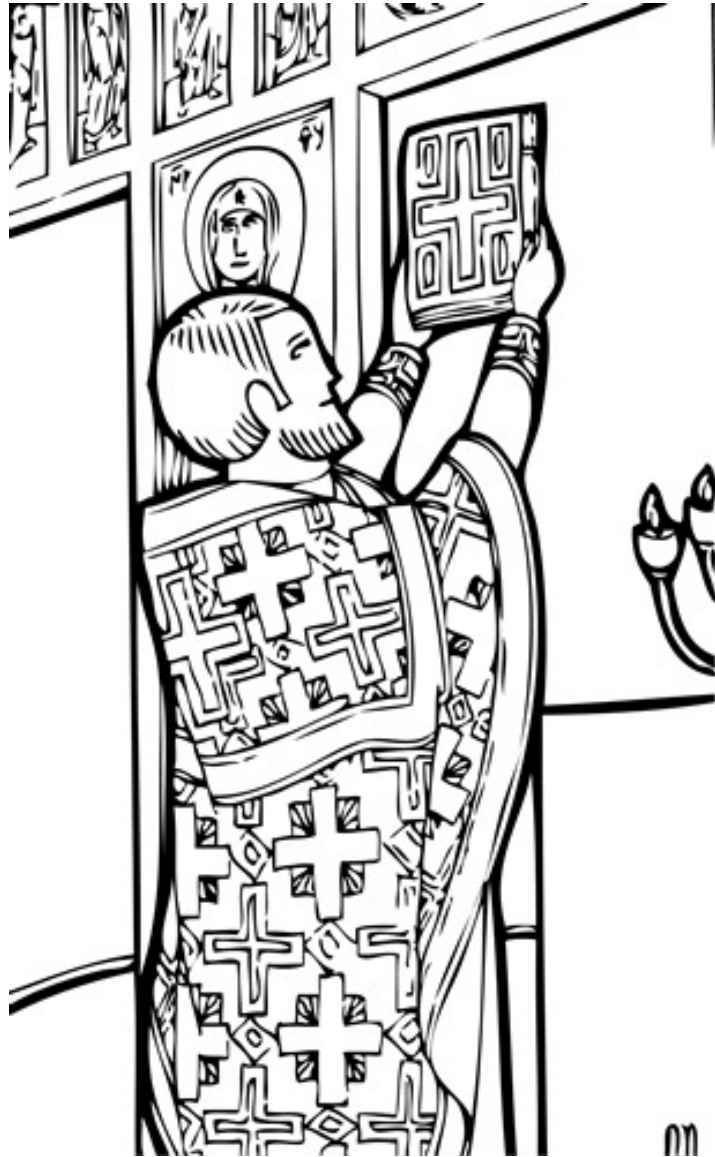


Wisdom!



The Children's Word is a weekly bulletin for Orthodox Christian young people. Copyright 2023 Alexandra Houck.
Email is orthodoxchildrensword (at) gmail.com. Find it each week at myocn.net.

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

Sunday, October 8, 2023

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A Ministry of the
Orthodox Christian Network



A cheerful giver

Have you ever given something to somebody... but you didn't really want to? Maybe your parents made you share something that you wanted to keep to yourself, or you gave away something that you would have rather had instead. It doesn't feel like giving when we don't *want* to give, does it?



In today's epistle reading, Saint Paul tells some of the early Christians that they should give to others because they want to (not because somebody made them do it!). He says, "For God loves a cheerful giver." That's right! God wants us to be cheerful and happy about giving to others, and about helping others too. Our Lord never forces us to give to others or to help others.

Did you know that when God asks us to do something, He shows us the way first? God was the most cheerful giver of all! He gives us help with things every day. But even more, He gave His whole life for us. He gives us a place in heaven with Him. God gives...and He is a cheerful giver! In another part of the Bible, we read, "It is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." God is a cheerful giver!

If our Lord can give so much and be happy about it, do you think we can give to others too, and be happy and cheerful about it too? Let's try!

WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

- Apostle
- Cheerful
- Compassion
- Corinthians
- Deacon
- Epistle
- Generous
- Giver
- Philip
- Servant

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

WHAT'S IN THE ICON?

This icon tells the story of Saint Philip and the Ethiopian servant.

Can you find Saint Philip? Can you find the Ethiopian servant?

Now, can you find the angel who brought Saint Philip there to preach the Good News?



SAINT PHILIP

THE DEACON AND APOSTLE

Do you have a deacon at your church? Do you watch him lead the church in prayer? Does he offer you Holy Communion? Sometimes deacons visit sick people in hospitals and help with other things around the church.

Did you know that the Bible tells us how the Christian Church first started having deacons? We can read about how the Church chose seven men to help the apostles care for the poor. One of these first deacons was Saint Philip, and we celebrate his nameday this week!

Saint Philip served as a deacon in Jerusalem, but then he left to go preach the Good News of Jesus Christ. He preached in Samaria, and a famous magician (who believed in false gods) wanted to be baptized after he heard Philip.

Later on, he preached the Good News to a servant of the queen of Ethiopia. The Bible tells us how the man was traveling in a chariot, and he was reading part of the Bible. He didn't understand part of it, and Saint Philip ran up and helped him understand about our Lord, Jesus Christ. Then, that man was baptized too!

Saint Philip worked hard to spread the Gospel, and we can thank God for him this week!

We celebrate Saint Philip on Wednesday, October 11th (OC: October 24th).

