

# REMEMBER THE SABBATH DAY **To Keep It Holy**



## *“Preserving the Sanctity of the Lord’s Day and for the Extension of His Kingdom”*

“Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: But the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God; in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed it.” Exodus 20:8–11

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## STATEMENTS OF BELIEFS

**B**elief in the triune God whose grace is manifested in the love and righteousness of God the Father, the redeeming work of God the Son, and the quickening power of God the Holy Ghost.

**B**elief in the essential Deity of the Lord Jesus Christ, His Incarnation and Virgin Birth, the truthfulness of all His words, His all sufficient atoning vicarious death upon Calvary for sin, His bodily Resurrection, Ascension, and Coming Again.

**B**elief in the whole Bible consisting of the 39 Books of the Old Testament and the 27 Books of the New Testament as the inspired Word of God, and therefore true and Divinely authoritative and as God’s sufficient revelation in all matters of doctrine and practice. The Authorized or King James Version is to be employed for all work and activities of the CLDA.

**B**elief that all men have sinned and come short of the glory of God: and in the necessity of the New Birth by the Holy Spirit in those who become children of God through faith in Jesus Christ.

**B**elief in the Divine Authority and perpetual obligation of the Christian Sabbath or Lord’s Day and conviction of the necessity that all effectual assertion, observance and defence of the Lord’s Day rest, must be on this basis.

**B**elief that in asserting the obligation of the Lord’s Day the Gospel of the grace of God through Jesus Christ should be proclaimed.

Note: All unsigned articles are written by the editor or assistant editor.

Cover photo: one of our supporting churches, NRC Courtland, Ontario

### WAYS TO DONATE:

**Collections:** Many churches hold annual collections.

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## Added to the Church of Christ

*Rev. W. M. Mulder*

*“Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.” Acts 2:41*

**A**fter all the centuries that have passed since the day of Pentecost, we marvel again and again that under one sermon of Peter, about three thousand people were added to the church of Christ. What a mighty work of God’s Spirit is revealed here. For that is what the book of Acts makes clear to us: it is not the apostles who build the Church, but Christ.

This is how Luke begins the book of Acts: “all that Jesus began both to do and teach.” The Gospel of Luke describes the beginning of Jesus’ work: the acquirement of salvation. The book of Acts describes the continuation of this work.

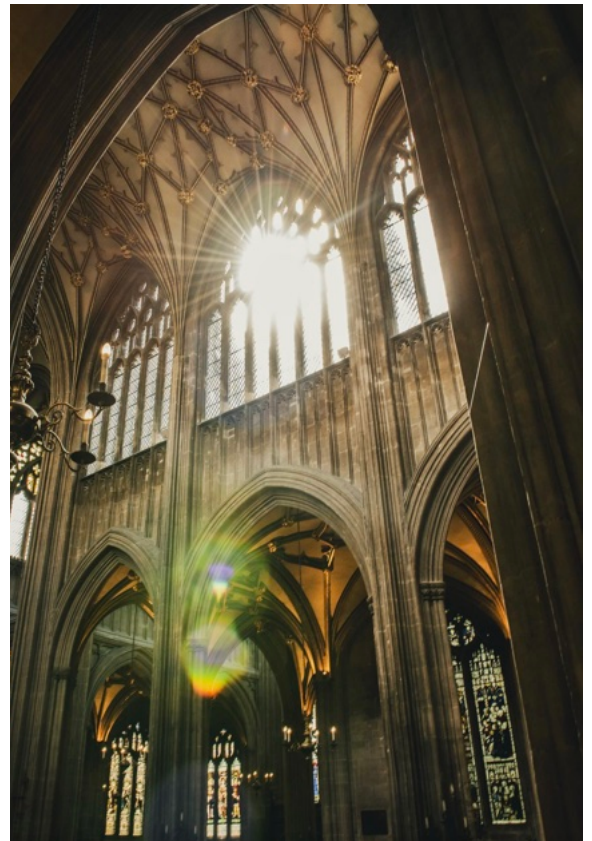
The exalted Christ sends His Spirit to work out and apply the acquired salvation in hearts of Jew and Gentile. On the day of Pentecost, we see a powerful beginning of this. Heaven came to earth through impressive signs of wind and fire. God in Christ is going to act in a powerful way. And where Christ acts by His Spirit, there the Christian Church comes into being.

