

Devotion • November 2019

GOD'S GRACE FOR THIS GENERATION LAMP Ministry Inc — \$100,000

All: We praise You, O God, our Redeemer, Creator; In grateful devotion our tribute we bring. We lay it before You, we kneel and adore You; We bless Your holy name, glad praises we sing. (LSB 785)

Leader: *But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy* (1 Peter 2: 9-10).

Response: For nearly 50 years, LAMP Ministry Inc. has ministered in northern Canada where many villages are reachable only by aircraft or seasonal roads. Currently, nearly one million indigenous people live in these isolated areas with about half under the age of 14. Alarmingly, nearly 15 percent of these young people will commit suicide due to despair and hopelessness. This grant seeks to provide the Gospel and counseling resources to address the emotional and spiritual needs of these people whom God loves.

All: We worship You, God of our fathers, we bless You; Through trial and tempest our guide You have been. When perils o'ertake us, You will not forsake us, And with Your help, O Lord, our struggles we win. (LSB 785)

Leader: *For this I will praise you, O Lord, among the nations, and sing to your name* (Psalm 18:49).

Response: On Indian reserves, parents and grandparents of this younger generation were raised in residential schools away from home and the traditional family structure is non-existent. The younger generation lacks a sound model for parenting and family life. Employment is limited, housing is inadequate, violence and drug abuse is higher than in most of the world, and life expectancy is between 45-55 years. Worldly influences and challenges such as the internet and social media have an influence, and there are limited opportunities for education and employment. Sunday school, Christian youth programs, and regular worship services are rarely available and the children and youth often feel despondent and discouraged. LAMP Ministry Inc. ministers to these communities by offering the love of Jesus through parenting workshops and bereavement care training, VBS, Bible studies, and one-on-one testimonies of the hope found through faith in Jesus.

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All: With voices united our praises we offer And gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise. With You, Lord beside us, Your strong arm will guide us. To You, our great Redeemer, forever be praise! (LSB 785)

Leader: *Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God* (Hebrews 13: 15-16).

Response: This grant will help LAMP fulfill their mission of sharing the Gospel, as it will allow them to hire missionaries and train volunteers so that more communities can be reached with the love of Jesus. As the Gospel, our true source of comfort and hope, is proclaimed, local leaders will be encouraged and motivated to serve their own people and the youth will learn and experience the love of Jesus.

All: Dear Father,

Thank You for sending Jesus to be our Savior, our only Hope and Comfort in this world. Be with the missionaries of Lamp Ministry as they seek to further Your kingdom by their witness and comfort to the indigenous people of northern Canada. Please use our mite offerings and prayers to glorify Your name and spread Your Word to the ends of the earth. We ask Your blessing of faith, through the power of the Holy Spirit, on all who hear the message of salvation through this grant. In praise to You, we ask this in Jesus' Name. Amen.