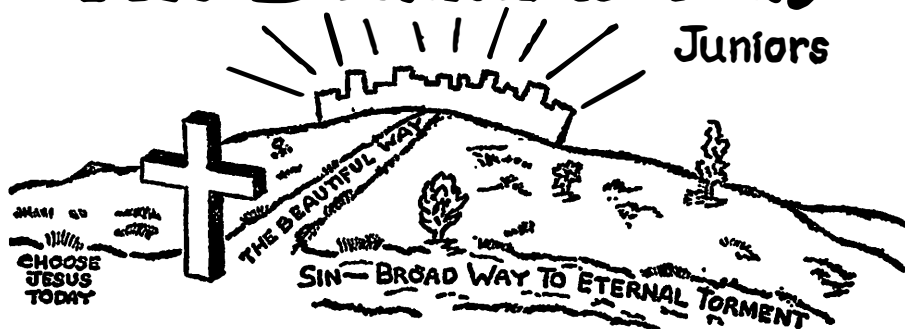


The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 18, No. 1

Jan., Feb., Mar. 1967

Part One

Jan. 1

Jesus Conquered Satan

Far away from human succor
In the lonely wilderness
Satan sought to tempt the Savior
And to lead Him to distress.

But three times by Him resisted
On the weakest points of men,
Satan then no more persisted
To seduce our Lord to sin.

Gaining thus a triumph ever,
Overcome was self and pride;
All the captives to deliver
In His grace a place to hide.
—Leslie Busbee

Baptism

"Jesus was baptized in the Jordan River, wasn't He?" Darlene asked.

"Yes, we have that in our lesson today," Sister Brown replied.

"Why do some think sprinkling is all right instead of being immersed as the Bible teaches?" asked Dale.

"They can't find it in the Bible

where any person was sprinkled. In all the places where it is recorded we find that the person was brought to the water and in the case of the eunuch it plainly tells us that when Philip baptized him that they went down into the water and they came up again out of the water. (Acts 8:38, 39). No sprinkling was done. Then John was baptized in a place 'because there was much water there.' (John 3:23). The New Testament was written in the Greek language. Let me get my Greek and English New Testament which is called the 'Emphatic Diaglott.' Let us read the commandment Jesus gave to his disciples before he went back to heaven after he arose from the grave. It says here under the Greek, 'Go, disciple, all the nations, immersing them into the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.' The word 'immerse' means to submerge or in other words to cover with water. Jesus is telling his disciples to put the one who has repented of his sins down under the water out of sight or bury him in the name of the Father,

Son and the Holy Spirit, and then bring him up again."

"So it doesn't tell us in the Bible that sprinkling is right," Dale commented.

"No, it definitely does not," Mother said firmly. "When a person has had his sins forgiven then he is ready to be baptized."

"One time Bill said that the water washed the sins away when one was baptized," Dale remarked.

"Jesus said, 'He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.' (Mark 16:15, 16.) We find here that it is the ones who believed that will be saved and he that doesn't believe will be damned. It limits baptism to those who are old enough to believe. The ones who are already saved are to be baptized. The water doesn't wash away their sins. In the Bible it tells us that Simon, the sorcerer at Samaria, was baptized along with the other believers by Philip, who was a minister of God. But when Simon showed what was in his heart by the things he said, Peter told him plainly, 'Thou hast neither part nor lot in this matter: for thy heart is not right in the sight of God.' (Acts 8:21). So the water did not wash away his sins nor cleanse his heart because he was still a sinner. He went into the water a dry sinner and came up out of the water a wet sinner. God knows what is in the heart."

"The water didn't help him any, did it?" Darlene said as she smiled.

"I want you to remember that baptism is an outward sign of an inward work in the heart. Peter said one time, 'Repent and be baptized everyone of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins.'

(Acts 2:38). Then Peter tells us or explains that baptism is 'not the putting away the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God.' (1 Pet. 3:19-21). What is the filth of the flesh?"

