So, what are your answers?

Last month I interrupted our usual "Question FOR Pastor" with a Question FROM Pastor. I asked for you to think about questions that God had used that grabbed your attention and brought you closer to Him as you sought an answer to that question.

I shared these question God grabbed my attention with:

1) "Are you at a point in your spiritual life where, if you died tonight, you know you'd go to heaven?"
        And
2) "Let's say you did die tonight and are standing before God and He says, "Why should I let you into my heaven?" how would you answer Him?

I promised to give my answers to those questions this month, so here they are:

1) "Yes."   Because God tells us in His Word in 1 John 5:13 that it IS possible to know:

I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may KNOW that you have eternal life.

I added the capital letters on the word "know" to highlight the fact that it is possible to know we have eternal life. We don't have to 'cross our fingers and wish' or guess about it. It's possible to know for sure.

2) "I know that there's no way I deserve to be here. But I also know that your Son died to remove the sins that would keep me out, and He promised that everyone who repents of their sin and places their trust in Him as the true God who died to forgive that sin will have eternal life!"

Or as the hymn "Solid Rock" puts it, "No merit of my own I claim, but solely lean on Jesus' name."

As I've said before, when it comes down to our last breath each of us have basically two choices on which to base our hope for a life after this one. We can

    a) trust in things we've done - or tried to do - for God
Or b) trust in what God through His Son did for us

That's the biggest "no-brainer" of all time. I certainly am never going to go with option A. I know me! I know how absolutely imperfect I am and that total imperfection includes anything I've attempted to do for God.

But I also know that when God raised Jesus from the grave on Easter Sunday, that was proof that His sacrifice to pay for all my sins was a perfect one. Every sin had been paid for (or God never would have raised Jesus back to life)!

Thanks for asking,
Pastor David

Send your questions to pastor@livingwordlutheran.net