

## Search the Scriptures...

*They Testify of ME*

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**Bible Text:** John 5:39

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As has been customary the last couple of times I've been up here, we will read the text first and then ask the Lord's blessing on it. If you would turn with me to John 5, verse 39, a very familiar text. May the Lord speak it to our souls this morning. The words of Christ,

"Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me."

*Dear heavenly Father, most gracious and holy Lord, I pray, O Lord, this morning that thou would undertake for me and thou would be pleased to bring forth the life in this passage for thy people and the death for those outside of thee. O Lord, I pray this morning that you would search our hearts and, Father, you would reveal thy work, the work of thy Son in our souls, Lord. Lord, may you bless this time in the hour to come with the fullness of thy Spirit. May you instruct us in thy word and may, Lord, it become alive. May you teach our souls this day and for every day the rest of our lives that this precious word testifies of thy Son. O Lord, may you open that up today to the glory of thy name and for thy name's sake. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.*

Any time that we are brought to the word of God, we must entertain the Gospel truth that the word of God is life to some, the savor of life to some and it's the savor of death to others. When the Lord Jesus Christ is pictured for us in Revelation, he comes with a sword, a sword coming from his mouth. That sword cuts on both sides. As I said, to the one it's death, it's a slaying; to the other, it's a pruning, it's a searching. It's a breaking off and lopping off that which is dead and a bringing forth of that which is life. When we come to a passage or a verse like this this morning and we're going to talk about first of all, how it is used, but most importantly, how it is experiential for the child of God. How is it that the child of God experiences these words because we are told as the Lord revealed it to Paul, that all Scripture is for reproof, it's for doctrine, it's for correction and it's for the instruction in the righteousness of Christ.

It seems like this is a very simple verse, "Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me." We're going to test that today. I hope the Holy Spirit tests that today in your soul. But if you will with me now, we're going to turn back a little bit. We're not turning back, we're just going to go up a little bit,

at least it is in my Bible and we're going to begin in verse 36, for that will tell us where this passage is seated and the meaning and why the Lord said what he did. John 5 is interesting because this is when the Lord first healed on the Sabbath and they got very angry. They, not the atheists or not the Satan worshipers, but the religious world got very angry because the Lord did it on the Sabbath day and if he did it on the Sabbath day, that means that he could not be from God. And the Lord then proceeded in this chapter to speak to them about his oneness with the Father and about how he was sent from the Father and how the Father sent him to do his will. And Jesus had just gotten done in this portion of the Scripture of speaking to them about John the Baptist. And in verse 35, he says referring to John, he said, "He was a burning and a shining light: and ye were willing for a season to rejoice in his light." That first verse right there should kind of get us ready for what we're about to partake in. It seems like the religious world or the world will follow to a certain extent, for a certain time, certain things and then when they are offended, they don't follow Christ anymore.

But once again, as I started this message I told you and I truly believe that these Scriptures testify of Christ and if they testify of Christ, the children of God that are in Christ have to be brought to see how they testify of Christ in your own soul. How is it when we hear these things, it is easy for us to look outside and go, "Oh, those people, they just don't accept Christ. Christ is not their life." They wouldn't accept John because John spoke of Christ and they rejected John but now the Lord, may the Lord bring this home to our souls today as he puts it into our daily life, our daily life of unbelief, our daily life of hardness, our daily life of how we don't follow him either. And that's what I say today as we go to this passage. I pray that the Holy Spirit plows the ground in here, myself included. That the Lord plows the hearts in the room to see how he works in the soul.

