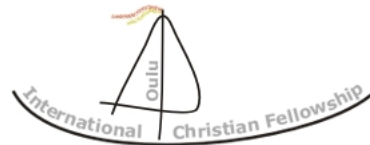


# International Christian Fellowship of Oulu Worship Meeting / Message



Date & Time: Sunday, 4.1.2009 at 15.30

Place: Chapel of St. Luke

Topic: Bible Verse 2009, Luke 18:27

Author: Bastian Fähnrich

Sources: Bible New International Version ([www.bibleserver.com](http://www.bibleserver.com)),

Lexikon zur Bibel (Fritz Rienecker, Gerhard Maier)

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## Welcome

Today we're going to resume the worship meetings after the Christmas break. So, welcome to join in! Take your seats, get prepared to listen to today's message and apply its teachings in your lives, as I will do in mine.

As last year, every first Sunday in a month will be dedicated this year to worshipping especially by means of praise songs and hymns. The Peedo team invites everyone to sing along today, and please raise from your chairs while chanting to the Lord :-)

Let's start with an opening prayer.

## Opening Prayer

Lord, thank you for bringing us here today to worship together, sing praise songs and hymns and to hear about Your eternal heavenly Truth.

May You open up the Scriptures to us for our daily application on this earth in this new year 2009, and beyond, of course.

Prepare our hearts and minds to be receptive, and lead all of us into the complete understanding of your Word through Christ Jesus, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

Fill us with your Holy Spirit and forgive us all secret and obvious sins that hinder us from being in relationship with You, oh God!

In Jesus Christ's name we pray. Amen.

## Songs

## Introduction

The topic for today's message is the "Bible Verse 2009". It can be found in

Luke 18:27

What is impossible with men is possible with God.

This year's Bible verse is taken from the Losungen, a booklet including a yearly Bible verse and readings for each day of the year. The Losungen have been regularly drawn and published by the Herrnhuter Brüdergemeine Community in Germany (originally a Christian evangelical congregation nearby Dresden) since 1731. The latest edition of the Losungen in 2009 numbers up to volume 279.

The booklet is published every year in about 50 languages. It originated by means of gatherings and devotions in the Herrnhuter Brüdergemeine Community based on the idea of Count Nikolaus Ludwig Zinzendorf. Initially the community drew a Losung (= slogan, motto, watchword) from the Bible each day but later proceeded to draw them for an entire year in advance.

The Losungen consist of a daily Old Testament and New Testament reading and a song, text etc. of a Christian believer. The Losungen are supposed to lead into studying the Bible and prayer on every day of the year. They also include a monthly Bible verse. People who have visited my place have seen the booklet, and it has been a good way for me to have a daily Bible reading or at least a glimpse at the Word of God ;-)

More information about the Losungen and the Herrnhuter Brüdergemeine Community can be retrieved from the Internet at [www.losungen.de](http://www.losungen.de) and [www.ebu.de](http://www.ebu.de)

Let's continue and read the context of the Bible verse 2009, and explore the passage's meaning in more detail.

### Luke 18:18-30

#### The Rich Ruler

18 A certain ruler asked him, Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life? 19 Why do you call me good? Jesus answered. No-one is good- except God alone. 20 You know the commandments: 'Do not commit adultery, do not murder, do not steal, do not give false testimony, honour your father and mother.' 21 All these I have kept since I was a boy, he said. 22 When Jesus heard this, he said to him, You still lack one thing. Sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me. 23 When he heard this, he became very sad, because he was a man of great wealth. 24 Jesus looked at him and said, How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God! 25 Indeed, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God. 26 Those who heard this asked, Who then can be saved? 27 Jesus replied, What is impossible with men is possible with God. 28 Peter said to him, We have left all we had to follow you! 29 I tell you the truth, Jesus said to them, no-one who has left home or wife or brothers or parents or children for the sake of the kingdom of God 30 will fail to receive many times as much in this age and, in the age to come, eternal life.

What does this scripture reading teach us for today, this year, and beyond?

First of all, it simply reveals that our salvation and righteousness is available only through Christ. It is impossible to be saved and become righteous by our own strength. It is only possible through Jesus and by following Him and God's Word. Accordingly Christ responds to the people who are asking about the possibility of salvation that with men it is impossible but with God it is possible!

### 1 Peter 3:18

For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God.

### John 14:6

Jesus answered, I am the way and the truth and the life. No-one comes to the Father except through me.

Please note that Jesus even mentions that apart from Him we can do nothing:

### John 15:5

Jesus says: Apart from me you can do nothing.