"I would say that it is sin," replied Susan.

"That is right. So you see Peter tells us plainly that baptism is not the putting away of our sins but it is an answer of a good conscience toward God. God has 'washed us from our sins in his own blood.' (Rev. 1:5). That is what the Bible tells us. Be sure and don't let someone twist the scriptures and make you think that the water will wash away your sins. Only in the precious blood of Jesus can our sins be washed away."

"Paul explains it this way," continued Sister Brown, "that baptism is a burial. Just as Jesus was buried or put out of sight and then arose again, just so we are put under the water and then raised again. He says, 'We are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead.' " (Romans 6:5).

"That is plain, isn't it?" Raymond commented.

"I also want to mention another thing to you," Sister Brown said to her Sunday School class. Many people have been sprinkled when an infant and they cling to that as baptism. We do not find anywhere in the Bible where it teaches infant baptism. We read of households being baptized but not infants. (Acts 10:16) Jesus taught that infants were saved but no where does he say they are to be baptized. (Mark 10:14) A person has to be old enough to understand what it means to be forgiven of

his sins before he is old enough to be baptized."

"Don't forget our lesson today," Sister Brown said. "Jesus is our example and he was baptized and we must follow in his footsteps." —M.M.

Before Jesus went back to heaven he talked to his friends about carrying on his Father's work. They felt they would be lonely but when they were kind to others and did helpful things they said, "Jesus is near." He kept his promise to them and He will do the same for you.

Dear Boys and Girls:—

It would be good if you read the lesson that we have today from the gospel of Matthew, also. You can read about the baptism of Jesus in Matt. 3:13-17. The temptations in the wilderness are recorded in Matthew 4:1-11. It adds some things that Luke does not mention.

Jesus has left all of us an example. He went down to the river Jordan and He was put under the water. In Matt. Jesus said that it was needful for Him to be baptized to "fulfill all righteousness." Peter tells us that baptism is the "answer of a good conscience toward God." 1 Peter 3:21.

After a person is saved and his sins are forgiven, he is to follow the Lord in baptism. John the Baptist baptized the people in the Jordan river. Some do not think one needs to go into the water, but that sprinkling will do just as well, however if Jesus was baptized in the river Jordan, then that is the way it should be done and no questions should be raised against it.

Baptism is an outward sign of an inward work in the heart. We have left all the world to follow Jesus.

That was a beautiful scene at the Jordan river. Jesus, the Son of God, standing in the water praying. The heavens opened and the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove came down upon Jesus and then God spoke out of heaven, "This is my beloved Son, in thee I am well pleased." The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, are three, yet one God-head.

Jesus had the approval of God, his Father, upon Him as He went into the wilderness there to be tempted of the devil. Jesus came here to give us power over the devil but the devil did not want us to have that power. He tried to conquer Jesus, the Son of God. But Jesus was an overcomer. Jesus was getting ready to preach the gospel.

Notice the three ways in which Jesus was tempted. First Satan tried to tempt Him to obey him when He was real hungry. He had fasted forty days and nights. The devil pointed to a stone and said, now use your miracle power to turn it into bread. But God did not give Him that power for any selfish use. He refused to let his hunger make him do wrong. Tell how you can be tempted to do wrong when you are hungry. Would you steal bread? This would be the lust of the flesh. (1 John 3:15, 16).

The devil worked on Jesus about the same way he worked on Eve, but Eve yielded and Jesus overcame. The devil said he would give Jesus all the kingdoms of the world if he would bow down and worship him. This would be the lust of the eyes. Then he tempted Him to jump off the pinnacle of the temple that he might become some great one, the pride of life. But Jesus resisted the devil. He came through the test with flying colors. He won the battle. The devil was defeated at that time and

he left Jesus, but for only a time. Jesus conquered every time. God will take you through, also. —Aunt Marie

Lesson 1, January 1, 1967

TIME OF GETTING READY

Luke 3:21, 22; Luke 4:1-13

Luke 3:21 Now when all the people were baptized, it came to pass, that Jesus also being baptized, and praying, the heaven was opened,

22 And the Holy Ghost descended in a bodily shape like a dove upon him, and a voice came from heaven, which said, Thou art my beloved Son; in thee I am well pleased.

