

SEEK THE LORD

Isaiah 55:6 “Seek the Lord while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near”

Seek is the English translation of two Hebrew words. The first word has in mind a more general looking for something or someone. The second means to examine or inquire. Isaiah 55:6 exhorts you to “seek the Lord.” The Old Testament people sought out the Lord through calling on His name (prayer), consulting Him through Urim and Thummim which was administered by the High Priest in the Temple and the study of His Word. In all three cases a visit to the temple was usually involved.

The words of Isaiah 55:6 apply to you also. You cannot seek out the Lord through Urim and Thummim, but you can seek Him out through prayer, reading, studying and hearing His word. God has chosen to be found by you through His word, worship, through reception of the sacraments (Baptism and the Lord’s Supper.) Theologians call these the “means of grace.” They are the means by which God reveals Himself. Through them He comes to you and invites you to come to Him.

Isaiah says, “Seek the Lord while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near.” St. Paul wrote to the church at Corinth, “Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation.” (2 Corinthians 6:2) Note the urgency in both of these passages and the inference there will come a day when this will not be true. These are words of exhortation to you to come to Him in prayer as He is ready 24/7 to hear what you have to say and then to answer you. These words of exhortation urge you to be in worship, regular at the Communion Altar, and reading and studying the Holy Scriptures as they are urgently needed by you today.

Your spiritual and eternal life is not a back-burner issue. In the last day I’ve personally learned of the death of a 61-year-old active, healthy pastor and one retired but still very active in ministry (covid.) Your faith, your soul, your eternity is of highest importance. God is present, near and ready to hear your prayers. His Spirit is present, near and ready to strengthen your faith in Jesus through whom alone you receive forgiveness, life and salvation. “Seek the Lord while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near” (Isaiah 55:6)

Prayer: Draw me to You, O Lord, to hear Your word and offer my prayers. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Today Your mercy calls us To wash away our sins.
However great our trespass, Whatever we have been,
However long for mercy Our hearts have turned away,
Your precious blood can wash us And make us clean today.

Today Your gate is open, And all who enter in
Shall find a Father's welcome And pardon for their sin.
The past shall be forgotten, A present joy be giv'n,
A future grace be promised, A glorious crown in heav'n.

Today our Father calls us; His Holy Spirit waits;
His blessed angels gather Around the heav'nly gates.
No question will be asked us How often we have come;
Although we oft have wandered, It is our Father's home.

O all-embracing Mercy, O ever-open Door,
What should we do without You When heart and eye run o'er?
When all things seem against us, To drive us to despair,
We know one gate is open, One ear will hear our prayer.
(LSB 915)