We thus need to constantly remind ourselves that salvation cannot be gained by our own human efforts. Rather, salvation is, along with righteousness, not a human achievement but a free gift from God.

### Ephesians 2:8

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith - and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God.

#### Romans 3:21-24

21 But now a righteousness from God, apart from law, has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. 22 This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference, 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

Secondly, the story of the rich ruler and other readings in the Bible tell us that instead of gathering and relying upon earthly riches, we are called to store up treasures in heaven and follow Jesus Christ with faithful obedience:

#### Matthew 6:19-20

19 Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. 20 But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal.

In the same Bible passage we are also reminded that where our treasure is, there will be our heart, too:

#### Matthew 6:21

21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

As in the case of the rich ruler, we are clearly told that wealth is an obstacle to receive salvation and to live a life as a true follower of Jesus Christ:

#### Matthew 6:24

24 No-one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money.

In our lives there may be other obstacles than earthly riches that keep us from truly accepting and following Christ Jesus, of course.

But let's consider further the rich ruler's story by relating it to other Scripture passages.

I chose Bible readings that show us how deceitful wealth (see Matthew 13:22), money or something the like is when it comes to accepting and following God and, in particular, Jesus Christ.

The Old Testament already has many stories and verses that reveal the deceitfulness of wealth:

For instance, Solomon (approx. 990-938 B.C.), who asked God for wisdom and knowledge when being made King shares his insight into having earthly riches, even though he was granted great wealth by God:

#### 2 Chronicles 1:10 (see also 1 Kings 3)

6 Solomon went up to the bronze altar before the LORD in the Tent of Meeting and offered a thousand burnt offerings on it. 7 That night God appeared to Solomon and said to him, Ask for whatever you want me to give you. 8 Solomon answered God, You have shown great kindness to David my father and have made me king in his place. 9 Now, LORD God, let your promise to my father David be confirmed, for you have made me king over a people who are as numerous as the dust of the earth. 10 Give me wisdom and knowledge, that I may lead this people, for who is able to govern this great people of yours? 11 God said to Solomon, Since this is your heart's desire and you have not asked for wealth, riches or honour, nor for the death of your enemies, and since you have not asked for a long life but for wisdom and knowledge to govern my people over whom I have made you king, 12 therefore wisdom and knowledge will be given you. And I will also give you wealth, riches and honour, such as no king who was before you ever had and none after you will have.

Ecclesiastes 5:10-16 (Solomon about riches)

10 Whoever loves money never has money enough; whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with his income. This too is meaningless. 11 As goods increase, so do those who consume them. And what benefit are they to the owner except to feast his eyes on them? 12 The sleep of a labourer is sweet, whether he eats little or much, but the abundance of a rich man permits him no sleep. 13 I have seen a grievous evil under the sun: wealth hoarded to the harm of its owner, 14 or wealth lost through some misfortune, so that when he has a son there is nothing left for him. 15 Naked a man comes from his mother's womb, and as he comes, so he departs. He takes nothing from his labour that he can carry in his hand. 16 This too is a grievous evil: As a man comes, so he departs, and what does he gain, since he toils for the wind?

Proverbs 30:8+9 (Agur son of Jakeh about poverty and riches)

Give me neither poverty nor riches, but give me only my daily bread. 9 Otherwise, I may have too much and disown you and say, 'Who is the LORD?' Or I may become poor and steal, and so dishonour the name of my God.

Furthermore, I'd also like to share a summary and interpretation of the story of Naaman, a Syrian or Aramean, who got cured of leprosy by putting his trust solely in God. You may read it up in 2 Kings 5 (see below) at home and ponder over it in more detail.

Naaman was an army commander of the king of Aram, Ben Hadad II (855–842 B.C.). Naaman lived in Damascus, the capitol of the Arameans. In the services of his wife was a young slave-girl from Israel. The girl had been taken captive resulting from fights between Israel and the Arameans.

The young slave-girl was aware of God's saving presence with the Lord's people through the prophet Elisha, and she shared that knowledge with the Aramean captors, suggesting that Naaman might get healed by visiting Elisha the Prophet.

Naaman appealed to his king, and Ben Hadad II sent him to Israel's capitol Samaria with a lot of money and treasure to buy the services of the Israelian God via King Joram (852-841 B.C.). Ben Hadad II and Naaman thought they could purchase with worldly wealth one of the chief blessings of the Israelian God.

King Joram got offended and suspected and intrigue but at the same time Elisha the Prophet received note of it and invited Naaman to come. Naaman went to Elisha's house and appeared in the front yard in his pride with chariots and horses, expecting Elisha to perform a miraculous healing by magical techniques.

