

Green – Growing Up in Jesus

We were all in darkness, but God has ✦sent His Son to shed His blood for us and ✦given us faith by which we trust in Jesus for eternal life. Now, *because we have eternal life through Jesus, we grow in Jesus and **live** for Jesus!*

- **Colossians 2:6-7** “...as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk [*live*] in Him, having been firmly rooted *and now* being built up in Him and established in your faith...”
- **2 Corinthians 5:15** “[Jesus] died for all, that they who **live** [*spiritually and eternally, through Jesus*] should no longer live for themselves, but for [Jesus] who died and rose again on their behalf.”
- **Galatians 2:20** “I [*Paul*] have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the *life* which I now **live** in the flesh I **live** by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.”
- **Psalms 119:105** Your word [*the Bible*] is a lamp to my feet And a light to my path.” // Pray, read, and believe; *God will bless you!*

Gold – Rich Now and Forever

Because of ✦God’s love, ✦His work through Jesus, and ✦our God-given faith in Jesus, *we are so richly blessed:*

- All our sins are forgiven!
- Eternal life: When our bodies die, *God will immediately take us to paradise; then, when Jesus returns, our bodies will be raised to live forevermore!*
- God is our Heavenly Father; He *hears our prayers and will provide all that we need.*
- Jesus is the only begotten Son of God; we, *through Jesus, are the adopted children of God!*
- The Holy Spirit lives in us to give us *understanding, power, and courage to live for Jesus!*

Conclusion

Get your medal at Bethlehem (or here: <https://bit.ly/3JNNleO>); *share God’s truth!*

Bible verses: New American Standard Bible – 1995

Connect With Us

- Website:** www.BLC7500.com
YouTube: Benefit from the Bible
Facebook: Bethlehem Lutheran Church Parma
Podcast: Benefit from the Bible
Schedule: See our website (440-845-2230)
Location: 7500 State Road, Parma, OH 44134

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Christian Service Medal

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Black ➔ *The Darkness of Sin*

Red ➔ *The Blood of Jesus*

White ➔ *The Washing of Sin*

Green ➔ *Growing up in Jesus*

Gold ➔ *Rich Now and Forever*

www.BLC7500.com

Introduction

Dear Friend: I hope you will learn more about the *five colors of the Christian Service Medal* by reading this brochure. Then ✦receive your own medal, ✦wear it in public, and ✦let God use you to be an eternal blessing to others as you explain what it means!

Black – The Darkness of Sin

When a room is completely dark, *we cannot see*. In a similar way, all who do not trust in Jesus for eternal life are in **spiritual darkness**; they are unaware that they are lost (1 Cor. 2:14; Eph. 2:1; Rom. 8:7) and have no ability to escape their sad situation (Jn. 6:44, 65).

- **2 Corinthians 4:4** “...the god of this world [that is, Satan] has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light [that is, the saving truth] of the gospel...”
- **John 3:19** “...men loved the **darkness** rather than the Light, for their deeds were evil.”
- **Proverbs 4:19** “The way of the wicked is like **darkness**; They do not know over what they stumble.”
- **Isaiah 9:2** “The people who walk in [spiritual] **darkness** Will see a great light [which points to the coming of Jesus] ...”

For all who are lost in the darkness of sin: ✦ finish reading this brochure, ✦ thoughtfully read in the Bible every day, ✦ faithfully attend a church that teaches the Bible, and ✦ learn how to be certain of heaven through Jesus.

Red – The Blood of Jesus

The color of red can remind us of a heart: God loves us (John 3:16), *so He sent His Son to take away the sin of the world* (John 1:29). First, Jesus lived a sinless life in our place; second, He shed His blood to take away our sins.

- **Matthew 26:28** “...this is My **blood** of the covenant, which is poured out for many for forgiveness of sins.”
- **1 John 1:7** “...the **blood** of Jesus... cleanses us from all sin.”
- **Ephesians 2:13** “...you who formerly were far off have been brought near by the **blood** of Christ.”

No one is too sinful; *Jesus’ blood is powerful to cleanse us from every sin!*

The Cross Connection Between the Red Color and the White Color:



When people were lost in spiritual darkness, God the Father sent His Son to freely offer to everyone His great gifts of ✦ light, ✦ truth, ✦ forgiveness, and ✦ eternal life! Keep reading to learn more about Jesus’ saving work!

White – The Washing of Sin

The color of white can remind us of a brilliant light. God’s light of truth ✦ makes us aware of the darkness, ✦ shows us our need for forgiveness, ✦ makes us sorry for our sins, and ✦ gives us God’s forgiveness through faith in Jesus (*we trust in Him for our entrance into heaven*)!

- **John 8:12** “...Jesus... spoke to them, saying, ‘I am the **Light** of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the **Light** of life.’”
- **John 12:46** “I have come **as Light** into the world, so that everyone who believes in Me will not remain in darkness.”
- **Mark 1:15** “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent [be sorry for your sins] and believe in the gospel [that is, the good news of who Jesus is and His work to take away the sin of the world].”
- **John 5:24** “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has **eternal life**, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into **life**.”