Luke 4:1-13 And Jesus being full of the Holy Ghost returned from Jordan, and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness,

2 Being forty days tempted of the devil. And in those days he did eat nothing: and when they were ended, he afterward hungered.

3 And the devil said unto him, If thou be the Son of God, command this stone that it be made bread.

4 And Jesus answered him, saying, It is written, That man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.

5 And the devil, taking him up into a high mountain, shewed unto him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time.

6 And the devil said unto him, All this power will I give thee, and the glory of them: for that is delivered unto me; and to whomsoever I will, I give it.

7 If thou therefore wilt worship me, all shall be thine.

8 And Jesus answered and said unto him, Get thee behind me, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.

9 And he brought him to Jerusalem, and set him on a pinnacle of the temple, and said unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down from hence:

10 For it is written, He shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee:

11 And in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone.

12 And Jesus answering said unto him, It is said, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God.

13 And when the devil had ended all the temptation, he departed from him for a season.

Memory Verse: And Jesus answered and said unto him, Get thee behind me, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve. Luke 4:8.

Central Thought: We are as strong as the weakest point we have in us.

QUESTIONS:

1. Where was Jesus baptized and how?
2. What does baptism mean?
3. Where was Jesus tempted and how long had He been fasting?
4. Name the three ways in which he was tempted.
5. Are we tempted through the lust of the eyes, the lust of the flesh, and the pride of life? (Read 1 John 2:15, 16.)
6. Name some ways we can overcome temptations.

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 18, No. 1

Jan., Feb., Mar. 1967

Part Two

Jan. 8

His Ministry

In the power of the Spirit
Jesus came to Galilee.
And the multitudes did hear it,
And His fame for all to see.

Standing up, the prophet reading
As all eyes upon Him fell;
"I have come to preach the gospel
To the poor on earth who dwell."

Yes, to us a Son is given,
We who mourn and sense our need:
Peace from God and hope of heaven
If we will His promise plead.

—Leslie Busbee

Ruth Is Chosen

A number of girls played together in Esther's yard. They would play house for a while and then they would play hop scotch. Sometimes their brothers would play with them and they would play hide and seek or maybe run races. Esther's mother was always at home. She didn't let

the neighbor children play in her house but she made them feel real welcome to play in the yard. She sometimes would take them out some cookies or maybe some kool-ade. She kept a watchful eye on them because she loved her own children very much. She wanted them to do right and grow up to be men and women with high ideals and noble principles. As she watched the children play she noticed that Ruthie was such a sweet girl. She would always let others go ahead of her. If there was any trouble she was the peace-maker. She noticed that she was not selfish and never contended to be "it" all the time.

One day Esther's mother and father were planning a short trip. They wanted their son and daughter to enjoy themselves, and they planned outings for them that were wholesome and good. They decided to go on a fishing trip and stay all night. Esther and her brother wanted to take a friend along with them. They talked it over and Daddy and Mother decided to let them. Now the question was,

which of the neighbor children should they ask? Mention was made of first one and then the other. But Mother knew from the first which one of the girls she wanted Esther to ask. Mother had been watching their actions. Finally Esther said, "Mother, you tell me which one I should ask. If I ask Belle I know that Marie will be mad at me. If I ask Sue then Opal won't like it."

"Why don't you ask Ruth to go with you?" Mother suggested.

"Why, yes, she is just the one," Esther said firmly. "Why didn't I think of unselfish little Ruth? She is always so kind and good that we just expect her to go along with anything we suggest."

