

What Does a Pastor Do?

The children in Miss Armstrong's class were on their way in from recess when they passed by Pastor Thompson's office. They saw him sitting at his desk, working on his computer. He smiled and waved as they walked by.

When they got back to the classroom, Tony raised his hand and asked, "What does Pastor Thompson do every day? I know he preaches at church on Sunday, but I'm not sure what he does the other days of the week."

"Well," Miss Armstrong said, "our pastor has a very special job! He shares God's Word every day with us and many other people. Can you think of some ways he does that?"

"He visited my grandpa when he was sick in the hospital, and he had a devotion and prayer with him," said Pedro.

"He baptized my baby sister," Carmen said.

"My mom and dad go to Bible class where he teaches them God's Word," Henry added.

Becca chimed in. "My dad says that Pastor Thompson visits the jail and tells people there about Jesus."

"Yes, our pastor does these and many other things," Mrs. Armstrong replied. "He also works very hard studying God's Word so that he can share it with us and others as best as he can."

"How did he learn to be a pastor?" Samantha asked.

"Well, he went to grade school like you and then high school. After that, he attended Martin Luther College (or MLC) and then Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary. There he and the other men in his class learned the things they need to know to be good pastors," said Mrs. Armstrong.

"I think I might like to be a pastor like Pastor Thompson," Ben said. "It's good that there are special schools where I can learn to be one!"

Discussion

1. Whom did the children see on their way in from recess?
2. What are some ways Pastor Thompson shares God's Word with others?
3. Why does Pastor Thompson work hard to study God's Word every day?
4. To which special schools can young men go to learn how to be pastors?

Activity

Take a "field trip" to visit your pastor in his office or invite him to your classroom. Ask him to explain how and why he became a pastor as well as share some of the things he enjoys doing as a pastor. The children may also like seeing some Greek and/or Hebrew texts that the pastor uses to study God's Word.

Memory Treasure

Mark 16:15: *Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.*

Prayer

Thank you, Lord, for the gift of pastors. Be with them and continue to help them each day as they preach the gospel to others. Please lead many more young men to go to school to become pastors so that others can hear of your great love for them. Amen.

Hymn

Hymn 746: "I Love to Tell the Story" (stanza 1, optional stanza 2)