



2017 LWML Sunday Children's Message/Lesson

Romans 10:9-10

Text: Because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved (Romans 10:9-10 ESV).

“Liar! Liar! Pants on fire!” Have you ever heard someone say that? Have you ever said that to someone? Has anyone ever said it to you?

As soon as someone says that, you can be sure there is going to be an argument. “No, I’m not!” “Yes, you are!” “No, I’m not to infinity!” “Yes, you are to infinity plus one!” And so it goes.

Is there ever a time you should call someone a liar? Let’s think about that for a few minutes this morning. Today we are remembering two big events in the history of the Jesus’ church. The first is the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. 500 years – that’s a long time! But in 1517 Martin Luther said to the church authorities of his time, “What you are teaching people is not true.” That’s another way of saying, “Liar! Liar! Pants on fire!”

What were they saying that was false? They were saying that a person could **pay money** to get forgiveness of sins. Martin Luther said this is not true. The Bible teaches us that we receive forgiveness of our sins as a free gift that God gives us because of what Jesus did for us.

Martin Luther did a wonderful thing by saying – by confessing – that we are saved by grace through faith because of Jesus. And all of this is taught to us by the Bible.

And do you know how Martin Luther helped us learn this? He wrote a little book called the *Small Catechism* to help us learn what the Bible teaches. The Bible is a big book. *Luther’s Small Catechism* is a small book that summarizes what the Bible teaches. And when we learn the catechism, we learn to speak the truth. We learn to confess. We learn to say, “This is most certainly true.”

Can you say that along with me? **“This is most certainly true!”**

But there is an even shorter way to summarize the Bible. It’s called the Apostles’ Creed. It tells what the Bible teaches very quickly. Every Sunday as we say the Creed, we say to one another and to the whole world, “This is what we believe and this is most certainly true.”

Are you ready to confess the truth now? Will you do that with me? I will make a statement, and then you say, “This is most certainly true.”

God is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. **“This is most certainly true!”**

God’s Word is true. **“This is most certainly true!”**

God sent His Son to save us. **“This is most certainly true!”**

God forgives all our sins because of Jesus. **“This is most certainly true!”**

God wants all people to know his love and to be his children. **“This is most certainly true!”**

That was great! We confessed God’s truth together!

Remember that I said there were two things we remember today? The second thing we remember is the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League. For 75 years they have shared God’s truth with their neighbors, and through them God has changed millions of hearts and lives all over the world. That’s something to celebrate! And so today we remember how they help us to be ready to confess and tell our friends and neighbors about Jesus.

One more thing before we finish. Did you know every time you say “Amen” at the end of a prayer, you are saying “This is most certainly true”?

So what I’d like to do now is sing a hymn that most of you know. It’s called “Jesus Loves Me.”

Jesus love me! This I know,

For the Bible tells me so.

Little ones to Him belong.

They are weak, but He is strong.

Yes, Jesus loves me!

Yes, Jesus loves me!

Yes, Jesus loves me!

The Bible tells me so.

“This is most certainly true!”

Now let’s pray. Dear Jesus, You have saved us from our sins and have taught us the truth. We give thanks to You for faithful servants like Martin Luther and the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League. Help us always to be ready to confess Jesus’ truth.

And we all say: **“Amen! This is most certainly true!”**

