

redeemer



a newsletter for and about the people of
lutheran church of our redeemer

record

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pastor's message

PEACE: After being an ordained pastor for many years and preaching a multitude of sermons, I came to the conclusion that the best way to get a message across to people is through simple story telling. That, after all, is the way Jesus preached. Therefore, I would like to share with you a little story entitled, "**A Clear Conscience.**"

"A young man enjoyed a good position with a bank. Everyone liked him. He was a favorite with the bank officers and he was popular with all the members of the board of directors, undoubtedly promotion and brilliant future were in store for him. Then from a source outside the bank where he worked came a proposition that appeared very attractive. In his new work he would get considerably more money and he was strongly attracted to the possibility. However, the proposition involved some questionable sideline, which caused him great concern.

"One morning at the breakfast table he informed his mother about the whole situation and asked her what he should do? His fine old Christian mother sat at the table for a long time, with her head bowed in silent prayer: and then with her eyes sparkling with resolution and with a smile of confidence upon her face she responded, 'My son when I come to awaken you in the morning I shake you hard and you don't stir. I shake you harder and you moan a little, then I shake you harder still and you open one eye. And then I shake you really hard and you awaken. My boy I would not like to come some morning to awaken you and find you already wide awake with a worry on your brow!'

"The answer. The son found no difficulty deciding his question. My conclusion is you cannot set a price on peace of mind."

The concept of peace is central to the Christian experience. In fact, the liturgy of our worship service, from beginning to end, is full of allusions to peace. We begin with the ancient Kyrie which is a prayer for the peace from above and the peace of the whole world. We end with the benediction's concluding words: "**The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.**"

In the Gospel of John, after the Resurrection, it says that Jesus appeared to the disciples and the first thing He says to them is " '**Peace be with you.**' **After He said this, He showed them His hands and His sides. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'** "

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