The great distinction between Biblical Christianity and human religion is that in the former it is God working and in the case of religion it is man. If we want to know what the Christian faith, the Christian Church, is today, we must go back to that which God Himself did when He began to build the New Testament Church and what He Himself did reveal about it.

How does Christ build His Church? Through His Word, the teachings of the apostles, and their preaching. The three thousand converts were distinct from one another in numerous ways. There were Jews from Mesopotamia, Cappadocia, Asia, Crete, and Arabia, all with their own cultural customs. But what these all shared was that they eagerly accepted Peter’s preaching.

What kind of word did they gladly receive? Was that a non-committal reflection on the God of Israel and His work? Was it an emotional, sentimental call to faith? Was it a rational, logical account designed to convince the mind? No! Peter’s sermon is not non-committal and does not seek to appeal to the emotions or reason of the hearers. Peter shows in honest and clear terms the reality of what is happening at the time. He puts his audience, as it were, before the judgment seat of God and His Christ.

Before he comes with his accusation, he first gives a witness account. He introduces witnesses from the past: the prophet Joel, Psalm 110 and Psalm 16. Then he comes with witnesses in the present. First, these are the apostles



who proclaim the great works of God. They have been witnesses to the resurrection of Jesus. Then Peter also calls the conscience of the hearers as witnesses: “Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know” (Acts 2:22) and “Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ” (Acts 2:36).

After Peter has called all these witnesses, he comes in God’s Name with the clear accusation: “you have crucified your Lord and Saviour.” All of you are murderers! The Holy Spirit accuses these men of Israel of murder. That is preaching! To put our hearers before the judgment seat of God, honestly drawing their condition. Even though many who stood there at the temple square had not literally crucified Jesus and they could have offered plenty of excuses, the Holy Spirit — through Peter — does hold them responsible for this.

And that is still true. If we still live outside of Christ, if we are still unreconciled, despite the preaching of Law and Gospel, then we are in fact doing the same thing as the Jews did, who cried out: crucify Him and let Barabbas go. Then we prefer the darkness above the light. If that is the case, then it is also true of you: murderer of Jesus. God holds you responsible for the death of His Son.

The Holy Spirit used that sharp, bold and clear preaching to convince hundreds of people. We do not read a single apology. Not even the excuse so often heard among us, “yes, but it must be the true work of the Holy Spirit” — using a Biblical truth to avoid having to face our responsibility as murderers, as liars, as enemies, as ungodly.

When God’s Spirit convicts, then you do not ask yourself if it is true with me. On the contrary, I will then believe that charge that I am a liar and never can trust my heart. I accept that word and confess it with all my heart. But that also makes me cry out: “Men and brethren, what must we do?” They cannot help themselves but must be saved.

And then Peter’s preaching is just as radical and clear: Repent! Start thinking radically differently. Believe that you are guilty before a holy and righteous God. You are not a victim. Repent! Come to repentance! There is forgiveness in the sacrifice of this Jesus for you! Unconditionally and perfectly. This Jesus died for murderers, for liars. He came for them! To justify wicked people by free grace. To reconcile enemies to God.

And even that word these hearers gladly — wholeheartedly, joyfully — accepted. They could not do otherwise, and they did not want to do otherwise. This was the preaching of Peter, or rather, the preaching of the Holy Spirit. And this was the fruit: “and there were added to them that day about three thousand souls.”

May the Lord bless the work of the CLDA when they share the Word of God with thousands of inmates throughout Canada and the US.



# EDITORIAL

As we reflect on the first half of 2025, it is heartening to see continued support for the efforts of the CLDA in “promoting the sanctity of the Lord’s Day and the extension of Christ’s Kingdom.” In this magazine we share some new initiatives as well as the ongoing development of several existing projects. As the financial report on this page indicates, support for the work has more than exceeded the growing expenses. It is humbling to see how the Lord has inclined the hearts of many to support our efforts.

Canadian Lord's Day Association  
As of December 31, 2024

## New Initiatives

A significant new project this year is producing Student School Agendas for the upcoming school year—an endeavour aimed at reaching a younger audience (see page 7). Additionally, a weekly Bible study has commenced in an Ontario prison (see page 8).

