

## January 2025

The following is a portion from the devotional book written by Bo Giertz (1905-1998), who was a bishop in the Lutheran Church of Sweden. The excerpt comes from the devotion written for the Epiphany of our Lord, which occurs on January 6, and considers the Magi who come from the east, led by the star, and who are in search of the Christ child.

*It isn't only we who seek God, but God who seeks us. The wise man embody not only the hearts of men longing for God. They were able to recognize a sign in the heavens and they followed it. It turned out that God led them the right way. He guided them to Bethlehem. They were able to meet the guy who stepped out of the unknown and descended to earth and became man in order to make himself known to us. Consequently, this story tells us that God, who created all people and awakened their longing for him, also has intervened in this world with a salvation that is for all people, that answers all questions and guides all our longing to the final goal.*

*To be a Christian means to be a servant of God and a steward when it comes to bringing the message from God to all people. At the time in question, the wise men journey very far and spared no pains to find Jesus. Now it's the Christian churches calling to make the long journey and spare no effort to reach out to all people with the message of what happened in Bethlehem. The Gospel is for the whole world. We can't receive it without wanting to pass it on. The Light should shine and not be hidden!*

*Lord Jesus, I thank you for your Gospel. You know that I don't want to be without it. The world would be dark and meaningless if I didn't have it. Don't allow me ever to forget those who haven't heard it. I thank you for the opportunity to help others receive the gift. I ask you to bless all those who don't have your Gospel so they may hear it. Fill us all with such joy that no one can escape noticing that we reflect you, the Light of the world and the source of all good.*

(Bo Giertz, *To Live With Christ*, p.804-805)

In Christ,  
Pastor Suggitt

### LIFE QUOTE

Who is going to be king? Christ or Herod? Christ or I? Every day we make dozens of decisions which either acknowledge Christ's lordship or which assert our own. The star of the Magi reminds the Christian that he has a gracious King to whom he can, by the aid of the Holy Spirit, submit his will and live. By His word Christ desires to reign in our hearts through faith!

*A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)*



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[LutheranPublicRadio.org](http://LutheranPublicRadio.org)



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# **IN HIS IMAGE**

## **Navigating Christian Sexuality in a Post-Christian Culture**

*With the legal redefinition of marriage, the confusion regarding gender, and rapidly changing sexual mores in society, biblical educators, pastors, singles, couples, and parents are looking for guidance in articulating and promoting a positive view of the Christian vision for marriage and sexuality.*

**Saturday, February 22**

8:30am Registration  
9:00am Prayer Office  
9:45am Session 1  
10:45am Break  
11:00am Session 2  
12:00pm Lunch - Provided  
1:00pm Session 3  
2:00pm Break  
2:30pm Session 4  
3:30pm Q&A  
3:45pm Closing Prayers

**Topics include:**

The Christian Worldview and Sexuality; GPS Essentials for Traveling Through Demanding Conversations; Caring for the Child who Identifies as Transgender - Understanding the Big Picture; Christian Responses to Conflict in a Sexually Toxic Culture

**ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH, LINKVILLE**

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\*Please register on the sheet located at church or call St. Paul

This one-day conference is presented by *DOXOLOGY* - a Recognized Service Organization of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod. [doxology.us](http://doxology.us)