



Love of Christ Lutheran Church

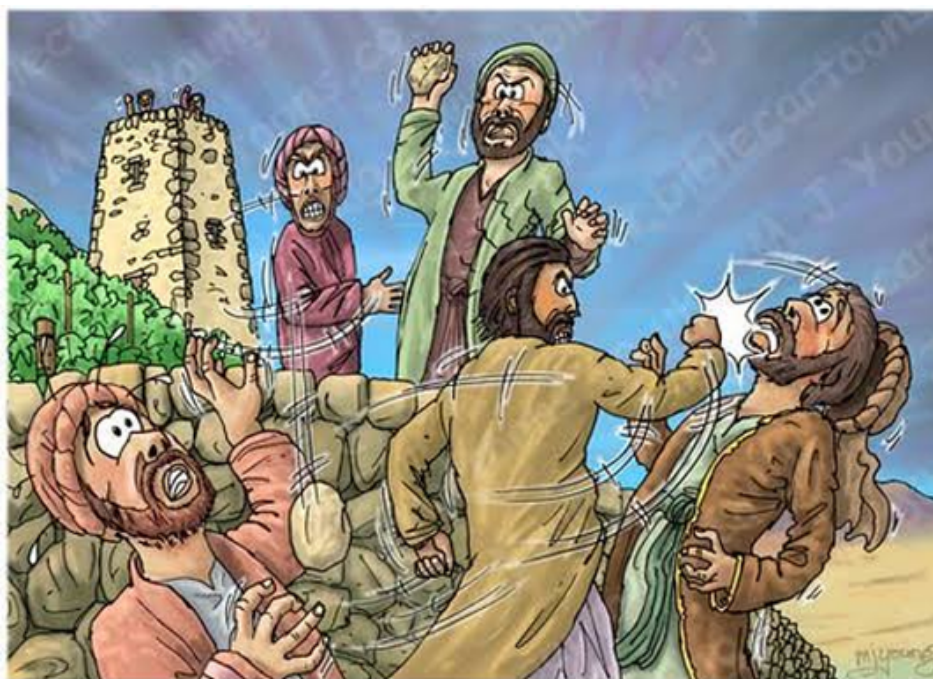
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Welcome to LOC's Weekly E-News

ENews for the 19th Sunday after Pentecost, October 4, 2026



Rejection?

Jesus tells a parable about a landowner who carefully prepares a vineyard and entrusts it to tenants. When the landowner sends servants to collect the harvest, the tenants reject and kill them. Finally, the landowner sends his son, believing they will respect him, but they kill him as well.

Jesus uses the parable to confront the religious leaders who have rejected God's messengers and will ultimately reject God's Son. Yet rejection does not have the final word: the stone that the builders reject becomes the cornerstone. God's kingdom will continue to bear fruit through those who receive God's grace and live faithfully in response.



Faith in Action

Celebrate World Food Day with ELCA World Hunger on Oct. 16!

Join people around the world in raising awareness and taking collective action to end hunger for good.

<https://www.elca.org/how-we-serve/relief-and-development/world-hunger>

World Food Day is one of the most celebrated days on the United Nations' calendar, with opportunities in more than 150 countries and more than 50 languages to raise awareness of hunger. This year's theme, "Innovate today. Nourish tomorrow.," highlights how we can combine traditional knowledge with forward-thinking solutions to ensure that everyone has access to nutritious food.

ELCA World Hunger has been at work for more than 50 years, addressing root causes of hunger around the world and here in the United States through innovative, sustainable projects. Your gifts connect people with training and resources so they can enjoy a fruitful harvest, access clean water, send their kids to school, get adequate healthcare and strengthen their income streams.



Lutheran Disaster Response provides partnership support to recent communities flooded in Nepal

<https://www.elca.org/how-we-serve/relief-and-development/lutheran-disaster-response>

Communities in Nepal are facing catastrophic loss after deadly, devastating floods. On Aug. 26, powerful floodwaters carrying glacial ice and mud swept down the Himalayas through a mountain valley. Hundreds of people have died, and hundreds more remain missing as families are waiting for news of loved ones.

Homes have been destroyed, roads and bridges are gone, and entire communities are struggling to access basic necessities. Our hearts break for all those affected.

Even with limited communication from the affected area, we are already hearing tragic stories of loss, and we know the needs will be significant. Lutheran Disaster Response has long-standing relationships with trusted partners throughout Nepal. With your help, we will support emergency relief and long-term recovery through these established partners who know their communities best.



