

## Sunday School Lesson

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suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but under that name let him glorify God."

To travel under the name of another is to assume his identity. If we are to assume the name of Christ, if we would be called Christian, then we must assume the identity and character of our namesake. To be a Christian means to become like Jesus Christ, to take on his perception of life, his relationships with other people,

his employment. Martin Luther put it simply: Each of us is to be a little Christ to our neighbor.

What does this statement mean? It means that just as the clown helped the water boy shoulder his load, so we are to help others in every possible way. This help may be given through organizational channels such as the United Fund, or we may express our kindness and give assistance in a more direct way.

Being a Christ to our neighbor may also mean that, like

the clown in Parable, we will step into the line of fire, identifying with the neglected and the oppressed. It may mean taking up the causes of the American Indian, the Mexican laborer, the unemployed American Negro, the innocent victims of war. To be a Christ to our neighbor means we will interfere wherever men make puppets of other men.

### Sharing Christ's Suffering

Now, whoever tires to live under the name of Christ is sure to get his share of suffering. A book entitled Dying We

Live is made up of the final messages of various persons facing death under the Nazis.

One example is Paul Schneider, a Lutheran pastor, who was convinced that he must continue to preach the gospel. When he saw the lie being used as a political force, he called it by its name. Though he had already been imprisoned once in 1937, he refused to leave his country. The Nazis tortured and finally killed him.

Bernhard Lichtenberg, Roman Catholic dean of St. Hedwig's Cathedral in Berlin, was

taken to prison because he asked his people to pray for the Jews. "No one ever saw him raise his hand in the Hitler salute. When he was asked how he felt toward the Fuhrer, he replied to the Gestapo commissioner: 'I have only one Fuhrer, Jesus Christ.'"

### Other Kinds of Suffering

Fortunately, in this country we have never had to withstand such social, political, and religious adversity. But the sneer at the club or the office is almost harder to meet than

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