

See? **WOW!** News and Encouragement for CID Circuit **W**itness & **O**utreach **W**orkers

Nbr. 73 – November, 2025

The Gospel Bestows Riches

From a lecture by Dr. Gerhard Aho

[These riches are] not only the riches of heaven, but of the earth. “All things are yours,” says Paul [1 Cor. 3:22].

So Christians can accept gladly every good gift God gives them, use it, and enjoy it to the full, without guilt and shame. They can even submit to being cheated and abused, and not worry about maintaining their rights.

They can let God bless them as He wishes. They can be full of thanksgiving, and free of covetousness.

See? **WOW!** When we bring the Good News about Jesus to people, it does things. It bestows riches.

AGENDA FOR 2025 C-WOW MEETING

via Zoom, November 22, 2025

10:00 Opening Devotion

10:10 Briefly noted:

- E1HW, Witnessing Helps
- Partners and Practice in the Gospel
- Progress report: Ken’s modified service
- *Beyond the Classroom*

10:30 Reports – Please take your turn and tell the rest of us in roughly 5 minutes about accomplishments in telling the Good News about Jesus, or challenges in this work. Ask Circuit brethren about this at Nov. Winkels!

11:00 Reminders: Demographic Studies, CAD/DS survey, *re: Vitality* modules, SCS

11:10 General discussion . . . end by 11:30

Every One His Witness . . .

. . . prepares people to tell the Good News about Jesus to people within their circle of family, friends, co-workers, and acquaintances. E1HW comes in two phases: a core module, and several context modules.

The E1HW “core” module introduces the LASSIE approach: Listen, Ask, Seek, Share, Invite, Encourage. You can get this module from CPH.

Online “context” modules apply the LASSIE in specialized settings to nonchurched people from particular backgrounds. While designed for individuals, these modules could be used with a class or a discussion group. Presently available are all-video modules on witnessing to –

- De-churched Adult Children
- Nones
- People Influenced by Critical Theory
- People influenced by Scientism
- People after an Abortion
- People with Depression or Anxiety
- New Veterans
- Grieving People
- LGBTQ People
- Jewish People
- Mormons
- Muslims
- Jehovah’s Witnesses

Find these at <https://www.everyonehiswitness.org/>

CID’s Witnessing Helps help to fill the space between the basic E1HW core module and the highly particularized context modules. Find them at <https://www.cidcms.org/outreach-witness-ministry.html>



Circuit Witness and Outreach Workers

Worth considering:

Evangelism as Extending the Lordship of Jesus

This is an eminently biblical way to characterize evangelism. It is something of a shame that we don't hear it put in these terms very often. Evangelism extends the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

Of course, Jesus is Lord and King over everything and everyone. We speak here, however, of His kingdom of *grace*.

This, in turn, forms a big hint about what is meant here by "Lord." It's not so much that Jesus is our boss. Better, He is our Rescuer.

The Large Catechism teaches that the second article of the Creed comes down to: "Jesus Christ has become my Lord." That is:

He has redeemed me from sin, from the devil, from death, and from all evil. Before this I had no Lord and King but was captive under the power of the devil . . . He . . . has brought us back from the devil to God, from death to life, from sin to righteousness, and now keeps us there [LC Creed 27, 31].

Further on, explaining the Lord's Prayer's second petition, the Large Catechism also noted that Christ has redeemed and delivered us and brought us to Himself to

rule us as a king of righteousness, life, and salvation against sin, death, and an evil conscience. To this end he also gave His Holy Spirit to teach us through His Holy Word . . . [LC LP 51].

Think of Hebrews 2:14-15, which teaches that Christ destroyed him who had the power of death, the devil, and so delivered us – for otherwise the fear of death would keep us in lifelong bondage. When I am in Christ, the devil is not my Lord. Neither is death, nor the fear of death. Jesus Christ is my Lord, and I am in His kingdom. I was baptized

into this kingdom of grace. Christ used His church to bring baptism to me.

Whenever Christ's living and life-giving Word goes out to the non-churched, it works. It extends His Lordship over more and more people.

Not for nothing did Jesus make sure, just before telling His church to go and make disciples, also to say, "All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth" (Matthew 28:18). When the Holy Spirit grants people faith through the Gospel, they too will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, *their* Lord. Two key words to bear in mind in contemplating the last few words of the Gospel according to Matthew are "disciple" and – even though it is not explicitly mentioned – "Lord."

Now move from the last few words in Matthew to the first few in Acts: "In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with everything that Jesus began to do and teach." But the "first book" to which Luke was referring – which covers everything from Jesus' conception to His ascension – turned out to be only the beginning. For Jesus *continues* to do and teach. Yes, the Lord Jesus continues seeking and saving the lost, extending His gracious and saving Lordship. Now He does so in a different way than during His three-year ministry: He acts through His church. This is the community, the Large Catechism says, through which the Holy Spirit speaks and does all His work [LC Creed 61].

The church uses the Good News about Jesus constantly to call more and more people into the church, those gathered around Word and Sacrament. By His Word and Spirit, Christ adds members to His church – the community that rejoices to live under His gracious Lordship.

Evangelism extends the Lordship of Christ!

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