Blood Drive

Sunday, October 25th—7:30 to 11:00 am

Located next to Columbarium in South Parking Lot

Please sign up to donate blood! You can click on the link below or go to our website (loveofchristchurch.net) and click on the events button to sign up.

If you have any questions, you can contact Dianne Oien at dianneoien@loclc.org. Because of you, life doesn't stop – Thanks for signing up to donate! On Site Donor Self-Scheduling Link: [Click Here](#) to schedule your life-saving donation today.

Donor Eligibility Link: <https://vitalant.org/blood-donation-requirements>

Donor Eligibility Phone: 877-258-4825

Donor Preparation: • #1 deferral for women is low iron. Women begin eating iron rich foods.

- Begin drinking lots of water – hydrate, hydrate, hydrate!

- Eat prior to donation (no fasting)

- Bring Photo ID reflecting first and last names

- Visit restroom prior to beginning the donation process

- Donors may take their health history the day of donations – see below.

Fast Track Health History Questionnaire Link: <https://www.vitalant.org/health>



Fall Festival—Save the Date!

Friday, October 23rd - 5PM to 7PM– In Front of the Sanctuary (Parking Lot)

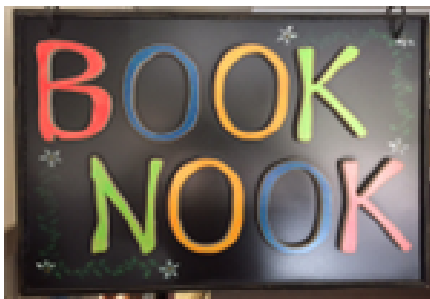
It's time to come together for the Fall Festival! Spend an evening of fun, fellowship, and food! Don't miss this opportunity to see kids excited to do Trunk or Treat, Arizona Rick the balloon guy, play a game of corn hole and fall crafts. NEW this year, an Inflatable Obstacle Course! Don't forget about the FREE hot dogs! Also bring your car for Trunk or Treat...

If you would like to donate some chips or candy, it would be appreciated. Contact Dianne Oien at dianneoien@loclc.org or Patti DeLaney at pattidelaney03@gmail.com



Our 40th Anniversary \$40,000 Mission Challenge Appeal to support Crossroads Lutheran Church in San Tan Valley and First Evangelical Lutheran in Mesa stands at \$29,850. Can we reach our goal by the year's end? Thank you for considering a gift to support mission partners.

Book Nook News



The Book Nook is looking for donations of new or used books that you no longer need or want to save. Our book supply has not been replenished for a while, and we are looking for books that would be of interest to people shopping in the Book Nook on Sunday mornings. We are especially looking for novels, nonfiction books, and books of a religious/spiritual nature published within the last 10 years which would be from 2016-2026. If you have any to donate, please drop them off at the Book Nook on Sunday morning or they can be dropped off in the church office during weekdays. Barb and I thank you in advance.

Penny Day



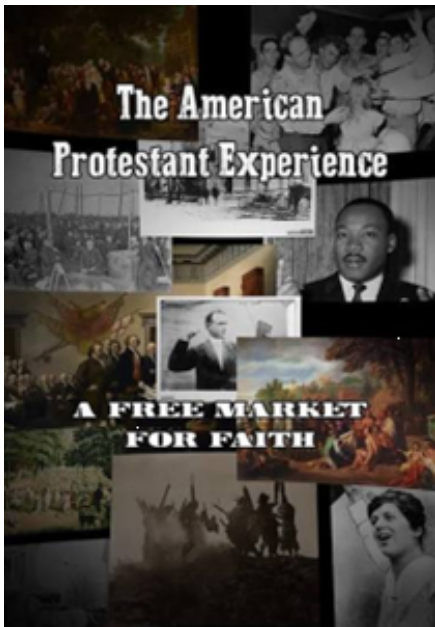
This fall, the Let ABC15 Know team will celebrate 10 years of bringing free consumer help to the community through its annual "On the Road" event at Tempe Marketplace. This runs from 5 to 7 p.m. at the District Stage, located in the middle of the main shopping center next to Dave & Buster's.

Free CONSUMER HELP EVENT
Tempe Town Lake on Oct. 20th 5PM-7PM

For more information:

<https://www.abc15.com/news/let-abc15-know/on-the-road-with-let-abc15-know-celebrates-10-years-of-free-consumer-help-at-tempe-marketplace>

Adult Study Wednesday, at 6:00PM in the Fellowship Hall



It's no accident that America is home to a wide range of religious expressions. Immigrants brought their faith with them from around the globe and established churches and denominations. But the most unique quality of American religious life is the innovation and experimentation that takes place here. This makes this country a free marketplace for faith.

