

Life Week 2026 Devotion - Day 1

Get a Life by Rev. Dr. Aric Fenske



***"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy.
I came that they may have life and have it abundantly" (John 10:10).***

"Get a life." You may have heard that kind of statement from someone you were arguing with who thought you were getting into their private affairs. They wanted you to get your nose out of their business and focus on something else. They wanted you to go away. You may also have heard that statement from a friend who thought you were spending too much time and effort doing something boring or mundane when they would rather have you do something fun and exciting with them.

The devil is a thief seeking to steal and kill and destroy. He is at work doing this by telling us to "get a life." The devil often declares that we are getting into business that is not ours.

"Why should you have anything to say about someone else's life? That is none of your business." "Why are you making statements about what is right and wrong? Who are you to judge?" "Go away."

The devil also works to deceive and discourage us by telling us that the activities we engage in are so mundane and boring we should abandon them.

"Why spend all that time serving others when they should be taking care of you?" "Why are you exerting all that effort when you don't know how it will benefit you?" "Why are you spending all those hours at someone's bedside?"

To the devil who says, "Get a life," we say, **"We have one."** The life that we have has been given to us by our Good Shepherd, Jesus Christ, who came that we might have life and have it abundantly. The life we have is filled with joy and purpose. As believers in Jesus Christ, we rejoice that new life has been purchased for us by Christ's life, death, and resurrection and has been delivered to us through the Word and Sacraments. We have been forgiven and welcomed into the kingdom of God for faithful service.

Thieves are often sneaky, their movements covered by darkness. Thieves are often dangerous, too. They take, kill, and destroy the unsuspecting and unprepared. So, we who have been given life rejoice that Jesus has come to bring the light of life (John 8:12). We have the truth that can be proclaimed into every situation, even when it might be suggested that we get out of other people's business. Life is always precious and worth defending against those who try to corrupt it or end it. In God's Word, we have been provided with the Gospel, which motivates us to continue to serve others, even in what some might call mundane or tedious ways, because we know that we are serving our neighbor who needs our help. The world might discourage us from visiting the elderly or sick when we could be doing something more "exciting." However, there is great joy in bringing peace and comfort to those in need. May the Lord Jesus Christ continue to bring abundant life to the needy world. May He use us to share the Good News of life in Christ. Amen.



The Rev. Dr. Aric Fenske is a 2011 graduate of Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Since that time, he has served as the pastor of two dual parishes in the North Wisconsin District – LCMS, where he has been active in several different pro-life organizations. Dr. Fenske earned his Doctor of Ministry in 2019, again from Concordia Theological Seminary. He and his wife, Marie, have four daughters—Madison, Alexis, Hailee, and Marta—along with two grandsons, James and Rustyn. Dr. Fenske assumed his duties as Executive Director of Lutherans For Life on May 1, 2025.