So we come to verse 36 and he says these very timely words to us today, "But I have a greater witness than that of John," we stop right there and we pause a little bit, especially somebody like myself who has read hundreds and hundreds of books. All these authors that I have that are on the bookshelves in my house, I've read almost all of them. I've read all the Puritans. I've read all the Reformed people. I've read all the Baptist people that I have, that I can get my hands on. And really, that's the question, when you come in the face of the word and when the Lord says to, "Search the Scriptures for in them you think you have eternal life," and then that little lightning bolt comes down and he says, "they are they which testify of me." You see, the word of God must testify of the Lord Jesus Christ. He is the word of God. This book that I'm preaching from today, the holy Bible, is not an instruction manual for man. It's not from man's perspective. It's not written of man. Now, you can argue that fact because you look and it says John, it says Luke, it says Romans, Paul wrote that, but all Scripture is inspired by the Holy Ghost. It is written by the hand of God and the Lord tells us in this passage today that these words, all of them, they testify of him.

Now what does "testify" mean? I jotted down a definition: "to declare solemnly for the purpose of establishing a fact or truth." To declare solemnly for the purpose of establishing a fact or truth. That's what the Holy Ghost does. He establishes the truth that

Christ is the word of God and that the Scriptures testify of him and when we come to this first little part here, "But I have a greater witness than that of John," John's witness was great. I read Philpot a lot. I read Thomas Bradbury. I read Irons. I read Mason. These people are the ones the Lord brings me to and it's for one reason, it's not because of who they were or what denomination they were, it's because of the Christ-centeredness. As I said, my bookshelves are filled with people but what makes me not gravitate to a bunch of them and then just settle in just a few or wherever it is the Lord leads, because they must, the words that man writes, there is a greater witness, there is a greater witness in this life for the child of God and that greater witness is the Lord Jesus Christ. That's what I mean when we come to the word and we look and we are, this verse today it is an injunction. It is as Hawcker said, it is an enabling command that the Lord gives. He draws all men unto him. He draws us to him. We're going to talk about how is it we search the Scriptures and how can we understand what they mean?

"I have a greater witness than that of John." And that's the first thing: is the word of God which is what we're seeing today, is Christ himself, is the word of God that testifies of Christ, is it the greatest witness in your soul today? Or is it the witness of man? Is it the witness of whatever men that you read or whatever men that you hear or whatever preacher you hear? What is that witness to you?

"I have a greater witness than that of John for the works," now don't miss this either, "for the works which the Father hath given me to finish." To finish. The works that the Father has given me to finish. The Scriptures testify of the Lord Jesus Christ's finished work and if it's finished, the child of God is brought to see and to understand and to sit at the feet of Christ and say that, "They are finished for me," that the finished work of Christ has been done in Christ. Everything that pertains to life for the child of God is in Christ and Christ alone, in his finished work. Do you know why? Because the Father has given him the works to finish. This is the Father's will. When we come to the Scriptures, the Scriptures as we see them here is the revealed will of God and that's where we start getting into a problem because as men and however it is what learning we have or whatever it is, we think then if it's the revealed will of God, we have the license to sit in judgment of it to find out what it means but the revealed will of God means one way and that's by the power of the Holy Ghost. You'll see that today.

"But I have greater witness than that of John: for the works which the Father hath given me to finish, the same works that I do, bear witness of me, that the Father hath sent me." Do you believe that the Father has sent the Son to finish the work that the Father gave him and that he finished every bit of it on the cross? And he finished every bit of it when he rose from the dead? And he finished every bit of it as he ascended into heaven? And if that is truly something written upon your soul and upon your heart, then you don't have any problem with the creature being laid low in the dust, the creature righteousness, the creature works, the creature abilities, if you believe that Christ has finished all things for you. As the psalmist said, "The Lord has performed all things for me." That's all things. He has left nothing for me to do.

"But I have greater witness than that of John: for the works which the Father hath given me to finish, the same works that I do, bear witness of me, that the Father hath sent me. And the Father himself, which hath sent me, hath borne witness of me." You see the oneness? Do you see the devised plan of the sovereign God? "Ye have neither heard his voice at any time, nor seen his shape." The Lord says, "I don't need man to validate who I am," and you can walk in this life and you can go searching and searching and the Lord does not need you to validate who is. He doesn't. He was sent here by the Father to do his works and he has done every one of them and he has finished the salvation for his people and not anyone or anything or any power or any principality is going to take them from his hand. That's the Gospel truth, that we are safe and secure in the Lord Jesus Christ's finished work of salvation.