This series documents the eternal argument about the relationship between the church and civil authority. The country's founders, seeing the intolerance of the early immigrants, wisely sought to create a republic where faith could be practiced freely but where a theocracy would be avoided.

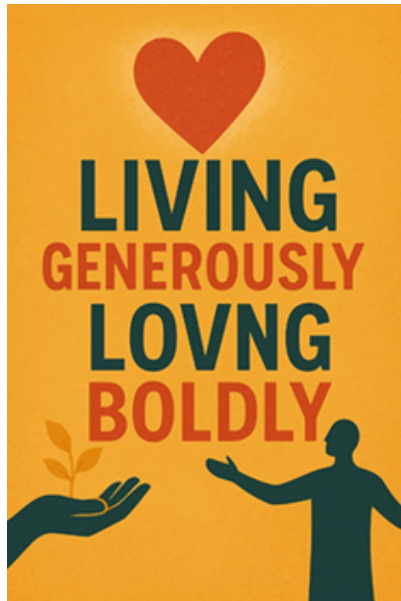


Emotional Triggers: The Tactics that Scammers use to manipulate You

1. **Craving love and companionship**
2. **Desire for financial security on a big win**
3. **Concern for family members or pets**
4. **Fear of legal trouble or financial loss**
5. **Need for purpose and excitement**

Emotion + Isolation = Manipulative Control

Our aging population is both a vulnerable and lucrative target. Always suspect phone calls, texts, emails, or letters which are promising something you have not necessarily sought, making a request to contact or purchase something which seems out of the blue, and always hit pause before responding, so you can verify with family members, friends or even the church before acting. Don't share personal or sensitive information on social media. Use privacy settings on your social media accounts.



Love of Christ is a community of people living generously and loving boldly.

Recently, households received the LoC Board ENews Update for September. Board meetings are open to the public every second Tuesday of the month at 6PM in the Leadership Room.

What many Board members share from past experience in previous congregations is how little time is spent on the monthly Treasurer's report, and most financial decisions or actions are driven by supporting recommendations from our Faith in Action Team to support our partnerships locally and globally in loving our neighbor as needs are brought to our attention and relationships are developed.

There are not hand-wringing or long-winded debates on where we are going to find the funds to do what God wants us to do. The Board and this congregation are increasingly learning you can't outgive God if you are doing God's work of loving one's neighbor as Christ loves us.

Every year our households are encouraged to pray about using the financial resources entrusted to their management or stewardship by God and offer a portion of those to spread the good news, to address real needs of our neighbors, and to support the daily work of this congregation in equipping disciples of Christ.

Saints of this congregation have died, others have made moves to position themselves closer to family, and the numbers of new disciples joining this congregation is not huge. But despite the obvious, what is clear if you look at our monthly update and annual report-God provides! Your generosity and acts of love are not limited by demographics that might cause us to think otherwise.

Thank you!



What Is a Legacy Gift?

A legacy gift is a way to steward your resources and carry forward your values of compassion, wisdom, and generosity. Also known as planned giving, these gifts are typically arranged as part of your long-term financial or estate plans. If you have been shaped by Love of Christ Lutheran's worship, faith formation, and faith in action, a legacy gift can help carry this wisdom forward for generations to come.

We invite all member households to consider making a gift to the Love of Christ Lutheran Endowment Fund through their will or trust, retirement accounts, life insurance, or other assets. Every gift, no matter the amount, is gratefully received and helps sustain this work for generations to come. Legacy gifts are flexible and can often be changed as your circumstances or wishes change.

The Endowment Committee is committed to practicing these key Financial Principles

- 1) We operate from a clear definition of "enough, God always provides."
- 2) We practice transparency.
- 3) We seek financial support to never be the barrier to participation.
- 4) We understand exchanges of money first and foremost as vehicles or instruments for advancing Christ's mission and message.
- 5) We commit to managing the fund simply, equitably, and sustainably.
- 6) We lead with giving and generosity.

We are deeply grateful for every person helping carry the love of Christ forward. As of August 31, 2026, our LoC Endowment Fund balance is \$157,044.36. To learn more about this Fund go to <https://loveofchristchurch.net/endowment>

Please join us in upcoming Sleep in Heavenly Peace bed deliveries....

