

“Love your neighbor as yourself.”

THE GOOD SAMARITAN:



The Children's Word is a weekly bulletin for Orthodox Christian young people. Copyright 2020 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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God is rich in mercy!

Have you ever wondered what you'd do if you won a million dollars...or more? Would you keep most of it for yourself? Would you buy yourself lots of things you've always wanted? Or maybe, would you share some of it with others?



In today's epistle reading, Saint Paul tells us how rich God is. God is rich in mercy and love! Saint Paul tells us that God is so rich in mercy and love, but He shares this love for us. Even though we have done all kinds of things that are wrong, God shares His love, and He “made us alive together with Christ, and raised us up with Him, and made us sit with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus.”

God is rich in love and mercy, but He didn't just keep it to Himself! He shared it with us so that one day, “He might show the immeasurable riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.” God is so rich with love, that there's no way to measure it. He will show us this love when we are with our Lord one day!

Did you know? We *need* God to share His mercy with us, because we can't save ourselves. We can do all kinds of nice things for people and all kinds of holy things at church. But we can't win a place in heaven. Only God can do that for us. He gives this place in heaven to us as a gift. Let's thank God that He shared His love and mercy with us!

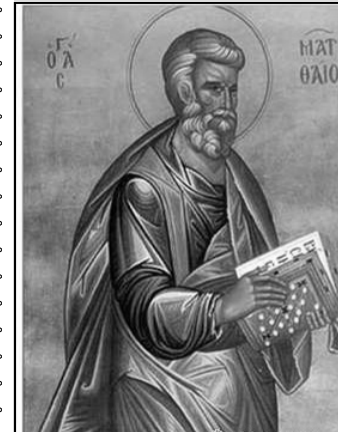
WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

- APOSTLE
- EVANGELIST
- GOSPEL
- GRACE
- LOVE
- MATTHEW
- MERCY
- NATIVITY FAST
- RICH
- SHARE
- TAX COLLECTOR

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

BEFORE THEY WERE FAMOUS... SAINT MATTHEW THE EVANGELIST



Sometimes, in magazines, you might see pictures of movie stars or models or athletes...**BEFORE** they were famous. Sometimes they look kind of funny, with hair from the 70s or with clothes you'd never wear today! But now they're famous, so it doesn't even matter!

Did you ever wonder what saints were like... before they were famous? Or before they were saints? Tomorrow we celebrate Saint Matthew. Saint Matthew was one of the special helpers of our Lord Jesus Christ. He spent lots of his life telling people about God. He even wrote one of the books of the Bible.

But in the Gospel we read on his feastday, we hear about what he was like *before* he was Jesus's helper, *before* he followed Christ. We hear in the Gospel that Saint Matthew was a tax collector. In those days, tax collectors were big sinners because they would keep some of the taxes for themselves! People did not like these men. But our Lord trusted Matthew to become His special helper, His disciple.

So, we read what Saint Matthew was like *before* he was famous, and before God called him to be His helper. God calls all of us to be His helpers and His followers! When we know the beautiful example of Saint Matthew, we can know God loves and trusts us to turn to Him too!

We celebrate St. Matthew tomorrow, Nov. 16th (OC: Nov 29).

WHAT'S IN AN ICON?

Here's another icon of Saint Matthew, the Apostle and Evangelist.

What's he doing in this icon?

He's writing the Evangelion, the Good News, the Gospel! He's telling people about what Jesus has done for all of us!

