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# PRESIDENT'S PAGE

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## ***Whatever is Right***

Who do you know in this picture?

Here they are – our delegates preparing for this summer's Synod convention in Phoenix. A pastor and a layperson from each of our sixteen circuits in Iowa District West.

Convention preview: How can we best prepare men to pastor God's dear sons and daughters? Family, youth and campus ministry opportunities. Social and political issues affecting Christ's church. Scriptural closed communion practice. Divine service lectors. National and international witness. Mercy opportunities. Life together.



Our Heavenly Father is well aware that, every day, your life is like a synod convention: Issues and opportunities. Discussions, celebrations praising God, questions looking for Scriptural answers, and prayers.

Knowing you, God has His apostle write to you, “Whatever is RIGHT, think about such things. And the God of peace will be with you.” Philippians 4:8.

Whatever is “RIGHT.” Greek: Dikay; Dikaios. Right. Righteous. Righteousness. ***My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and RIGHTEOUSNESS.*** Definitions: Just, equitable, fair, innocent, pious. “Right” means duty faced = duty done. Like when the Jewish court commands Peter and John to stop speaking about Jesus because this riles people up – Peter and John reply using the word “right.” They say, “Judge for yourselves whether it is RIGHT in God's sight to obey you rather than God.” And then of course they go on working in God's kingdom – spending their years bringing Jesus' righteousness to the unrighteous. Their duty faced = their duty done. RIGHT.

Peter quoting Psalm 34 writes, “Whoever would love life and see good days must keep his tongue from evil and his lips from deceitful speech. He must turn from evil and do good; he must seek peace and pursue it. For the eyes of the Lord are on the RIGHTEOUS. 1 Peter 3. So here Peter defines “RIGHT” as keeping tongue from evil, as turning from evil and doing good. Peter defines “RIGHT” as seeking peace. And as you think about these things (whatever is RIGHT), God promises that His eyes are on you, and God promises that His ears are attentive to your prayer.

Where does RIGHT, RIGHTEOUS, RIGHTEOUSNESS come from? God's apostle tells you! Righteousness comes from God. Righteousness comes from God through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. All have

sinned and fall short of the glory of God – and are MADE RIGHT freely by His grace through the redemption that came by Jesus Christ. Romans.

And thinking about what is RIGHT, Paul looks to the end of his work in God’s kingdom. Paul writes, “Now there is in store for me the crown of RIGHTeousness, which the Lord, the RIGHTeous Judge, will award to me on that day – and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for His appearing. 2 Timothy 4.

***And when He comes with trumpet sound, O may I then in Him be found, clothed in His RIGHTeousness alone, redeemed to stand before His throne!*** Clothed in His righteousness alone. Think about that! “Whatever is RIGHT, think about such things. And the God of peace will be with you.” Philippians 4:8.

As Jesus lives,  
Pastor Paul Egger