeting	6 12:00 pm Happenings Articles Due 7:00 pm Women's Bible Study	7 7:00 pm Prayer Time in the Sanctuary	8 	9
10 Fifth Sunday After Pentecost 9:00 am Worship/Communion 10:15 am Bible Study	10 7:00 pm Church Council Meeting	12 	13 12:00 pm Happenings Articles Due	14 7:00 pm Prayer Time in the Sanctuary	15 12:00 pm Newsletter Articles Due	16
17 Sixth Sunday After Pentecost 9:00 am Worship/Communion 10:15 am Bible Study 12-3 pm Community Picnic	18 	19 	20 12:00 pm Happenings Articles Due 7:00 pm Women's Bible Study	21 7:00 pm Prayer Time in the Sanctuary	22 	23
24 Seventh Sunday After Pentecost 9:00 am Worship/Communion 10:15 am Pastor Jobst Celebration	25 	26 6:00 pm Bible Book Enders	27 12:00 pm Happenings Articles Due 7:00 pm Women's Bible Study	28 7:00 pm Prayer Time in the Sanctuary	29 	30
31 Eighth Sunday After Pentecost 9:00 am Worship/Communion 10:15 am Voter's Meeting						