## Ongoing Projects

Among the notable activities, 170,000 daily diaries have been distributed in the past year free of charge to prisons in every Canadian province (see page 7). Annual meetings held in Alberta, British Columbia, and Ontario have provided rich opportunities to encourage church members to remember the Lord’s Day and to learn about and support the work.

|                                    | Budget<br>2025    | Budget<br>2024    | Actual<br>2024 | Actual<br>2023   |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|------------------|
| <b>Receipts</b>                    |                   |                   |                |                  |
| Donations                          | 140,000           | 100,000           | 146,604        | 150,890          |
| GST/HST Rebate                     | 3,000             | 3,500             | 2,865          | 3,901            |
| Diary Sales                        | 19,000            |                   | 18,365         |                  |
| Interest Income                    | 5,000             | 2,000             | 1,466          | 2,281            |
| <b>Total Receipts</b>              | <b>\$ 167,000</b> | <b>\$ 105,500</b> | <b>169,301</b> | <b>157,071</b>   |
| <b>Disbursements</b>               |                   |                   |                |                  |
| Advertising Expense                | 14,000            | 6,500             | 9,282          | 3,888            |
| School Agenda                      | 2,500             |                   |                |                  |
| Bank Charges                       | 200               | 200               | 150            | 191              |
| Diary Expense                      | 113,000           | 70,000            | 100,259        | 63,395           |
| Magazine                           | 7,000             | 7,000             | 2,509          | 6,873            |
| Meeting Expense                    | 1,500             | 600               | 689            | 250              |
| Office Supplies & Postage          | 3,300             | 2,900             | 1,715          | 2,209            |
| Prison Ministry Expense            | 10,400            | 6,000             | 8,866          | 9,601            |
| Professional Fees                  | 19,700            | 19,500            | 12,937         | 4,387            |
| Travel Expense                     | 2,000             | 2,000             | 2,206          | 1,799            |
| Transfer to Charity                |                   |                   |                | 2,000            |
| Website Expense                    |                   | 300               |                |                  |
| <b>Total Disbursements</b>         | <b>\$ 173,600</b> | <b>\$ 115,000</b> | <b>138,613</b> | <b>\$ 94,591</b> |
| <b>Receipts less disbursements</b> | <b>\$ (6,600)</b> | <b>\$ (9,500)</b> | <b>30,688</b>  | <b>\$ 62,480</b> |

The daily diaries and Bible correspondence courses continue to encourage inmates to search their Bibles. Recently we received the following letter of encouragement from an inmate:

March 5, 2025

Dear R-,

A wise man once said, “Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding.” (Proverbs 3:13) The truth of those words resonate with me strongly. I’m writing to express to you and all those at the Canadian Lord’s Day Association my deepest gratitude. I have now been incarcerated for almost 9 months, and thanks to the studies, I have found enlightenment. For the first time, I feel freedom in a place where bars and locked doors constitute my world. I’m also writing to share the good news that my time is almost up! Hopefully by the time you’re reading this, I’ll be home with my family. That being said, I’m writing to ask if you can send my certificate and book to my home address? If there are more courses available, I am eager to continue my studies to draw even closer to our heavenly Father. I am nervous to fall back into familiar patterns, and I know I’m going to need all the help I can get to fight the temptations of the devil. That being said, I ask you to pray for me, that God will give me the strength I need, and please send my packet to my home address. All correspondence is welcome. God bless!!

Yours truly,

J-

# Annual Meetings and Committee Updates

## **(28<sup>th</sup>) Annual Meeting of the CLDA — Alberta Auxiliary**

*Calvin Christian School, Coahurst, AB*

*Friday, January 31, 2025*

Auxiliary Chairman Mr. Aris Slingerland welcomed everyone and the meeting was opened with singing, reading John 7: 14-39, and prayer. The previous meeting's minutes were read and approved, followed by an overview of the financial statements. Since locally-raised funds pay for local advertising, and the remaining funds get sent to headquarters in Ontario, Mr. Muilwijk gave a breakdown of finances from the CLDA as a whole organization. During the past year, our Alberta auxiliary spent more money on advertising than in previous years due to the fact that for the first time we did billboard advertising along major highways. A generous donation was received specifically for this purpose.

Our guest speaker, Rev. Van der Tang, then presented a topic entitled **“The Great Day”**. He spoke about the last day of the feast of tabernacles, the great day of the feast at the temple in Jerusalem when Jesus was present. An opportunity to ask questions followed. One question was: Is it Biblical, and according to the 4th commandment, to hand out publications in our churches on the Lord's Day with secular ads such as farms and houses for sale, occupations, groceries, clothing, etc.? A reply was given that it is not Biblical on the Lord's Day to be thinking which house or farm we should buy, nor should we be involved in buying or selling on the Lord's Day. Aris Slingerland replied on behalf of the CLDA that the secular ads should stop. Rev. van der Tang also gave a special plea that we do not use our phones on Sunday to message, text or WhatsApp, but instead keep our phones off. The meeting was closed with singing and prayer.