But the ones that Jesus has addressed this to, "Ye have neither heard his voice at any time, nor seen his shape. And ye have not his word abiding in you: for whom he hath sent, him ye believe not." There is that unbelief. Now, for the ones outside of Christ, we can readily understand this. There is no work of the Holy Ghost in regeneration and there's no life of Christ in their soul. They cannot hear the voice. They cannot follow Christ. They cannot accept him or believe him and have no word abiding in them. But what about you and I? You and I have if we be the children of God, we have Christ dwelling in us. But guess what? We have a part in us too that Christ does not abide in and that's that old nature and that's why when we hit these verses like this, we can't throw them out. We can't stand as the proud Pharisee and point fingers at everybody and say, "Oh, you don't have Christ. You don't believe like I believe." What about your unbelief? What about my unbelief? What about these things that we go through on an everyday basis where we hear things in the media or things in the help realm or what we hear from the doctors or whatever and quickly, we don't trust him and quickly, we don't believe a Romans 8:28. We don't. And that's because that part of us does not have the word abiding in us and that's a great warfare and you will almost every time hear me speak of that warfare when I come up here because it's so prevalent and there is no way you're going to get away from it in this life. And when we come to these precious Scriptures that testify of Christ, you tell me, you tell me how it testifies to you. Does it testify to you to puff you up? To make you look at a place and say, "Oh, I'm better than that person over there. I'm better than that publican over there." No, the Scriptures, the Lord Jesus Christ in the Scriptures are humbling to the child of God. Why? Because of what we've already said: everything is finished in Christ. Everything that Christ has done, he's performed for me. What do I have to boast of? What do I have to look at this perfect Savior and say, "Oh Lord, look what I did in it. Look how I can assent to this knowledge. Look how I can choose you. Look how I can seek you." I can't. That's my carnal, fallen man that the Lord's word is not abiding in because he has finished all things but I'm over there running in a wheel like a hamster trying to make something that's not, that's finished already for me.

"And ye have not his word abiding in you: for whom he hath sent, him ye believe not." Then we come to our focal passage today. With all of that being said, then Jesus says, "Search the scriptures," and it is an indictment. He's not telling a dead man to search the Scriptures because they can't. A dead man can't live unless the power is given from on

high. He's not sitting there telling the religious world to search the Scriptures so that they can be saved. He's indicting them for their religious beliefs and their belief in whatever Scriptures that they look at every day. They don't testify of Christ in their eyes, they testify of one to come. They missed the Messiah but they didn't miss the Messiah because they were stupid, they missed the Messiah because they were blinded because he didn't die for them, because they were not elected before the foundation of the world. They were not in the plan of salvation.

"Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me." You think you have life in Moses. You think you have life in Abraham. You think you have life in Jacob. Notice, I only mention the Old Testament because that's all they had. You think you have life in them but all of those lives, they testified of me. They testified of my finished work in their souls.

Then verse 40, of course, "You will not come to me, that ye might have life." Our Bible verse this last week in school was John 12:32, "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me." All men? Every one of them? "And you will not come to me." No, all the elect will come to him. They will be brought to his feet to see his finished work. They will be brought to see that Christ is all-in-all in everything to them. They have to be because that's the plan of salvation. That's the plan of the emptiness of ourselves, the stripping away of the creature righteousness, the creature hope, the creature salvation. All of that stuff is from the pit of hell.

But now we focus on 39 and now I want to address this to the people of God as the Holy Spirit would address it to the people of God and I hope he does. I hope you understand that this verse, this searching of the Scriptures is not given to the world. It's given to the religious world here to indict them but what about the people of God? Do you experience Christ in your soul this way because this is his voice? "They must all hear my voice." And if we hear his voice, he will tell us to search his Scriptures. He will.

