



Young Martin Luther

Martin Luther was born on November 10, 1483, in the town of Eisleben, Germany. The next day, his father took baby Martin to church. Martin was baptized in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

A young Martin grew, he continued to go to church. He studied history and the Bible in school. And he loved to sing. Even when he was young, people knew Martin would grow up to do great things.

Martin's parents took him to church so that he could grow in faith.

I go to church at

Martin Learns the Law

Martin studied to be a lawyer. He read book after book filled up with the laws that people must follow. He learned that when people broke these laws, they deserved to be punished.

Martin knew that God had laws, too, such as the Ten Commandments. "If I break God's law, God will punish me," thought Martin. "But if I am very good, could I earn God's love?"

This is one important rule that I know I must follow at school:

A Thunderstorm

Martin was walking in the rain. He had been visiting his mother and father, and now it was time to get back to the university. The sky became dark. Flashes of lightning made the trees jump out from the darkness. Thunder roared all around. Martin was filled with fear for his life.

Martin Makes a Promise

"Save me, Saint Anne, mother of Mary," Martin cried.
"And I promise to become a monk."

Martin made it back to school unhurt, but he thought about his promise. He felt sinful and afraid of God. But a monk dedicates his life completely to praying and working in a monastery. A monk must follow strict rules and dedicate his life to serving God. Perhaps this kind of life would help calm Martin's fear.

When I feel scared, I

Martin found comfort from fear in Psalm 46. That Psalm inspired him to write the song "A Mighty Fortress is Our God."

500 Years of Faith

When Martin hammered the 95 Theses on the door of the Wittenberg church, great changes rang out through churches around the world. All Christians now celebrate the free gift of God's grace. People all over the world worship and read the Bible in their own languages. Music fills churches everywhere.