However, Elisha, who was not a healer as such but a humble servant of the Lord, didn't even show up outside his house to welcome Naaman. Instead, Elisha sent word to Naaman through a messenger instructing him to dip himself seven times in the Jordan River. Naaman got angry, because he expected Elisha to act differently and thus he left in rage.

Now, in those times ritual washings for the sake of purification were widely practised among Eastern religions, and the number seven was generally known as a symbol of completeness. Naaman reckoned that even rivers in Syria like Abana and Pharpar will suit better than the Jordan River.

However, Elisha's instruction was designed to demonstrate to Naaman that healing would come by the power of God of Israel, but only if he obeyed the word of the Lord's prophet. Naaman was to wash in the muddy waters of the Jordan River, showing that there was no natural connection between the washing and the desired healing.

After Naaman had left Elisha's place in anger, his servants convinced him to return to Elisha, suggesting that he should heed the Prophet's word. Accordingly he changed his mind and dipped himself seven times in the Jordan River, and got healed from leprosy in connection with his obedient and trustful response to God's Word.

After being healed he went back to Elisha, who met him in his house. Naaman wanted to reward him but Elisha refused, as the healing was the Lord's work through Naaman's faith. Also, Elisha did not seek monetary gain for proclaiming the word of the Lord. Naaman accepted the refusal of money and left in peace. Before leaving he accepted the God of Israel as the only true God and

refrained from the Aramean pagan god Rimmon (also known as Hadad or Baal in Canaan and Phoenicia).

When he had left, Elisha's servant Gehazi got tempted by the rich offers of Naaman, and he followed him and stopped him to swindle money secretly for himself by lying to Naaman. Gehazi succeeded to deceive Naaman and received silver and clothes. However, Elisha discovers Gehazi's wrongdoing and he is punished with leprosy.

In my opinion, this story very well illustrates the deceitfulness of wealth, in contrast to simply putting our trust and faith into God. The doings of Naaman, Elisha and Gehazi teach us to show obedience and reverence to God alone! He can do impossible things, for example, the healing from leprosy, which is possible only for God, and it merely requires faith and trust!

Thus, when dealing with the Lord in sincere ways we have to drop the idea that money can buy everything, and remove our pride or greed. It's also remarkable that especially a child – the Jewish slave-girl, and servants helped Naaman, an Aramean pagan, to come to know the Truth about the saving power of the Israelian God, whom we are also worshiping as believers:

Psalm 8:2:

From the lips of children you have ordained praise.

Proverbs 14:35

A king delights in a wise servant.

2 Kings 5 (see also Luke 4:27)

### Naaman Healed of Leprosy

1 Now Naaman was commander of the army of the king of Aram. He was a great man in the sight of his master and highly regarded, because through him the LORD had given victory to Aram. He was a valiant soldier, but he had leprosy. 2 Now bands from Aram had gone out and had taken captive a young girl from Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. 3 She said to her mistress, If only my master would see the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy. 4 Naaman went to his master and told him what the girl from Israel had said. 5 By all means, go, the king of Aram replied. I will send a letter to the king of Israel. So Naaman left, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold and ten sets of clothing. 6 The letter that he took to the king of Israel read: With this letter I am sending my servant Naaman to you so that you may cure him of his leprosy. 7 As soon as the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his robes and said, Am I God? Can I kill and bring back to life? Why does this fellow send someone to me to be cured of his leprosy? See how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me! 8 When Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his robes, he sent him this message: Why have you torn your robes? Make the man come to me and he will know that there is a prophet in Israel. 9 So Naaman went with his horses and chariots and stopped at the door of Elisha's house. 10 Elisha sent a messenger to say to him, Go, wash yourself seven times in the Jordan, and your flesh will be restored and you will be cleansed. 11 But Naaman went away angry and said, I thought that he would surely come out to me and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God, wave his hand over the spot and cure me of my leprosy. 12 Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than any of the waters of Israel? Couldn't I wash in them and be cleansed? So he turned and went off in a rage. 13 Naaman's servants went to him and said, My father, if the prophet had told you to do some great thing, would you not have done it? How much more, then, when he tells you, 'Wash and be cleansed'? 14 So he went down and dipped himself in the Jordan seven times, as the man of God had told him, and his flesh was restored and became clean like that of a young boy. 15 Then Naaman and all his attendants went back to the man of God. He stood before him and said, Now I know that there is no God in all the world except in Israel. Please accept now a gift from your servant. 16 The prophet answered, As surely as the LORD lives, whom I serve, I will not accept a thing. And even though Naaman urged him, he refused. 17 If you will not, said Naaman, please let me, your servant, be given as much earth as a pair of mules can carry, for your servant will never again make burnt offerings and sacrifices to any other god but the LORD. 18 But may the LORD forgive your servant for this one thing: When my master enters the temple of Rimmon to bow down and he is leaning on my arm and I bow there also- when I bow down in the temple of Rimmon, may the LORD forgive your servant for this. 19 Go in peace, Elisha said. After Naaman had travelled some distance, 20 Gehazi, the servant of Elisha the man of God, said to himself, My master was too easy on Naaman, this Aramean, by not accepting from him what he brought. As surely as the LORD lives, I will run after him and get something from him. 21 So Gehazi hurried after Naaman. When