Jonadab said to Amnon, I know, obscure passage but he asked him this question and I thought it was a good question for today: Why art thou, being the king's son, lean from day to day? Think about that a minute. Are you the king's son and daughter? Why are we lean from day to day? All Scripture, all Scripture is given for instruction. I read that passage in 2 Samuel and I say, "You know Lord, that hits me. Why is it I have a leanness in my soul? Why is it that I have some kind of void in my soul?" And the Lord says, "Search the Scriptures." But he doesn't say, "Search the Scriptures to justify your actions during the day." He doesn't say, "Search the Scriptures to justify your future plans." He doesn't say, "Search the Scriptures to justify your carnality." He says, "They testify of me."

"Search the Scriptures." Why are we lean from day to day? You know, the word of God records for us that there were some more noble people, the Bereans. Let's go there, Acts 17. This is actually a pretty sobering passage. If you'll look at Acts 17 real quick. Remember, we're under the heading now of "searching the Scriptures." We're under this command that the Lord gives his children. You say, "Oh, commands." No, no, no, they

are enablings. This is his work. I'm not talking about what you've got to do here. I'm talking about his work. I'm talking about how the Lord brings all to him and how he brings us there, we're going to hit that familiar passage that you know I love so much. Many times I've been up here and I've used it two or three times. But right now, look at Acts 17, look at verse 10, "And the brethren immediately sent away Paul and Silas by night unto Berea: who coming thither went into the synagogue of the Jews. These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind." You say, "Well, look at that. Look how noble those people were. They received it with readiness of mind." What does that mean? Because if it's just a readiness of mind that you and I could ready ourselves, "Oh, we're going to hear the word today. Let me ready myself. Let me pretty myself up. Let me get everything out of my mind. Let me sit in this seat today. Let me get ready to hear the word of God." Is that what it means? They readied themselves, they had all readiness of mind. I can tell you something now: if it's just in your mind, you're in trouble. If that's where the word resides is in your mind, nothing is in your heart, nothing is in your soul where the Lord is.

"They received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so." Then you see all these churches popping up, "Oh, we're like the Bereans. We search the Scriptures every day. We're searching them whether these things are so or not because we have the readiness of mind to do so." Do you want to hear something sobering? Read the next verse, "Therefore many of them believed." What, not all of them? I thought they readied their mind for the word? I thought that they were more noble than everybody else? They got all ready to hear the word and they got ready and they sat there and they searched the Scriptures? You see, this just takes man right out of it again, at least to me, it does to me. It shows me a dependency that I have on my Lord, that I can do all these things, I can ready myself, I can search the Scriptures daily and then I could be one of the ones that doesn't believe because only many of them believed.

"Therefore many of them believed; also of honourable women which were Greeks, and of men, not a few." Hebrews tells us that if the Gospel when it is preached or the Gospel when it's read or the Gospel if it's not mixed with faith, there won't be any good result in the soul. Faith is what? It's a gift of God. All of him. We've only begun.

Now, turn with me over to 2 Timothy 3. We all know this passage too. Once again, under the same heading, "searching the Scriptures." Don't walk out of here saying, "Boy, he's up there and he doesn't want me to search the Scriptures." No, absolutely not true at all. I hope the Lord empowers you every day of your life to search the Scriptures. Do you know why? Because they testify of him. They testify of Christ. They are not going to tell you how to be good today. They're not going to tell you how to get along with man. And they may tell you that but you're not going to find how to perform that because you're going to make it from your centeredness, me-centeredness, "Oh, this is to me today. This means that I need to do this." Where is the rest in that? There is no rest in that but in the finished work of Christ, there is all rest for the believer.

Look at 2 Timothy 3:15, "And that from a child," he's talking about Timothy, "thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation." Now, if that's all it said, we would have to put the onus on the Scriptures, wouldn't we? We'd have to sit there and say, "Well look, if we just search these Scriptures, they can make us wise unto salvation." They can't save us, though, because there is no salvation in the word. Not the little "w" word. The big "w" Word, I'll give you that one. That Word is Christ. There is salvation in him alone. But that isn't where it ends. It says, "through faith which is in Christ Jesus." They are able to make thee the wise unto salvation to know that salvation is of the Lord and the Lord alone, that salvation is wrought for you. That's what the Scriptures say. If the Holy Spirit applies them, if Christ speaks in them because they testify of him. Eternal life, remember that's part of this passage too.