Kids without beds....This is a need in many communities that I was not even aware existed—it is something most of us have not experienced and were not even aware of the need.

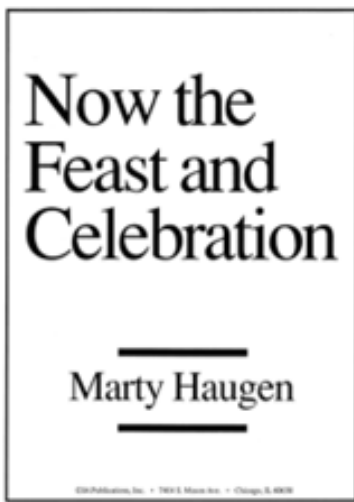
But Sleep in Heavenly Peace here in Phoenix has been hard at work to make sure that “No Kid Sleeps on the Floor in Our Town!” and has delivered over 11,000 beds in the valley in the last 7 years.

There is nothing quite like seeing the joy of a child who is receiving a bed, complete with mattress, pillow, bedding, stuffed toy and book. Come and experience this for yourself and help give a child a safe place to sleep and call their own.

We help deliver beds on the 3rd Saturday of the month from the East Valley hub located at St Luke Lutheran Church in Mesa. It's a half day of your time, with a fun group of folks committed to making children in our community a priority. It's easy to bring the beds and assemble them and make them up with handmade quilts, fleece blankets, sheets and stuffies - all tools are provided and there is easy hands-on instruction for beginners. We are also so grateful for the many donors of blankets, sheets, stuffies and books.

If you would like to get involved, text or call JoAnn Grant at 571-334-5028





Our Traditional 7:50 and 10:30 Liturgy in the Sanctuary moves to Marty Haugen's "Now the Feast and Celebration" for the last half of the Pentecost Season.

Music Notes....



Please contact Jung Lee at: jungmusic@loclc.org for how you can be involved with the music program.

Choir practice on Thursdays, 6PM to 8PM in Sanctuary.

With gratitude and excitement,

Jung Lee



Calling All Bakers

Cookie Ministry is looking for people who like to bake. The Cookie Ministry is part of the Faith in Action programs at Love of Christ. This ministry makes cookies for our various events that are held here on our campus and beyond our campus. If you are interested in baking cookies for this ministry, please contact: Eunice Ketterling at ketts4az@gmail.com



Community Garden News

Think about trying out a garden in the fall. We are all learning new things and getting to know new people in the fresh air.

Contact Nancy. Dntoll74@gmail.com



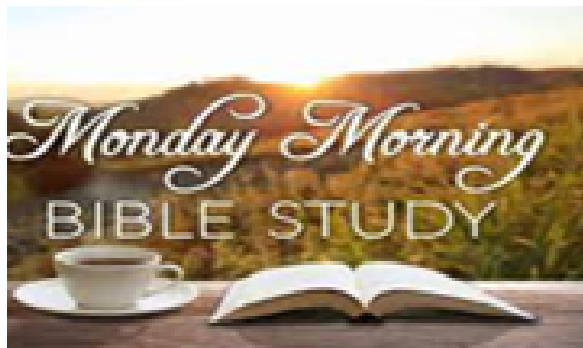
Naomi Circle will meet on: October 12th, at 1PM in the Fellowship Hall.
All women are welcome—invite your friends!



Monday Men's Bible Study on 2nd Corinthians at 6:30-7:30AM in the Leadership Room. Men of all ages are welcome to participate.



Online Video introductions provided by our pastors of Sunday Lectionary readings are offered each week. They may be found on Facebook, YouTube or loveofchristchurch.net



**Monday Morning Bible Study in the Leadership Room
Coffee Fellowship at 10:30AM, Bible Study at 11AM**



Prayer Share Care Women's Bible Study

All women are invited to a weekly Bible study group called Prayer Share Care. This group meets on Thursday afternoons at 1:00 PM in the Leadership Room. Please contact Ruth Leonard or Margrit Aeschbach at the following emails for more information:
Margrit: mswiss43@gmail.com and Ruth: rutholeonard@icloud.com



Youth will be meeting on Sundays for Sunday Morning Hangout from 10:00am to 12:00pm

Contact Mason Weatherly at: masonw@loclc.org



Confirmation

Confirmation will meet on Wed. September 30th, from 6:00-7:00 pm



Grades 4,5, and 6 will meet on Sunday, October 18th, 3:30-5:00 pm. Please contact:

Laura Ontiveros (laurakuegemann@gmail.com) for more information.