Naaman saw him running towards him, he got down from the chariot to meet him. Is everything all right? he asked. **22** Everything is all right, Gehazi answered. My master sent me to say, 'Two young men from the company of the prophets have just come to me from the hill country of Ephraim. Please give them a talent of silver and two sets of clothing.' **23** By all means, take two talents, said Naaman. He urged Gehazi to accept them, and then tied up the two talents of silver in two bags, with two sets of clothing. He gave them to two of his servants, and they carried them ahead of Gehazi. **24** When Gehazi came to the hill, he took the things from the servants and put them away in the house. He sent the men away and they left. **25** Then he went in and stood before his master Elisha. Where have you been, Gehazi? Elisha asked. Your servant didn't go anywhere, Gehazi answered. **26** But Elisha said to him, Was not my spirit with you when the man got down from his chariot to meet you? Is this the time to take money, or to accept clothes, olive groves, vineyards, flocks, herds, or menservants and maidservants? **27** Naaman's leprosy will cling to you and to your descendants for ever. Then Gehazi went from Elisha's presence and he was leprous, as white as snow.

Also the New Testament reports on the deceitfulness of wealth, in addition to the story of the rich ruler that has been given to us along with the Bible verse 2009:

#### 1 Timothy 6:9+10

**9** People who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge men into ruin and destruction. **10** For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

This applies even to Christians who once had accepted Jesus but then got deceived. For example, think about the couple Ananias and Sapphira:

#### Acts 4:32-5:11

##### The Believers Share Their Possessions

**32** All the believers were one in heart and mind. No-one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they shared everything they had. **33** With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and much grace was upon them all. **34** There were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned lands or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales **35** and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone as he had need. **36** Joseph, a Levite from Cyprus, whom the apostles called Barnabas (which means Son of Encouragement), **37** sold a field he owned and brought the money and put it at the apostles' feet.

#### Acts 5:1-11

##### Ananias and Sapphira

**1** Now a man named Ananias, together with his wife Sapphira, also sold a piece of property. **2** With his wife's full knowledge he kept back part of the money for himself, but brought the rest and put it at the apostles' feet. **3** Then Peter said, Ananias, how is it that Satan has so filled your heart that you have lied to the Holy Spirit and have kept for yourself some of the money you received for the land? **4** Didn't it belong to you before it was sold? And after it was sold, wasn't the money at your disposal? What made you think of doing such a thing? You have not lied to men but to God. **5** When Ananias heard this, he fell down and died. And great fear seized all who heard what had happened. **6** Then the young men came forward, wrapped up his body, and carried him out and buried him. **7** About three hours later his wife came in, not knowing what had happened. **8** Peter asked her, Tell me, is this the price you and Ananias got for the land? Yes, she said, that is the price. **9** Peter said to her, How could you agree to test the Spirit of the Lord? Look! The feet of the men who buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out also. **10** At that moment she fell down at his feet and died. Then the young men came in and, finding her dead, carried her out and buried her beside her husband. **11** Great fear seized the whole church and all who heard about these events.

Of course, the Bible tells us also about successfully refuting and withstanding the deceiving power of wealth, for instance, by showing us, above all, the example of Jesus Christ during His Temptation by Satan:

#### Matthew 4:8-10

8 Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour.9 All this I will give you, he said, if you will bow down and worship me. 10 Jesus said to him, Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.'

It is very comforting to know that Christ alone was able to really resist this kind of temptation – and that we get the strength to resist all evil, for instance, the misuse of earthly treasures, via Him!

## Songs

But – to resume with the story of the rich ruler pertaining to the Bible Verse 2009 – what are the heavenly treasures that Jesus is talking about, that is, the riches that will endure forever, in this life and in eternity? Let's have a look at the Bible:

First of all, we are not left with nothing, when giving up our trust in earthly riches such as wealth and money. Remember the promise that Christ made in the story of the rich ruler:

### Luke 18:29-30

29 I tell you the truth, Jesus said to them [the people who were asking about the possibility of salvation], no-one who has left home or wife or brothers or parents or children for the sake of the kingdom of God 30 will fail to receive many times as much in this age and, in the age to come, eternal life.