"I think you can learn a lesson from her," Mother said gently. "It just might be that other parents are planning things for their children and they are watching the actions of all the children. It might depend on how you act whether or not you'd be invited to go with them. It pays to be unselfish. Jesus lived a life of unselfishness. He is our example. But, Esther, I am glad that I have noticed that you have improved greatly in your ways. It makes me feel glad. I believe that Jesus is helping you."

"I want to always be unselfish," Esther said meekly. "But sometimes I have to get after myself when I am tempted." —M. Miles

Brave Little Bess

You will like the story about a brave little sister, whose name was Bess. Her parents were called away. Younger than herself there were two sisters, Katie and baby Rose, and a brother, Rob. She was to take care

of them while her parents were away.

Before the parents left, the mother said to Bess, "Be Mother's brave little woman, dear," and kissed baby Rose. The father said, "I leave the children in your care, Bess; be a little mother to them." Then they started on their way.

Two days went by, and the evening of the third day came. Little Bess put the other children to bed. Then she took up her mother's work basket, and sat down by the table.

Suddenly Bess felt something cold on her feet. She bent down and felt around with her hand. A pool of water was spreading over the floor. She knew what it was, for they lived on the banks of the Mississippi River. And she knew the river had broken through its banks. What should she do? She thought of a boat, but where could she get one?

Bess ran wildly outside the door, looking for help, and stumbled over something standing on the porch. It was a large, oblong tub. Here was her boat! She got the children out of bed as quickly and as quietly as she could, and dressed them. She hurried together some sandwiches, and dragged the big tub upstairs. When the water got that high, she would let the tub slip out through the window, and they would float on the water till someone rescued them.

Bess put the three children into the tub, giving the baby into little Rob's arms. When she was ready to get into it, lo, there was no room for her. She paused a moment, drew a long breath, then kissed the children. She told little Rob to guard the boat, saying they must sit still. "Good-by, dears," she added. "Say a prayer for Siser, Rob. If you ever see Father and Mother, tell them I took care of

you." Then out into the dark night the boat floated.

The next day the father found the tub caught in the branches of a tree. The children were crying and chilled, but they were safe. But where was Bess, the "little mother"? Later they found her body floating on the water, with her brave little face turned to the sky. She had given her life to save her brother and sisters.

This makes us think of the dear Lord Jesus, who, also gave His life for us, that we might be saved from our sins. He was glad to do it, because He loved us so much.

—Touching Incidents

(You can order the book that has this story and many others like it from Faith Publishing House. —Ed)



Dear Boys and Girls:—

The Jews were looking for the Messiah or Christ to come to the world. Jesus, the Christ, had come but they did not want to accept Him. He was born in a stable and laid in a manger. They, no doubt, wanted Christ to come in some great manner. Possibly many of them had their own ideas as to how Christ would come. The Old Testament, which they had in those days, is like ours today. We read in it the many times that it foretells of Christ's coming. They did not have the New Testament then.

Jesus attended services regularly in the synagogue where the people met each week. This is a good example for us, also. But one day Jesus stood up to read, as it was their custom to do. He was brought the Old Testament, which was a scroll. He read from Isaiah the 61st chapter and the first two verses. This was a prophecy of Himself and what He would do when He came to this world. "And he closed the book, and

he gave it again to the minister, and sat down. And the eyes of all them that were in the synagogue were fastened on him. And he began to say unto them, This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears. And all bare him witness, and wondered at the gracious words which proceeded out of his mouth. And they said, Is not this Joseph's son?" Luke 4:20-22.

Who is this man? What kind of a Messiah is this? These questions and many more came to the minds of the people as they listened to that wonderful sermon that Jesus preached that day. They no doubt wondered if the Messiah could come from such a little town as Nazareth, instead of Jerusalem and the King's palace. He did not have any noble family, nor any money, nor military might, no doubt they said. The more they thought about Him the more they did not want to accept Him. Jesus had met the devil after he had fasted forty days and nights and conquered him, but would he conquer him now or would he turn back and not do God's will? "He came to his own but his own received him not" John tells us. But this did not stop Jesus although they tried to get rid of Him. He did not let troubles stop Him from doing the will of His Father. He went right on and continued to preach the gospel. He was the loving, kind, forgiving Christ that we love today. He loved them even if they did not love Him. He prayed for them. He healed the sick among them. He raised the dead. He opened the blind eyes. He preached repentance. He forgave their sins and brought peace to their souls. He went about doing good. The rest of our lesson tells about how He forgave the man of his sins who was sick of the palsy and healed him. Many were amazed and glorified God.