Sunday School has begun! Sunday School is offered for ages pre-K-6th grade. Sunday School takes place in the Godly Playroom. Children come to church with their parents and are dismissed for Sunday School after the Children's Message. They return to worship during Communion. For families that attend 10:30 church, Sunday School is offered at 10:00 -10:25 in the Godly Playroom. For any questions, please contact Pastor Nanette at: nanette@locic.org

Children and Youth Ministry Fall Overview for 2026-Save the Dates!

Children's Musical Rehearsal every Wednesday at 6:00 pm-Light dinner at 5:30pm for everyone

Grades 4,5,6 meet Sunday, October 18th, 3:30-5:00 pm in the CoC

Sunday School: Every Sunday in Godly Play Room

Youth Sunday Hangout: 10:00 in the Youth Room (No Youth Hangout on Oct 11th)

Confirmation: Every Wednesday (6:00-7:00) (No Confirmation on Wed. Oct 7th)

Service Opportunities-Save the Date!

October: Fall Festival October 23rd, 5:00-7:00 pm

November: Feed My Starving Children: Nov. 5,6, and 7th, Gift cards for food banks to purchase turkeys and canned food donations

December: Gifts for kids, Reverse Advent Boxes, and Family Promise

Ongoing Donations:

Shelf stable food for Victory Food Bank and First Evangelical Food Bank

Sleep In Heavenly Peace: Twin Bed Sheets



The Faith in Action Team would like to welcome Jim Melzer. He is the new Love Of Christ Lutheran Advocacy Ministry (LAMA) liaison and will soon be sharing with us the group's thoughts on the 2026 Arizona Ballot Propositions. You can reach Jim at jmelzer@comcast.net

What does our Lutheran faith have to do with government, elections, public policy and political participation?

The Lutheran Advocacy Ministry of Arizona (LAMA) is a ministry of the ELCA and the Grand Canyon Synod. Love of Christ has been a faithful LAMA supporter and the group reminds us that Christians are called to take responsibility for the good of all through civic participation.

As midterm elections draw near, Arizona voters are being asked to vote on ballot measures that can change state law or amend the Arizona Constitution. These measures may look short on the ballot, but their effects can be long-lasting. Some are technical. Some are controversial. Some sound simple but include details that matter deeply for our neighbors, schools, communities and public life.

That's why LAMA has prepared a 2026 Arizona Proposition Voter Guide. To be clear, this is only a guide to Arizona ballot propositions, not candidates. Click on the link below to find a simple explanation of each proposition, a LAMA voting recommendation and a detailed statement on the LAMA position on each proposition.

<https://lamaz.org/news-blog/introducing-lamas-2026-voter-guide>

If you'd like to be more engaged in our LAMA efforts, please contact our liason person, Jim Melzer at jmelzer@comcast.net.



Women's Monthly Bible Study will meet again on Wednesday, October 14th from 4:30-5:30 pm in Fellowship hall. The study will be on Ephesians.

No homework. One hour. Enjoy great discussions. All are welcome.
Barb Talmage and Pastor Nanette

Next Dates: Nov 4, Dec 2, Jan 6, Feb 3, No March (lent) and April 7th.



Young Adults will meet again on October 18th at 12:00 in the CoC.
Come ready to share ideas!

If you have questions, please contact Pastor Nanette at: nanette@locic.org

BLANKETS FOR KIDS!!!



Questions? Contact Jan Barnett at: barnett105@gmail.com

- 2 Methods of finishing the edges of the blankets
- Sewing around the edges
- Crocheting around the edges
- Both methods start the same

Lay Fabric on a table, trim off the Salvage edges of the fleece;

Sewing around the edges

Fold $\frac{3}{4}$ to 1 inch around the edge;

Pin the folded edges all around the edge;

Choose a decorative stitch on sewing machine and start sewing

If your machine only does Zig Zag, that is great also.

- Optional--Baste $\frac{3}{8}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch of fold around the edge of the fleece with a needle and thread (Optional)

OR

- Just fold the fabric over about $\frac{3}{8}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ an inch and cut very small slits in the fold;
- Slits should be no more than $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch in length and around $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{5}{8}$ inch from the each other

- If you basted around the edge
- Remove the basting from the fleece
- If you have a rotary cutter, you can purchase wheels that will cut the slits in the fleece material the same distance and the slit created is large enough to slip the crochet hook through. Then follow the remaining directions.