And elsewhere in the Bible we may be encouraged by God's faithfulness towards us:

### Hebrew 13:5

5 Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.

### Proverbs 11:28

28 Whoever trusts in his riches will fall, but the righteous will thrive like a green leaf.

So, what can we thrive upon once we've accepted Christ and started following Jesus? Here are some examples, which also show that riches which are granted to us and laboured for by us may be used for godly purposes, laying up heavenly treasures so to speak:

#### > Unsearchable and Glorious Riches

##### Ephesians 3:8

8 Although I am less than the least of all God's people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ,

##### Ephesians 3:16+17

16 I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being,17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith.

#### > Forgiveness, Grace and Mercy

##### Ephesians 1:7

7 In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace

##### Ephesians 2:4-5

4 But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy,5 made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions- it is by grace you have been saved.

##### 2 Corinthians 8:9

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.

#### > Faith and Love

1 Timothy 1:14

14 The grace of our Lord was poured out on me abundantly, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.

Romans 5:5

God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.

> Righteousness

Romans 5:17-19

how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ. 18 Consequently, just as the result of one trespass was condemnation for all men, so also the result of one act of righteousness was justification that brings life for all men. 19 For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.

> Hope and Joy

1 Timothy 6:17

17 Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.

> Doing Good & Sharing

1 Timothy 6:18-19

18 Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. 19 In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.

> Generosity and Thanksgiving

2 Corinthians 9:11

11 You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.

> Wisdom, Understanding and Knowledge (see also Proverbs 8)

Colossians 2:2

2 My purpose is that they may be encouraged in heart and united in love, so that they may have the full riches of complete understanding, in order that they may know the mystery of God, namely, Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

1 John 5:20

20 We know also that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know him who is true. And we are in him who is true - even in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life.

> Fruit of the Holy Spirit (see also Colossians 3:12-15)

Galatians 5:22

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness and self-control.

## **Conclusion:**

As with the story of the rich ruler in the New Testament and Naaman, Elisha and Gehazi in the Old Testament – where do we put our trust and faith, or in whom do we trust and have faith?

Do we gather and (sort of) gain rest on earthly treasures that will pass away or are we ready to lay up heavenly treasures that will last eternally?

Are we prepared to follow Christ and to move on in Jesus' ways, just as He commanded and we are reminded through the Scriptures, God's Word?

Let us be encouraged to receive and pursue heavenly treasures, and let's spend this year 2009 by trusting and having faith in God that he will provide for all our needs, despite of the global financial crisis and economic uncertainties.

He brought us to salvation and gave us righteousness by means of Jesus Christ – with regard to this everything is indeed possible for God!

When we leave the church today or go over to spend some time in fellowship, please take along a sticker with this year's Bible verse.



Put it in your purse or tag it to your refrigerator etc.! May it remind you and me of our God Almighty, who didn't hesitate to pay a high prize for our redemption and will be with us until the very end of times, and beyond ;-)

### **Closing Prayer:**

Let's close this worship meeting by praying according to [Ephesians 3:16-21](#) (A Prayer that Paul wrote for the Ephesians, slightly modified here!)

Lord, our Heavenly Father, we come before You in prayer. **16** We pray that **out of Your glorious riches** You may strengthen us with power through Your Spirit, **17** so that Christ may dwell in our hearts through faith. And we pray that we, being rooted and established in love, **18** may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, **19** and to know this love that surpasses knowledge - that **we may be filled to the measure of all the fulness of God.** **20** Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or **imagine**, according to His power that is at work within us, **21** to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

### **Announcements:**

Offertory from Christmas Carols 20.12.:

Jarkko & Soile Jokimies (Afghanistan) = 60 EUR

Band reJoiCe for Namibia Mission Trip of Karjasilta Parish Young Adults = 60 EUR

Helmuth & Niina Garoeb (Namibia) = 60 EUR + 25 EUR (ICFO November, December) = 85 EUR

God-child Mercy (Kenya) = 60 EUR +25 EUR (ICFO November, December) = 85 EUR

Gatherings on 26.12. and 31.12. Pictures available during fellowship time!

6.1. at 19.00 Bible study at Bastian's (Romans 5)

16.1. at 18.00 Ladies' Night, Heli & Tsegaye

Schedule for spring 2009:

Info Session every second Sunday in a month

(Mormonism, Jehova's Witnesses, New Age, Emergent Church, Evolution)

**Fellowship Time:**

Chatting over cup of tea or coffee, voluntary offertory, e-mail list, guest book ...