They all were filled with fear.

What kind of a Christ is Jesus to you today? He wants to be your Savior. Let Him have your heart. —Aunt Marie

Lesson 2, January 8, 1967

JESUS BEGINS HIS MINISTRY

Luke 4:16-19; 5:18-26

Luke 4:16 And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read.

17 And there was delivered unto him the book of the prophet Esaias. And when he had opened the book, he found the place where it was written,

18 The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised.

19 To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.

Luke 5:18 And, behold, men brought in a bed a man which was taken with a palsy: and they sought means to bring him in, and to lay him before him.

19 And when they could not find by what way they might bring him in because of the multitude, they went upon the housetop, and let him down through the tiling with his couch into the midst before Jesus.

20 And when he saw their faith, he said unto him, Man, thy sins are forgiven thee.

21 And the scribes and the Pharisees began to reason, saying, Who is this

which speaketh blasphemies? Who can forgive sins, but God alone?

22 But when Jesus perceived their thoughts, he answering said unto them, What reason ye in your hearts?

23 Whether is easier, to say, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Rise up and walk?

24 But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power upon earth to forgive sins, (he said unto the sick of the palsy,) I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy couch, and go into thine house.

25 And immediately he rose up before them, and took up that whereon he lay, and departed to his own house, glorifying God.

26 And they were all amazed, and they glorified God, and were filled with fear, saying, We have seen strange things today.

Memory Verse: Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father. John 14:12.

Central Thought: Jesus will be all to you that you will let Him be.

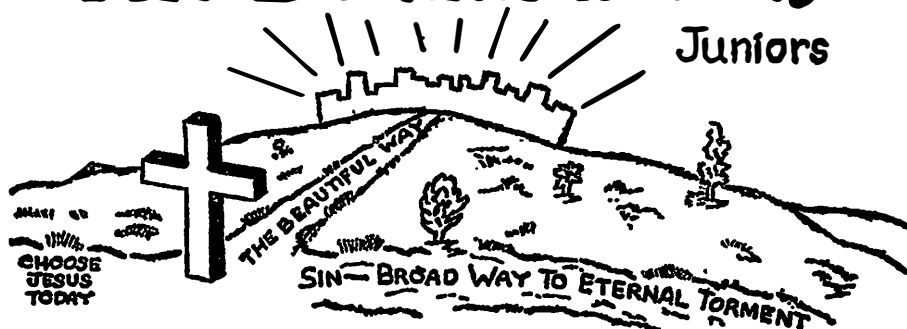
QUESTIONS:

1. Did Jesus attend services regularly?
2. From what book of the Bible did he read that day?
3. How do you think the people were expecting Jesus to come into the world?
4. Aren't you glad that Jesus came in a humble way so it would take all of us in?
5. Tell about the man who was sick with palsy and what happened to him.

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The Beautiful Way

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Part Three

Jan. 15

The Marks of a Christian

Faith, a heart God's word believing,
Love, a bright and glowing flame;
Peace, the strife of earth relieving,
Joy, a happy heart and name.

Toil, the willingness to labor,
Patience, willingness to wait;
Honesty to friend and neighbor,
Faithfulness—a life that's straight.

Holiness, God's word adorning,
Wisdom, all affairs to guide;
Marks of Christ shine as the morning
Through the Church, His chosen
Bride!