## **Annual Meeting of the CLDA — British Columbia Auxiliary**

*RCNA Church Hall, Chilliwack, BC*

*Thursday, April 3, 2025*

Auxiliary Chairman Mr. Bill Klaassen welcomed everyone and opened the evening with singing, reading Nehemiah 8, and prayer. After the opening, there was an overview of the activities of the auxiliary and also of the Ontario headquarters. New people were invited to join the auxiliary.

Then Rev. Mulder, pastor of Springford Reformed Congregation, Ontario, and vice president of the CLDA board, spoke about **“The Joy of the Sabbath Day”** and focused on the three following points: (1) an intended joy, (2) a threatened joy, and (3) an experienced joy. After his presentation, Rev. Mulder closed the evening with singing and prayer.

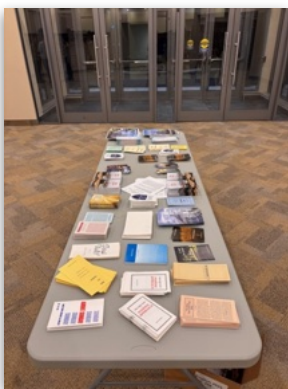
## **(39<sup>th</sup>) Annual Meeting of the CLDA — Ontario**

*NRC Church Hall, Brant County, ON*

*Friday, March 14, 2025*

Board Chairman Mr. John Heikoop welcomed everyone and the meeting was opened with singing, reading John 7:14-39 and prayer. Vice-Chairman Rev. W. M. Mulder shared some of the new activities of the organization, including an opportunity to begin a Bible Study at a local Ontario penitentiary and the distribution of bookmarks promoting the Lord's Day to schools, churches, and bookstores. These activities are in





addition to our regular diary distribution, correspondence courses, and semi-annual magazine. He noted that 170,000 diaries were printed for 2025, including 3,000 French and 10,000 Spanish. A letter was also shared from an inmate who had completed our correspondence course. The 2024 financial statements were shared, and five members who have retired from the board were acknowledged, namely John Stubbe, Rick Bouman, Jan Droogendyk, Simon Van Dyk, and Gilbert Zekveld. Our guest speaker, Rev. Van der Tang, then gave a topic on **“The Great Day”** from John 7:37. The meeting was closed with singing and prayer and guests were invited for refreshments and fellowship.

## Promotion Committee – New Student Agenda

A few months ago, we received a request for our Daily Diary to be used as a student agenda, as the size is convenient and the Scripture references profitable. However, the diary’s calendar year, which runs from January to December, would not be most practical for students and the diary’s format might not leave enough room for homework assignments. A little research revealed that a typical student agenda costs around \$15, does not portray Sunday as the first day of the week, and does not include Bible verses. We proceeded to design our own agenda in order to promote the sanctity of the Lord’s Day among our youth in a very practical way.

With thanks for the Lord’s provision, we are introducing the very first CLDA Student Agenda for the 2025-2026 school year.

The student agendas run from September to August and provide daily entries and monthly block calendars for the duration of the school year. The months of July and August are displayed as block calendars only, in order to provide a brief glance of the summer. Sunday is displayed as the first day of the week and includes a Bible text promoting the sanctity of the Lord’s Day.

Other features include notations of school holidays, corner cutting marks, blank pages for notes, and annual calendars for both years. Agendas are spiral bound for desktop convenience and include clear plastic covers on the front and back for durability.

The 2025-2026 student agendas are available for \$7 each. Christian schools in Canada are eligible for a discount; please contact [office@clda.ca](mailto:office@clda.ca) for more details. **Deadline for orders July 15.**



# Prison Visit Update

## An Opening Door

Over the past several months, a group of CLDA volunteers has begun visiting a prison facility in Ontario to conduct regular Bible study sessions with inmates. The prison's chaplaincy department has been very supportive throughout the volunteer application process and has graciously provided us with a weekly time slot on Saturday mornings.

