



**DAILY BREAD  
LECTIONARY DEVOTIONS  
PENTECOST 9—YEAR C**

**INVOCATION**

L: In the name of the Father  
and of the Son +  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**G: Amen**

**PSALM OF THE DAY: PSALM 119a**

**A: Your Word is a lamp to my feet  
and a light for my path.**

L: Blessed are they whose ways are blameless,

**G: who walk according to the law of the  
LORD.**

L: Blessed are they who keep his statutes

**G: and seek him with all their heart.**

L: You have laid down precepts

**G: that are to be fully obeyed.**

L: Oh, that my ways were steadfast

**G: in obeying your decrees!**

L: Then I would not be put to shame

**G: when I consider all your commands.**

L: I will praise you with an upright heart

**G: as I learn your righteous laws.**

**A: Your Word is a lamp to my feet  
and a light for my path.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

L: Grant us, Lord, the spirit to think and do what is right that we, who cannot do anything that is good without you, may by your help be enabled to live according to your will; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**READING & MEDITATION** *see next page*

**PRAYER**

**LORD'S PRAYER**

**A: Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom  
and the power and the glory  
forever and ever. Amen.**

**VERSE OF THE DAY**

**A: My Word will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it. (Isaiah 55:11b cf. NIV)**

**BENEDICTION**

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ  
and the love of God  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit  
be with you all.

**A: Amen**

## READING AND MEDITATION:

**Ninth Sunday after Pentecost:** The believer hears the Word of God and listens with a trusting heart. So many things in this world can distract us from that simple privilege and duty of believers! Living according to God's will means giving the Word of God central place in our lives as the one thing needful.

**As you study this week, seek to find the *connecting theme* in all the lessons by using Luther's Four Big Barber Questions to ponder and discuss each individual reading:**

1. *What is God saying to me in this lesson?*
2. *For what does this lesson lead me to give thanks?*
3. *What sins does this lesson lead me to confess?*
4. *For what does this lesson lead me to pray?*

## THE GOSPEL: LUKE 10:38-42

Twenty-first century Christians can certainly identify with Martha. So much to do and so little time! We have great excuses and fine rationalizations to explain the fact we have so little time to sit at Jesus' feet. But like Martha, our reasons fail in the face of Christ's simple statement: there is one needful thing—to hear the Word of God. On many an occasion, Martha would have surely sat at Jesus' feet. But on this day, she was distracted by the many things being used to drag her away from where it was better for her to be. The busyness of Martha is contrasted by the devotion of Mary to Jesus' words. When this one thing needful is truly treasured in the believer's life, everything else falls into place and it will not be taken from us, even into eternity.

*My takeaways:*

## FIRST LESSON: GENESIS 18:1-14

The Lord appeared to Abraham and promised him a son. While the world laughs with Sarah at the seemingly impossible promises of God, we hear the Word of the Lord and believe it. Promises of free forgiveness, eternal life after death, and the perfection of heaven seem laughable to those who busy themselves with getting ahead or serving self. Even those who are familiar with the Word of the Lord find it difficult to believe his promises when guilt haunts our hearts. But with the Word of the Lord in its rightful, central place in the life of the believer, nothing is impossible. The Lord spoke and ancient Abraham had a son.

*My takeaways:*

## SECOND LESSON: COLOSSIANS 1:21-29

Paul became a servant of the Church to present the Word of God in its fullness. This Word proclaims the mystery kept hidden for generations: God has reconciled all people through Christ's physical body and now presents us without blemish and free from accusation. Only one thing is needful: the Word of God in its fullness. This mystery, hidden from the ages, is now revealed to us, his saints. Because Christ is in us, so is the hope of eternal glory. We sit at Jesus feet to hear it again and again.

*My takeaways:*

## SUPPLEMENTAL FIRST LESSON: 1 SAMUEL 3:1-10

Eli had issues. He was a man who falsely accused pious Hannah but failed to remove his wicked sons from office. He was a man who served in the Lord's house, but received a prophecy of judgment against him from God. Yes, Eli had issues. However, he knew one thing and passed it on to young Samuel: When God speaks, we listen. With Samuel, we humbly answer the Lord's call, "Speak, LORD. Your servant is listening."

*My takeaways:*

## SUPPLEMENTAL SECOND LESSON: COLOSSIANS 3:12-17

Though we have been called to be God's chosen people, we often fail to act like it. Such fruits of the Spirit as compassion, gentleness, and patience are replaced by irritation, intolerance, and impenitence. But as the Word of Christ dwells in us, so the peace of Christ rules in our hearts. Gathered around the Word of the Lord, we hear of his gracious forgiveness. We rejoice in thanksgiving. We put aside the urges of the sinful nature. We forgive as we have been forgiven. We love as we have been loved. Such is the impact the Word of the Lord has in the believer's life. Indeed, when the Word has central place as the one thing needful, everything we do is to the glory of God.

*My takeaways:*

***What major theme(s) connect(s) all the lessons?***