"And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith." Just faith? No, the faith "which is in Christ Jesus." You know what that tells me again? Dependency. Do you know what that shows me? Not of me that willeth. Not of me that runneth to them but the Lord that shows mercy by revealing himself in his word by the faith of the Son of God. All of him. All of him. Dependency because the next part of that verse it says, "Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life." Well, do you? Do you believe today that the Christ that is revealed in these Scriptures is the Christ that died for you and that by dying for you, has given you life? And not only life but that life is eternal life. Do we have eternal life in the Son? Is it a present reality in your life today or are you just too young maybe or you're too caught up in the world? Maybe you don't give any thought to life and eternal life. Do the Scriptures testify of eternal life in Christ Jesus alone? Has the Lord spoken this to your soul?

Dear ones, "Search the Scriptures, in them, in them is eternal life. However, they testify of me." You see, there is no eternal life outside of Christ. There is no eternal life in these pages outside of Christ. It's not in works. It's not in riches. It's not in a title. It's not in what you do or what you can do or who you know or what you can buy. Eternal life is in Christ and Christ alone. Search the Scriptures because if the Lord says it to your soul and he speaks with power and tells you to search the Scriptures, he's going to reveal it to you. He's faithful. He's faithful who calls you to the word. He will do it. He's faithful to show you himself in his word. And I promise you, I promise you, if the Lord reveals it, it will have nothing to do with you and what you've done for him. I know it's popular religion, I know it's everything you run into out in this world, I know every man wants to hike himself up, I know everyone's about self but these Scriptures that testify of the eternal life in Christ Jesus and they testify of Christ and Christ alone.

Jesus said, "And this is life eternal," John 17:3. "And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent." That's the eternal life in Christ. That's the plan the Father gave him to do. We can't separate that. We wouldn't want to separate that. All that Christ has done and how do we know it? We're finally getting there to how do we know it and when we go there, you're going to look at me and say, "You've been there many times." You're right, I have and it's good to be reminded of 1 Corinthians 2 so let's go there again. 1 Corinthians 2 and let's begin in

verse 9 as we have so many times to understand today how the Lord speaks to his children; how the Lord reveals things to his children; how the Lord reveals to you that these Scriptures speak of him. Look at 1 Corinthians 2:9, "But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man," think about that for a minute. As much as we search, as much as we read, as much as we hear, as much as we desire to know, "the things which God hath prepared for them that love him." It means everything in every capacity we have, we cannot bring ourselves to Christ. We cannot bring ourselves to see these Scriptures as testifying of Christ and Christ only. We can't do it. It doesn't matter how much our eyes have seen. It doesn't matter how much our ears have heard. It doesn't matter what has entered into the heart of us, our desires and our wills. We can't see what God has prepared for them that love him.

But then we've got the answer just in the next two words, "But God." "But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit." It is not an instruction book for you and I to carnally come here and to look for something in some way of salvation. Notice I said "carnally." When the Lord brings his children to this word, it must be under this way: the guiding of the Holy Ghost, the instruction of the Holy Ghost. God has revealed them unto us no other way but by his Spirit, "for the Spirit searcheth all things." Everything in this word that you just heard that Jesus said, they testify of me. How are you going to know that? Because "the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God." The mysteries that are found and are to be mined in these words, in these holy Scriptures, are found in the mind of the Triune Lord and not the fallen mind of man, no matter who he is, no matter how many books he's written. Life, the Scriptures must be, must be testified of the Holy Ghost.

Listen, we're going to end today by telling you what he testifies of just to make sure we know. Just to make sure that we think, "Are they about me, Lord? Lord, like those parables we heard last week, are they about me? Can I put myself in those parables and see how my life unfolds? Can I get a better understanding? Are they about me?" No, no, they testify of him and his finished work. How can I tell you what Christ's finished work is for your soul? I can't. There is one far greater than me or any preacher that can, though, and that's the Holy Ghost.

