

He who has ears to hear, let him hear!



The Children's Word is a weekly bulletin for Orthodox Christian young people. Copyright 2019 Alexandra Houck.
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The Children's Word

"Let the little children come to me, and do not forbid them, for to such is the Kingdom of Heaven." Mark 10:14

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All about me!

Have you ever talked to somebody who only talks about himself? Maybe he talked about what he wanted to do, what he wanted to eat, what he wanted to play, what he thought was interesting. It's no fun talking to somebody who thinks only about himself!



In today's Gospel reading, we hear a story about a man who also thought only about himself. But this time, our Lord shows us that when we think about ourselves all the time, we can't be close to God and our neighbor.

The man in the Gospel story today had lots of crops and he brought in a lot of grain one year. He thought about what he should do with it, but sadly, he only thought about himself! He didn't think of a way he could help others. He only thought about what he could do with the grain so he could enjoy it himself. He decided that he would knock down his little barns and build bigger ones. Then he decided that he would "eat, drink, and be merry."

Our Lord reminds us that we can't just think about ourselves all the time if we want to be close to Him. When we have extra of something, let's think of people who need it. When God gives us something, let's share it with others! God wants us to show love for others, not just ourselves!

WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

BARN
EMPRESS
GENEROUS
ICONOGRAPHER
ICONS
LAZARUS
LOVE
NEIGHBOR
SAINT

V M I W S O A A N L T R I R F
Z Y C K O G H E S S E D A N T
E Y F M R L M T E H N Z P H O
Y O C F Z P X Z P C B O N V R
C N W E R U K A P N G U C N S
E K V E F V R R Z O X J I I N
W O S J G G F R K G J Y O C R
L S V M O E I X K H U F U L A
J X V N F L N T M C S Q W A B
V C O Y X F P E Q H T Z Q Z F
M C O Y K U K J R J T N I A S
I R V E X F V K X O I C Y R L
P E I T O U J D C N U L K U F
S P B Y N I O O L H T S C S W
N E I G H B O R J S W Z D R P

SAINT LAZARUS THE ICONOGRAPHER PAINTING THE LORD



Have you ever drawn a picture of yourself or of somebody you know? Some people have a real talent for drawing.

Today we celebrate the nameday of a saint who had a special talent for drawing...not pictures of landscapes or animals or portraits, but for holy pictures. Saint Lazarus had a gift for painting holy icons.

Unfortunately, Saint Lazarus lived during a time when having icons was not allowed. The emperor destroyed many icons and he even punished people who painted them. Saint Lazarus was arrested and put in jail. The emperor told him he would be killed if he didn't destroy the holy icons he had painted. But Saint Lazarus wouldn't give in.

Saint Lazarus was allowed to leave prison, and he kept painting these holy icons. He was hurt and punished, but he never gave up. He knew that Jesus Christ and the saints were real. He knew that people could draw and paint them. He knew that icons help people think about Christ and His saints and pray to them!

Later, Empress Saint Theodora brought icons back. Saint Lazarus wanted to thank her for this, so he painted her a special icon of Saint John the Baptist. He also repainted an icon of Christ in her palace. (It had been destroyed.) We thank Saint Lazarus for his courage!

We celebrate Saint Lazarus today, Nov. 17th (Nov. 30th OC).

What's in an icon?

Saint Lazarus the Iconographer painted icons because he knew the Christian Church had always painted pictures of Christ!

This icon is of the other Lazarus! Christ is raising him from the dead. This icon was made 500 or 600 years before!

