



## SHARING

### WEEK FIVE

***“At Our Savior’s Way Lutheran Church, we value sharing God’s love.”***

In The Oxford Dictionary to value something is to recognize that someone or something has worth or is important to us. If we value sharing God’s love, it means we believe that sharing God’s love is at the core of what life is all about. We believe that our lives have meaning and purpose which come from being disciples and sharing God’s love.

Paul writes, “Be very careful, then, how you live. Not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. Therefore, do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord’s will is.” Wisdom is knowing what is good and putting it into practice. Wisdom is making the most of every opportunity. Most of us do not have to be told to make the most of our lives. We selfishly want it. The question is: “What does living wisely look like?” Jesus defined it this way, “My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends” (John 15:12-13). The cross reminds us that a successful life has a horizontal and vertical dimension. Jesus filled with the wisdom of God, lived to please God and to love us. Jesus shared God’s love by emptying Himself of all that He had for you and me, even dying on a cross so that we might have forgiveness for our sins and eternal life.

Our culture is driven by the need for success. Daily we are encouraged to focus on self and to move up the ladder of success. We are driven to make the most of our lives. Our faith in Jesus is counter cultural. He encouraged us not to focus on self or on moving up but on kneeling down and washing the feet of our neighbor. We all enjoy a good time. But good times do not add up to a good life or a life wisely spent. A good life is one which freely and joyfully shares God’s love. “Listen without interrupting, speak without accusing, give without sparing, pray without ceasing, answer without arguing, share without pretending enjoy without complaint, trust without wavering, forgive without punishing, promise without forgetting” - author unknown.

***Ephesians 5:15-21 Be very careful, then, how you live. Not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. Therefore, do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord’s will is. Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit. Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.***