"For the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God." Then here we go, "For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him?" Listen, we know all about men, don't we? We know all about females, don't we? That's what we are, man and woman. We know what tendencies of man are because we have them ourselves. We know that but do you know what? We don't know anything about God. We are totally dependent upon the inspiration of the Holy Ghost, God himself, the Holy Ghost, to testify of him and to testify of these precious Scriptures that they are his and that they testify of him.

"For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God." Now, we have received not the spirit of the world, notice that. The spirit of the world and the Spirit of God are two different things. I know we try to make them commingle. I know we try to get them to



walk side-by-side and hand-in-hand but the two can't agree and they're not going to walk together. One is the savor of life, the other is the savor of death. The spirit of the world is death, the Spirit of God is life.

"Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God." And there is no other way. The spirit of the world is not going to teach you about Christ. The spirit of the world is not going to teach you about eternal life. It's not going to teach you about anything but the spirit of the world and death. But the Spirit of God, the Spirit of God is what instructs us in the things of Christ which are these Scriptures that testify of him.

"But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him." I'm sure there are some out here today that say, "Boy, that's just foolishness. If I have to depend on God for everything, that's foolishness," and it will be foolishness to you because your mind is carnal, because your mind is natural. You can't receive that. You can't receive what the Holy Ghost does unless he readies your mind and gives you a new heart to understand it.

"But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. But he that is spiritual judgeth all things." That's in this word. How are we going to know what's truth in this word? How can we know? It's like the eunuch, "How will I know unless somebody teaches me?" How will I know? Have you ever been brought and emptied of yourself to say, "How will I know? Who will reveal this? What is in my heart? What can I desire but thee, Lord?" Have you ever been emptied that way? Or do you come to these as some kind of scholar? Do you come here and say, "I've mastered this. This book is for me." When the Lord brings his children to the word of God, it's humbling to receive that which the Lord, the crumbs he allows to fall from his table to nourish and to grow up his children in the grace and knowledge of him.

"But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man." I'm glad he wrote that because all the foolishness in this world and all the carnality that would stand up against a message like this doesn't mean a thing. It doesn't mean a thing. Take your worldly-mindedness, take your earthly-mindedness, go your way.

"For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him?" Ask yourself that. When you come to the pages of the word, do you know the mind of the Lord? Do you instruct the Lord out of his word? Do you tell him what it means? Do you say, "Ah-ha Lord, this is what I have. This is what I say. This is what your word says." I've done that in my life. "Oh Lord, what about this? This is the way I understand it." But he's faithful to show me that was a carnal understanding of that word.

"For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ." That's how. The Holy Spirit. To instruct us in the mind of Christ.

The last two places we'll go is in John 14 first. In John 14, we look at verse 26, "But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost," these are the words of Christ again, "whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance." Well, what are those things? And just notice too, we have no memory. We can't remember without the covenant Remembrancer. We can't even think upon the Lord without the Holy Spirit. We can't even remember or pull to our memory without the Holy Ghost. Oh, without him we can do nothing.

"All things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you." Well, what do you mean, what you've said? That's his word, the word that testifies of him. And I hope he does say that to us today to search the Scriptures and I hope he does show us that in them we do have eternal life and why we have eternal life, because they testify of him, of his finished work.

Last place is right over the page, John 15:26. Instead of 14:26, we go to 15:26. "But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me." The Scriptures testify of me.

John 5:39, "Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me." Peter asked the Lord and I hope that question is on your heart and on your mind and on your lips now at this hour, "O Lord, to whom shall we go? Thou has the words of eternal life."

"Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me."

*Dear heavenly Father, may you add thy power, add thy sword that, Lord, you would be pleased to empty us of self and to bring us to thee, Lord, who is the author and finisher of our faith and who is the one who has performed all things for his children. O Lord, glorify your name and may this word today testify of you for the glory of thee. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.*