—Leslie Busbee

Carrie's Marks

"For I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus," repeated Miss Evans, slowly. "My dear girls," she said, "have you these marks? It used to be the custom in India to brand the master's name upon the arms of his servants, so that all who met them

would know to whom they belonged. Do your lives show the name of the Lord Jesus to all whom you meet?

"O Belle!" cried Jennie Day, on the way home. "Did you see Sarah Brooks in that new silk dress? Didn't she feel grand?"

"New!" returned Belle White, "I almost know it was made out of one of her mother's old ones."

"How spiteful they are," thought Carrie Maynard; "I am glad I know better than to talk that way. Girls," she said aloud, "I think you are forgetting very quickly what Miss Evans read about the marks. The Bible says, 'Charity envieth not.'"

"Yes," answered Belle angrily, "and it says, too, 'Vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up.'"

"I wonder if I am conceited, and quote only the verses that don't mean me," said Carrie to herself. "I am sure humility must be one of the marks;" and she went upstairs and asked God to show her how bad she was, little dreaming how soon the prayer would be answered.

After dinner she washed and wiped

the dishes and put them carefully away. "There," thought she, "if 'cleanliness is next to godliness,' I am sure of one mark, for mother says I am an uncommonly neat little girl."

Meantime, Charlie, finding his own library book rather dull, had commenced reading Carrie's. "Here! that's mine," she cried, trying to snatch it.

"Wait till I finish this page," he said, holding it up out of her reach.

"No, I will have it now," she insisted; and by frantic efforts finally seized it, but not till she had left a scratch on his arm, and received several pinches on her arm.

She opened the book, and the first thing she saw was the verse, "Ye have need of patience."

"Oh, dear," she sighed, "there is another mark. Now, I suppose, I must carry this book back to Charlie and ask his forgiveness."

"I am sorry I behaved so badly, and you make take the book all the afternoon," she whispered.

Charlie stopped whistling. "Upon my word, I believe you are a Christian, Carrie," he said, and then he fell to whistling again. But Carrie went softly upstairs.

What Became of a Lie

First, somebody told it,
Then the room wouldn't hold it,
For the busy tongues rolled it,
And got it outside.

When the crowd came across it,
They never once lost it,
But tossed it and tossed it,
Till it grew long and wide.

This lie brought forth others,
Dark sisters and brothers
And fathers and mothers,
A terrible crew!

And as headlong they hurried,
The people they flurried
And bothered and worried
As lies always do.

At last evil boded,
It fretted and goaded,
Till at last it exploded
In sin and shame;

While thru smoke and thru fire
The pieces flew higher,
Till they hit the sad liar
And killed his good name.

—Selected

Balky Boys and Doors

"It's too bad the new boy next door is so hard to get along with," said Karl. "I'd like to play with him oftener, but he is so bent on having his own way that he spoils all the fun."

"He surely is stubborn," agreed Ben. "When he wants something he sticks like our balky, old garage door. Still, there's much that is good about him. Maybe, after all, we can find a way to get along with him. But here comes the carpenter to fix the garage door. It is one of those doors that slide on a track. It stuck this morning and Father couldn't budge it."

The boys settled themselves to watch the carpenter, thinking it would be a hard job. But it wasn't long until the workman turned to them and said, "Now, see if you can push the door with one finger."

Karl pressed his little finger on the edge of the door and it slid along easily.

"What did you do to the stubborn old thing to make it work like that?" asked Ben.

"Just gave it few drops of oil," laughed the workman. "There's nothing like oil to take the balkiness out of things."

"Well, I said the new boy was like a balky garage door," said Ben, later, "but I've learned something since I said that."

"You mean that we haven't used the right way in trying to get along with him?" asked Karl.

"Exactly. We've been shoving and trying to force him. Now let's try the oil of kindness and understanding, and see how it works," said Ben.

"All right," agreed Karl.

And of course it worked!

—o—

You can help your mother by caring for the baby or the younger children.

