

March Week 2, 2025 Learning Together

Greetings to you! Below you will find the second of three online lessons for this month. As always, you and your entire family are invited to read and listen and create and pray around our selected story.

"The Singer" is the name of our new story, and it can be found in the book The Jesus Storybook Bible by Sally Lloyd-Jones on pages 228-235. A free copy of this book is available at our church, Resurrection Lutheran Church, in New Berlin, or you can order a copy online.

Below you will find a **Children** section, an **Adult** section, and a wrap-up section for **Children and Adults** together.

Whether a child or an adult, if you have comments or questions, please use this blog to submit them to Pastor Matt, who welcomes discussion.

Children

I would like you to refresh your memory of our March story "The Singer" by listening again to the oral read video at the beginning of this lesson. As you listen, follow along in the book and look at the many beautiful illustrations. You could also draw your own pictures!

The Lord has made all His creations and the birds are part of that. If we look closer at our birds, for example, you will find some amazing miracles about them as programmed by God to thrive on their own.

Did you know that God has built robins to ...



- * change their feeding habits depending on the time of day as they will eat more earthworms early in the day, when they are easier to find, and then switch to fruit later in the day.

- * not lay their eggs at sunrise, like most birds. They lay their eggs several hours later during the mid-morning.

* be famously unfussy when it comes to building their nests, which can show up almost anywhere, like above a doorway, or in an abandoned, old clay pot or an iron kettle, in the pocket of a gardener's jacket left outside, under the hood of a car, or in the engine of a fighter plane.

* have a heart rate of 1000 beats a minute to keep their energy level up. (People's heart rates are around 80-100 beats per minute.)

* have hollow bones, like most birds, to make them very lightweight to be able to fly.

Birds can find food and shelter on their own because God has created them to know how to get the things they need to live. From the Bible, we know that God loves US more than the birds, or anything else for that matter, and doesn't want us as his children, His dear lambs, to sit and worry. If He takes care of the birds, which He does, He will take care of us.

Adults

The Biblical reference is Matthew 5-7.

The Sermon on the Mount could be the most well-known teaching of Jesus. It's packed with valuable wisdom that has stood the test of time and informs our lives as followers of Jesus today just as much as it did back when it was given. Below is the next four of ten interesting facts about this sermon of Jesus.

It's where the "Golden Rule" came from - "Do to others whatever you would like them to do to you" (Matthew 7:12) is the basis of what we now call the Golden Rule: treat others the way you want to be treated. This teaching, straight from Jesus, calls us to live with kindness, empathy, and respect.

It's considered a blueprint for Christian living - Many view the Sermon on the Mount as a blueprint for living out Christian values. Jesus covered a lot of territory, from personal character to relationships, how to handle conflict, and even how we view material possessions and success. It lays out

a holistic approach to life and encourages us to align our values with the things God cares about.

It includes the Lord's Prayer - If you thought the only quotable moment from Sermon on the Mount was the Golden Rule, you'd be wrong! In this sermon, Jesus also gave one of the most famous prayers in history: the Lord's Prayer. In Matthew 6:9-13, Jesus says, "This is how you should pray," and proceeds to model a prayer that emphasizes worship, inspires dependence on God, and postures our hearts to forgive.

It gives us radical teachings about love - One of the biggest challenges given in the Sermon on the Mount is Jesus' command to love your enemies. In Matthew 5:44, He says, "Love your enemies! Pray for those who persecute you!" This was a radical concept in Jesus' time, and it's radical now, challenging us to extend love and forgiveness beyond the bare minimum.

This topic of interesting facts about The Sermon on the Mount will conclude in the Adult section of the third and last online March lesson.

Children and Adults

Upcoming events: The last online lesson for the month of March about "The Singer" will be posted next week. I also wish to invite you to our Sunday School gathering on March 23, 2025, at our church from 11am-12pm.

~This Week's Prayer~

Thank you, Heavenly Father, for the birds that
grace your sky and for the special song each one sings. Amen

Be helpful when you can,
Margo Greer