### Why Prison Visits?

In a recent issue of this magazine the prison committee shared reflections from members of our General Council who toured a large Ontario prison. The visit left a deep impression. The chaplains' invitation to consider leading devotional studies with inmates stirred a sense of calling among us. We believe the Lord has opened this door, giving an opportunity to place Scripture into the hands of those incarcerated in Canada.

Years ago, our early diary distribution efforts led to an increase in letters and requests for spiritual guidance. As this became unmanageable, we developed several correspondence courses to provide sound biblical instruction to those seeking more. Today we sense the Lord's providential leading once again — this time to meet inmates who receive our diary face to face.



### What Happens During a Visit?

Each session is led by two volunteers. We begin by introducing the CLDA, the Daily Diary, and our correspondence courses. We invite inmates to share how they use the diary and what they hope to gain from the study. A brief discussion about the Lord's Day and the verse of the day helps foster informal conversation. After prayer, we explore a Bible passage together and sing a Psalm or hymn. So far, four volunteers have completed the necessary orientation and security clearances to participate in this ministry. The following are some of their reflections from the first few visits.

#### Reflection 1

*"I've gone to the prison three times now, and each time I wonder who we'll meet and how it will go. Entering the prison feels like stepping into a different world—the building itself has a cold, stark feeling. Yet, most of the staff we encounter are friendly and welcoming, which helps ease the experience.*

*When we arrive at the room for Bible study, we arrange the chairs and table to create a comfortable setting for discussion. We bring along as many copies of the KJV Bible as needed. As the inmates arrive, we greet them with a handshake, share our names, and they sit in a semi-circle around us.*

*We begin by introducing the purpose of our visit and ask if they're familiar with the Bible—whether they've attended church, are currently members of a church, or have done Bible lessons before. Some have a general knowledge of God's Word and are eager to learn more. Others went to church in their younger years but no longer attend.*

*It's deeply moving to see men we've never met reading the Bible and praying together. There's still a sense of reverence—for God's Word, for God Himself, and for one another.*

*We lead the study in a question-and-answer format, which works well to engage them. We encourage further study by pointing them to specific chapters and asking if they've done the CLDA Bible Correspondence Course—some express interest in starting.*

*It's encouraging to hear their questions: "Why the KJV Bible?" "How did the Bible come about?" "Who wrote it?" "Will all sins be judged, or will some be overlooked?" We try to answer honestly and faithfully, pointing*

*them to the truth of God's Word. We speak of the shortness of life, the necessity of true conversion and repentance, and the impossibility of standing before our Maker apart from the finished work of Christ. We urge them to read and pray over God's Word, asking the Holy Spirit to lead them into truth.*

*We close with a Psalm or hymn, which seems to resonate well, and ask if they have any prayer requests before ending in prayer.*

*The inmates truly appreciate our visits. After all, we're not just meeting with inmates—we're meeting with souls, traveling with us toward a never-ending eternity. Please pray that His Kingdom may come among them."*

## Reflection 2

*"As we sit waiting for the prison chapel to fill, individuals enter one by one—each from different walks of life, with histories unknown to us. Outwardly, we may look very different from the inmates, but inwardly, are we not the same? One thing is clear: we are all fallen sinners with never-dying souls, journeying toward a never-ending eternity.*

*We don't come to stand above them, but to come alongside them. It is only by God's goodness that we've been spared from one poor decision or wrong action that could have placed us in their shoes. We often take for granted being born into the church and raised in a community where God's Word is part of daily life. But if that hadn't been the case, how would we have encountered the Bible and those who faithfully explain its truths? Only by a wonderful act of God's providence.*

*For many of these men, this Bible study may be the first time—or the first time in a long while—that they've heard God's Word read and explained. That's remarkable. In this prison, during what may be the most difficult and lonely time of their lives, they may be hearing the Word of God anew. Some may not even realize the significance of that moment.*

*Some engage in discussion, others sit quietly and listen, and a few hang their heads, seemingly indifferent. But they are always thankful for our visits. The apprehension of that first visit fades quickly, and soon we find ourselves sitting comfortably among them, having meaningful conversations, trying to point them in the right direction.*

*When the time is up, we go our separate ways—likely never to see or speak to them again. Please remember these inmates and the work of the CLDA among them in your prayers. May the Lord richly bless these Bible studies week by week, and may the seed sown bring forth fruit to His name's honour and glory, and to the salvation of sinners."*