Dear Boys and Girls:—

Many times you can tell what kind of trade a person has by the marks he has on his body. My husband is a printer and operates a linotype machine. He has marks on him that show what he does. His hands generally have black ink ground deep into them and there is a callus on his arm where he rests the magazines full of mats which he carries often and puts on his machine. I am told that dentists have calluses on their fingers from holding their drills and those who use pencils do, too. My son plays the guitar at times for his own pleasure and he has calluses on his fingers. Many times you can tell what a person does by the marks that he carries. What kind of marks should a

Christian have? I am sure they have some calluses on their knees. But there are also other marks. Our lesson tells how Christians live, which are marks in their lives. The word Christian means "Christ-like."

In the first part of our lesson Jesus pronounces a blessing upon those who get their hearts right with God and have His help to be able to carry the marks of a Christian. Those who become humble and poor in spirit will be received into the kingdom. If they will hunger after righteousness they shall be filled and blessed. They must desire it and love it.

Good and evil won't mix. God does not look upon evil with any degree of approval or pleasure. So when we are saved and belong to God those who are evil will not always want us in their company. Sometimes our good works show their evil works to them and that makes them angry. They will cast you out and even hate you for your good. But Jesus said for us to rejoice and be glad because great is our reward in heaven. We surely don't want to miss heaven. Eternity never ends. Our life here is so short and we will soon be gone. You may feel you will live a long time and it may seem that 70 years is a long time but if you try to compare it to eternity it is such a short time. It is better to have God's approval than man's.

It would be good to list the different marks that Jesus says will show that we are a follower of Christ. Then it would be good for us to examine ourselves and ask ourselves the question, are we living up to it? If we are not, then we must pray and ask God to help us. Don't be discouraged and quit for God will help you. He doesn't ask us to do anything too hard to do. Notice what our memory verse says.

Notice the Golden Rule in our lesson. "As ye would that men should do to you, do ye also likewise." We should stop and think how we want to be treated and then treat others the same way. God will bless you if you love others and pray for them that wish you harm.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 3, January 15, 1967

THE MARKS OF A CHRISTIAN

Luke 6:20-23, 27-36

Luke 6:20 And he lifted up his eyes on his disciples, and said, Blessed be ye poor: for yours is the kingdom of God.

21 Blessed are ye that hunger now: for ye shall be filled. Blessed are ye that weep now: for ye shall laugh.

22 Blessed are ye, when men shall hate you, and when they shall separate you from their company, and shall reproach you, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of man's sake.

23 Rejoice ye in that day, and leap for joy: for, behold, your reward is great in heaven: for in the like manner did their fathers unto the prophets.

27 But I say unto you which hear, Love your enemies, do good to them which hate you.

28 Bless them that curse you, and pray for them which despitefully use you.

29 And unto him that smiteth thee on the one cheek offer also the other; and him that taketh away thy cloak forbid not to take away thy coat also.

30 Give to every man that asketh of thee; and of him that taketh away thy goods ask them not again.

31 And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise.

32 For if ye love them which love you, what thank have ye? for sinners also love those that love them.

33 And if ye do good to them which do good to you, what thank have ye? for sinners also do even the same.

34 And if ye lend to them of whom ye hope to receive, what thank have ye? for sinners also lend to sinners, to receive as much again.

35 But love ye your enemies, and do good, and lend, hoping for nothing again; and your reward shall be great, and ye shall be the children of the Highest; for he is kind unto the unthankful and to the evil.

36 Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful.

Memory Verse: And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?

Central Thought: Others will know that we are Christians by the life we live.

