

# Gospel Light to the World

## 2 Corinthians 4:1-6 and Luke 24:44-49

A Bible Study for LWML Sunday in preparation for the 2026 LWML MI District Convention

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### Opening Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank You for the light of Your Gospel. Open our hearts by Your Spirit that we may receive Your Word with joy, see the glory of Christ, and reflect His light into the world in our daily lives. In Jesus' name. Amen.

### Scripture – 2 Corinthians 4:1-6 (Theme for the 2026 LWML MI District Convention)

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart. <sup>2</sup>But we have renounced disgraceful, underhanded ways. We refuse to practice cunning or to tamper with God's word, but by the open statement of the truth we would commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God. <sup>3</sup>And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. <sup>4</sup>In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. <sup>5</sup>For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. <sup>6</sup>For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

### Study/Discussion Questions

- ✘ In vs. 1-2, Paul first grounds his ministry, not by earthly measures of merit or success, but by God's mercy, and establishes his ministry in God's Word. Why is this important? What is Paul's purpose in pointing these things out?
- ✘ How does this apply to our vocations (our callings) in life? Discuss how we outwardly live our lives through our vocations as a witness to our faith.
- ✘ What causes the gospel to be veiled, according to vs. 3-4? (See Ephesians 2:1-3)
- ✘ How does this affect our view of evangelism? Can we "argue" people into faith?
- ✘ What is the source of the light within us?

- ✘ Luther's Small Catechism, 3<sup>rd</sup> Article of the Creed, says, "I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel..." How does this encourage your personal faith? How does this encourage you when you feel unworthy or ineffective?

### Scripture – Luke 24:44-49 (Theme for Lutheran Women in Mission Sunday – 2026)

<sup>44</sup>Then [Jesus] said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled." <sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, <sup>46</sup>and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, <sup>47</sup>and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup>And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."

### Study/Discussion Questions

- ✘ To what does "the Law, the Prophets, and the Psalms" refer? What does it mean that Jesus is the fulfillment of these things? What does this teach us about the Scriptures as a whole?
- ✘ Why can we not understand the Scriptures rightly without Christ? How does this shape our approach to Bible Study and evangelism?
- ✘ What does it mean that repentance and forgiveness go together? How does this shape our proclamation of the Gospel?
- ✘ In what ways are you a witness of Christ in your everyday life? How can you shine His light?
- ✘ How is the Holy Spirit at work in your life today through the means of grace?

### Closing Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank You for sending Your Son to fulfill the Scriptures and bring us salvation. Open our minds to understand Your Word. Strengthen us by Your Spirit to shine Your light, to bear witness to Christ's death and resurrection, and to proclaim repentance and forgiveness in His name through all we say and do. In Jesus' name. Amen.