



LWML CNH CHRISTIAN LIFE LINE

JUNE 2021

LaVada Terrell - VP, Christian Life

You Look Like Your Father

I have been told most of my adult life how much I resemble my mother. My uncles have even told me that I sound just like her. I always thought I looked more like my father because I was more like him. But, one day recently, I looked in the mirror and realized everyone had been right all along – I do look like my mother. A family resemblance can be comforting. It provides visual confirmation that we belong; we are part of the group.

As Christians we are made in God's image. When God created man, He made him in the likeness of God (Genesis 5:1b). We are His children, redeemed and transformed through the death and resurrection of Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit, when we take the focus off ourselves and reach out to others in love and kindness, we reflect the love and kindness of Jesus. We show people a glimpse of our heavenly Father.

During Christ's time on earth, He touched the lives of people of all ages, beliefs, and ways of life. He loved people. He did not care about their social standing. He cared about their needs as He cared for them physically and spiritually.

Ephesians 2:10 states that we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. God has not only created us for good works, but He has given us a model of what those good works should be. In Matthew 25 Jesus tells us that when we visit prisoners, feed the hungry, care for the sick, and welcome the stranger we are serving Him.

Our good works are not something we do to gain salvation, but something we do out of love and gratitude for God's love and gift of salvation. We love God so much we want to live and act as he would.

As Lutheran Women in Mission, we have many opportunities to reach beyond ourselves and show God's love to a lost and erring world. God has prepared good works for each of us. He equips each of us for certain tasks with unique personalities and spiritual gifts. What has He prepared for you?

- Serve on a short-term mission?
- Lead a Bible study?
- Tie quilts?
- Teach Sunday school?
- Visit at a retirement home?
- Make cookies for VBS?
- Sing in the choir?
- Help in the church office?
- Be a good listener?
- Serve on the Altar Guild?
- Plan an event?

Use the gifts and talents God has given you to care for others. But do not get stuck in a rut or reject a new area of service because it is not an area for which you feel equipped or even worked before. God does not ask if we are capable, only if we are willing. He promises to always be with us and to give us what we need to serve Him.

Our faithful prayers and mighty mites allow us to make a difference in the lives of people in our communities and around the world. We care for them physically and spiritually, just as Christ has taught us.

Can people see the love of Christ through you? Be a Lutheran Woman in Mission, sharing God's love and compassion with a hurting and needy world.

For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. (Ephesians 2:10).

A family resemblance can be comforting. It provides visual confirmation that we belong; we are part of the group. As Christians we are made in God's image. See! You do look like your Father!

“SERVE THE LORD WITH GLADNESS!” It is He alone
Who redeemed us sinners, Guides us as His own
To enjoy the blessings Of His love and grace,
Will at last in glory Meet us face to face.
Onward, then, for Jesus! Let this be our aim:
“Serve the Lord with gladness!” Glorify His name!

“SERVE THE LORD WITH GLADNESS!” Glorify His name.
“Serve the Lord with gladness!” He gave us command
To proclaim His Gospel Now in every land
So that fellow sinners May, like us, be blest.
Leading them to Jesus, We can serve Him best.
Onward, then, for Jesus! Let this be our aim:
“Serve the Lord with gladness!” Glorify His name!

“SERVE THE LORD WITH GLADNESS!” There's no greater joy
Than to serve the Master, Work in His employ.
As we build His kingdom Angels, too, rejoice
Over every sinner Brought to hear His voice.
Onward, then, for Jesus! Let this be our aim:
“Serve the Lord with gladness!” Glorify His name!

Tune: 662 LSB, 518 LW, 658 TLH; Prof. Ernest Lewerenz

Dear Father, You have rescued and redeemed us through the death and resurrection of Jesus, Your Son. Through Holy Baptism, You have made us a part of Your family. Daily, You forgive us, renew us, and equip us to love and serve You and others. Help us to make the most of all the opportunities You give us to show Jesus' saving love. Give us willing servant hearts to share Your love and compassion with all. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Adapted from original by Debbie Yocky, Albuquerque, NM
Published by Lutheran Women's Missionary League, 2017
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