## Reflection 3

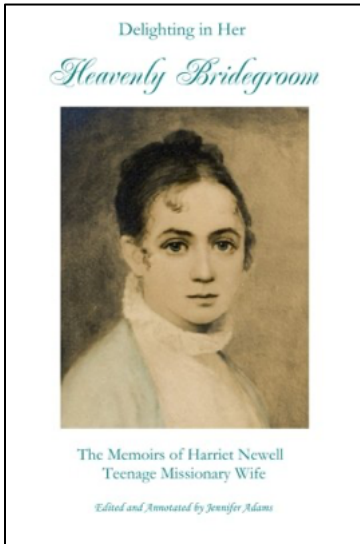
*"During one of our studies, an inmate asked about the Last Judgment. As we explained it, we encouraged everyone present to seriously consider how they would respond to the gospel. We said that the Lord Jesus, as Judge, will certainly ask us how we responded to His call. I added that this might be the first and last question He asks us. The inmate immediately challenged me: "How do you know that will be the first and last question?" I admitted I didn't know for sure, but I wanted to emphasize its importance. After the visit, I reflected on that moment and regretted not giving a better answer. I could have explained the seriousness of unbelief—the most grievous sin in God's eyes. I hope I'll have the opportunity to meet that inmate again. But will I?*

*We feel our limitations. We need your prayers."*



# FOR OUR YOUTH

## A Young Christian's Delight



Harriet Newell, 1793-1812, was a young lady born in Massachusetts, USA, who was converted in her youth and devoted herself to the service of Christ. In accepting a marriage proposal from Samuel Newell, she also agreed to join him as missionary to India. Before she entered upon the mission work, she died at the age of nineteen. Her story is recorded in *Delighting in Her Heavenly Bridegroom, The Memoirs of Harriet Newell, Teenage Missionary Wife* (Published in edited and annotated format by Jennifer Adams, 2011, or in original format at [www.archive.org](http://www.archive.org)) The editor writes: "Ten months after her departure, her husband penned the dreaded but not unexpected letter which detailed her suffering, death, and heavenly consummation. He told how she died... before reaching the mission field and of the grace God gave her to look death in the face with exuberant joy... She declared on her deathbed, "Tell my family--assure them, that I approve on my dying bed the course I have taken. *I have never repented*

*leaving all for Christ.*" She was newly married, only nineteen years old, and had already lost her firstborn at sea for the sake of the gospel. Yet she counted Christ worthy and was willing to follow Him wherever He led, even if she never lived to see any fruit."

The following are quotes from her diary written on various Lord's Days. We should pray for the grace she was given to delight in the Lord and His holy day.

*"Remember me, O LORD, with the favour that thou bearest unto Thy people."*

Psalm 106:4

*"What an act of love it was in God to select one day from the week to be appropriated to His worship. Were it not for this glorious day, I fear I should lose all sense of eternal things. O may I be in the Spirit this day!"*

*"Welcome sweet day of rest! Welcome, indeed, to me is this blessed day, so peculiarly devoted to the service and the worship of the Jehovah."*

*"How much wisdom and goodness did the Deity manifest in the appointment of the Sabbath. On this day Christians can rest from the outward labours of life, and their souls can be refreshed in the sanctuary. On this day God usually reveals the glories of His character to His children and often gives them a foretaste of the joys of heaven. Blessed Saviour! Grant me this day communion with Thee."*

*"It is indeed a delightful privilege to assemble with the saints and unite with them in the worship of God."*

*“With joy we welcome the morning of another Sabbath. Oh let this holy day be consecrated entirely to God. My Sabbaths on earth will soon be ended but I look forward with joy unutterable to that holy day which will never have an end.”*

*“Aug 6 Lord’s day morning – Upon this sacred morning Oh that the Holy Spirit of God would enliven and animate my cold and stupid affections! Oh that I might this day enter his earthly courts, worship him in an acceptable manner, profess his name before a scoffing world, sit down at his table and partake in faith of the body and blood of Jesus.*

*Sabbath eve – And now I have entered into the most solemn engagement to be the Lord’s. I have confessed Christ before the world. I have renounced my wicked companions. I have solemnly promised that, denying ungodliness and every worldly lust, I will live soberly, righteously and godly in this present world. If I should, after taking these solemn vows and covenant engagements upon me, dishonour the cause of my Redeemer, if I should give the enemies of religion reason to say there is nothing in religion, if I should again return to my former courses, Oh how dreadfully aggravated will be my condemnation! What excuse could I render at the tribunal of a just Judge? My mouth would be stopped and I should plead guilty before him. How then does it become me to watch and pray lest the devices of Satan, the world, or my own remaining corruptions should lead me into temptation!”*