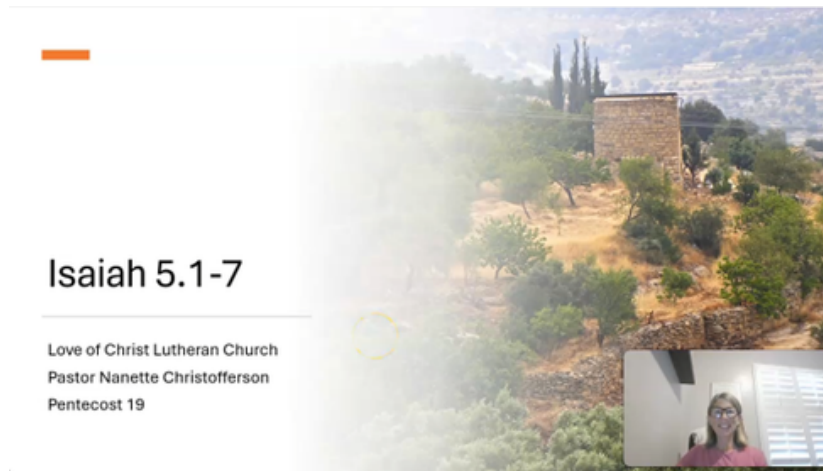
- If you just folded and cut the slits;

Start crocheting around the edge. (I start 6 or 7 inches from the corner of the fleece to make turning the first corner easier.)

1. Start by creating a slipknot.
2. Insert the crochet hook through a slit in the fleece and pull the loop of the slip knot through;
3. Chain 3 times (create a chain by yarning over the hook and pulling it back through the initial loop.); chain only 2 times if you have used the rotary cutter;
4. Push the crochet hook through the slit next to the one just used (back to front) and pull a loop back through the slit. (You will have 2 loops on the crochet hook.)
5. With the 2 loops still on the hook, yarn over the hook and pull through both loops. Now chain 2 more times.
6. Proceed around the fleece using steps 4 and 5.
7. To turn a corner, follow steps 4 and 5, but insert the hook again in the same slit and do 1 chain and then insert the hook again and perform steps 4 and 5, Then you should be on a new side of the blanket and proceed following steps 4 and 5

There is an additional set of slides which have instructions on how to start crocheting. If you do not need those instructions, ignore.

Scripture Lesson
A Brief Look at Isaiah 5:1-7
with Pastor Nanette Christofferson
(10 min)



YouTube: <https://youtu.be/FN4hloQo410>

Facebook: <https://facebook.com/reel/1456722209693284/>

Website: <https://www.loveofchristchurch.net/media/series/7vjwfnk/bible-lessons>

Scripture Lesson
A Brief Look at Matthew 21:33-46
with Pastor Nanette Christofferson
(12 min)



YouTube: https://youtu.be/FSZGA1S_Nng

Facebook: <https://facebook.com/reel/1113645271224083/>

Website: <https://www.loveofchristchurch.net/media/series/7vjwfnk/bible-lessons>

some on



YouTube

Pastor Nanette Christofferson "Rejection?"

Isaiah 5:1-7

I will sing for my beloved
my love song concerning his vineyard:
My beloved had a vineyard
on a very fertile hill.
He dug it and cleared it of stones
and planted it with choice vines;
he built a watchtower in the midst of it
and hewed out a wine vat in it;
he expected it to yield grapes,
but it yielded rotten grapes.
And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem
and people of Judah,
judge between me
and my vineyard.
What more was there to do for my vineyard
that I have not done in it?
When I expected it to yield grapes,
why did it yield rotten grapes?
And now I will tell you
what I will do to my vineyard.
I will remove its hedge,
and it shall be devoured;
I will break down its wall,
and it shall be trampled down.
I will make it a wasteland;
it shall not be pruned or hoed,
and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns;
I will also command the clouds
that they rain no rain upon it.
For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts
is the house of Israel,
and the people of Judah
are his cherished garden;
he expected justice
but saw bloodshed;
righteousness
but heard a cry!

Philippians 3:4-14

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord.

For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal, but I press on to lay hold of that for which Christ has laid hold of me. Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have laid hold of it, but one thing I have laid hold of: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal, toward the prize of the heavenly] call of God in Christ Jesus.

Matthew 21:33-46

"Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went away. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first, and they treated them in the same way. Then he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.' So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time."

Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures:

'The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord's doing,
and it is amazing in our eyes'?

"Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces its fruits. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush anyone on whom it falls."

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.