*“Oct 21 Had a joyful meeting this day in the house of God. When I am weak then am I strong. Have experienced the truth of this declaration this day. Went to meeting in the morning afflicted with bodily pain yet joyful in the God of my salvation. Reflecting on the melancholy state of our church was distressed lest the deserved judgments of the Almighty should be poured upon us. But the words of the dear Redeemer, “Fear not little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom” sweetly refreshed and animated my desponding spirit. I desire ever to bless the Lord for the manifestations of his love this day. He has taught me that neither Paul nor Apollos is any thing without his grace. Ministers may faithfully preach but the world will not prove successful if God does not touch the heart. I have seen the glory of God in his sanctuary. I had rather be a door keeper in the house of my God than to dwell in the tents of wickedness. The Lord is good. May it be my delightful employment on earth to praise him and in heaven may I join the enraptured millions in a song that shall never end.”*



*“Nov 4 Have once more commemorated the dying love of Jesus. Have entertained some faint views of the character of God and mourned for the evil of sin. How condescending is God to permit hell deserving rebels to commune with him at his table! What on earth can equal the love of Jehovah? He treats those who are by nature his enemies like children!”*

# BIBLE COURSES for Prison Inmates

In the Spring 2024 issue of this magazine, we gave you a sample of the Bible correspondence course which is offered to prisoners. Here we have another sample, this time from one of the other courses. We remind our readers that the three courses are all available online at [clda.ca](http://clda.ca) and encourage you to use them yourselves and with your families. This course was originally prepared for teenagers to encourage them to read the Bible more carefully and meditate on what they read. This is part of the first lesson of the Acts to Revelation Bible Study which has 89 lessons in total.

## Acts-Revelation Course sample

### The Book of Acts

The book of Acts is the record of those who took the Great Commission of the Gospel of Matthew (28: 19, 20) seriously and began to spread the news of a risen Saviour to the remote corners of the known world. Acts traces important events in the early history of the New Testament church from the ascension of Christ to the outpouring of the Holy Spirit to the rapid progress of the gospel, beginning at Jerusalem, then to Judea and Samaria, and finally “to the uttermost part of the world.” Luke is clearly seen as the author of this book, when comparing Acts 1:1 with the opening verses of Luke 1. As a traveling companion with Paul on Paul’s missionary journeys, Luke had the opportunity to be an eyewitness of many of the events of which he wrote. The date of the writing of this book is not clear, but it seems to be sometime after 62 A.D. The resurrected Saviour is the key theme of this book, as seen in the recorded sermons and defenses in Acts. A key verse in this book, which emphasizes this theme, is Acts chapter 4 verse 12: “Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.” The Spirit of God used this gospel message for the conversion of many, as “the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved” [2:47].



1. The book of Acts was written by \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The history in Acts covers the spread of the gospel, beginning at \_\_\_\_\_, then \_\_\_\_\_, and finally to the \_\_\_\_\_.
3. This book was written sometime after the year \_\_\_\_\_.
4. A main theme of this book is \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Who was an eyewitness to many of the events in Acts? \_\_\_\_\_.
6. In what way were converts added to the church? \_\_\_\_\_.

The book of Acts clearly portrays the spread of the gospel. In chapters 1 – 7, the focus is on the church beginning in Jerusalem among the Jews.

Read Chapter 1 and the opposition from the Jews.

7. What question did the disciples ask in verse 6, which showed their lack of understanding of the work of Christ on earth?

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8. What is meant by the fact that Christ's ascension was "visible?"

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9. Give 3 thoughts regarding the value of the ascension for the church

[H.C. #49]: Question: Of what advantage to us is Christ's ascension into heaven? Answer: First, that He is our Advocate in the presence of His Father in heaven; secondly, that we have our flesh in heaven as a sure pledge that He, as the head, will also take up to Himself, us, His members; thirdly, that He sends us His Spirit as an earnest, by whose power we "seek the things which are above, where Christ sitteth at the right hand of God, and not things on earth."

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

c. \_\_\_\_\_

10. The apostles waited for \_\_\_\_\_ days for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. They continued in \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ with one \_\_\_\_\_.



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# FOR THE CHILDREN

## A BOY'S REBUKE

A little boy in London, who attended a Sabbath school, having occasion every Lord's Day to go through a certain court, observed a shop always open for sale of goods. Shocked at such a profanation, he considered whether it was possible for him to do anything to prevent it. He determined to leave a tract, on the 'Lord's-Day', as he passed the shop in the course of the week. He did so; and on the following Sabbath observed that the shop was shut up. Surprised at this, he stopped and considered whether it would be the effect of the tract he had left. He ventured to knock gently at the door, when a woman within, thinking it was a customer, answered aloud, 'You cannot have anything, we don't sell on the Sunday!' Encouraged by what he had heard, the little boy still begged for admittance; when the woman recollecting his voice, said, 'Come in, my dear little fellow; it was



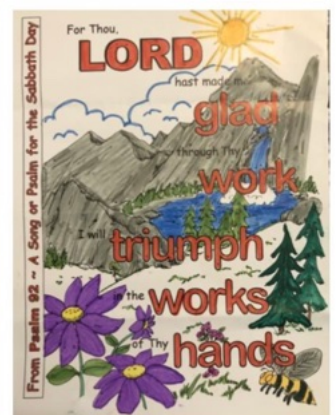
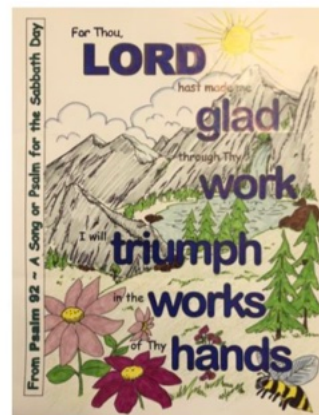
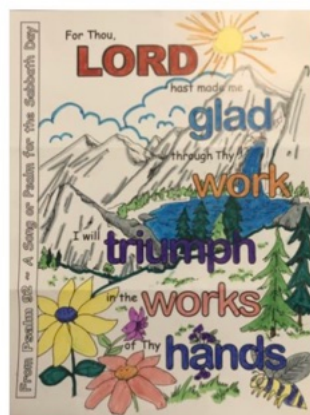
you that left the tract here, against Sabbath-breaking; and it alarmed me so, that I did not dare to keep my shop open any longer; and I am determined never to do so again while I live.'

(Taken from *The Shorter Catechism Illustrated*)  
From "The Day God Made" Pages 31-32

## Colouring Content Submissions

In our last magazine, we invited our young readers to send in their completed colouring pages so that we could share them with chaplains. Many beautiful pages were submitted, and we thank everyone who took the time to colour and mail in their pictures! Below are three examples of work well done, as well as a thank-you letter from a chaplain who received your work.

*"Just a word of thanks for the letter and the drawings in support of Prison Ministry. Any time a person is incarcerated there is a backdrop of hurts and harms, but also (and more importantly for eternity) the possibility for redemption and change. Please thank the young people who sent in drawings in support of redemption and change for those in prison. God bless."* —Chaplain in Mission, BC



○ LORD,

how great are thy

works!

and thy

thoughts

are very

deep.

A

brutish man

knoweth not;

neither doth a fool

understand this.

# A Prayer for Power on the Means of Grace

John Newton, 1778

O Thou, at whose almighty Word  
The glorious light from darkness sprung!  
Thy quickening influence afford,  
And clothe with power the preacher's tongue.

Though 'tis thy truth he hopes to speak,  
He cannot give the hearing ear;  
'Tis thine, the stubborn heart to break,  
And make the careless sinner fear.

As when of old, the water flowed  
Forth from the rock at thy command; (a)  
Moses in vain had waved his rod,  
Without thy wonder-working hand.

As when the walls of Jericho (b)  
Down to the earth at once were cast;  
It was thy power that brought them low,  
And not the trumpets' feeble blast.

Thus we would in the means be found,  
And thus on thee alone depend;  
To make the gospel's joyful sound  
Effectual, to the promised end.

Now, while we hear thy word of grace,  
Let self and pride before it fall;  
And rocky hearts dissolve apace  
In streams of sorrow at thy call.

On all our youth assembled here  
The unction of thy Spirit pour;  
Nor let them lose another year,  
Lest thou shouldst strive and call no more.

(a) Numbers 20:11 (b) Joshua 6:20