QUESTIONS:

1. Can you tell something about a person by the marks on him?

2. What are some of the marks of a Christian?

3. How are you to feel if someone separates you from their company?

4. How are you to treat those who do you evil?

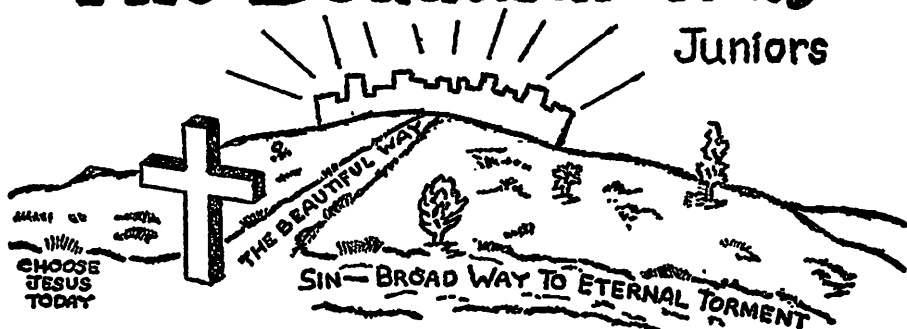
5. Are you to do good only to those who are able to do you good?

6. How are you to live to be called the "children of the Highest"?

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 18, No. 1

Jan., Feb., Mar. 1967

Part Four

Jan. 22

The House Inside

I have a house inside of me;
A house that people never see;
It has a door through which none pass,
And windows, but they're not of glass.

"Where do you live?" ask folks I meet,
And then I say, "On Maple Street;"
But still I know what's really me,
Lives in a house folks never see.

Sometimes I like to go inside,
And hide and hide and hide and hide,
And doctor up my wounded pride
When I've been treated rough outside.

And sometimes when I've been to blame,
I go indoors and blush for shame;
And get my mind in better frame,
And get my tongue and temper tame.

I meet my heavenly Father there;
For He stoops down to hear my prayer,
To smooth my brow and cure my care
And make me brave to do and dare.

Then after I have been made strong,
And have things right that were all

wrong,
I come outside where I belong
To sing a new and happy song.

Then I can hear the people say
"You're bright and bonnie, good and gay"

And it's because I feel that way;
But they don't know the price I pay.

Gerry's Plant

"Mother, why don't the other boys and girls like me?" Gerry asked.

"Why, Gerry, they do. You just think they don't. That is silly," said Gerry's mother.

"No. They don't. They never ask me to their homes. And no one talks to me much at school. Yesterday Tony White gave a pencil to everyone. But he didn't give me one."

Mother saw tears in Gerry's eye. It made her feel badly. "Gerry, let's pray about it," she said.

God answered their prayer in a strange way.

The next Sunday Gerry's Sunday school teacher gave a seed to each

one in her class and said, "Take the seed home and bury it in a can of dirt. Keep the dirt moist. Put the can in the sunlight where it is warm and see what happens. The little seed will teach you something."

At home Gerry found an old tomato can and filled it with soft black dirt. Then she put the seed in the can and covered the seed with dirt.

Each day Gerry watched the tomato can. At first nothing happened. Then one morning she saw a little plant peeking its head through the dirt.

Gerry jumped up and down for joy. "You are lots prettier than you were when I buried you," she said.

The plant grew and grew until it got quite tall. It grew prettier all the time. "Look how pretty you are. I like you," Gerry cried. "Suppose you had not been buried. You would still be just an ugly old seed."

Mother heard what Gerry said. "Would you like to be pretty, too? Do you want all of the children to like you?" she asked.

"Why, yes. But how can I make them like me? They never ask me to do anything with them. And no one likes me."

"You must bury yourself," Mother said, "if you want others to like you."

Gerry asked, "How can I bury myself?"

"You must deny yourself. You must think of others first and give them what you want for yourself."

"Oh, thank you, Mother," Gerry said. "I will do that."

Next Sunday Gerry took a beautiful flower with her. None of the other girls had one. She noticed how faded and old Mary's dress was. So she gave the flower to Mary.

"Oh thank you," Mary said. Her eyes sparkled. "Why did you give me your flower?"

"Because I want you to have it," she said.

In class the teacher asked, "Whom would you like to be secretary of your class?"

Gerry wanted to be secretary. But she remembered what Mother had told her. So she said, "I would like for Tommy to be secretary."

Tommy's face brightened up. He smiled at Gerry.

At school the next day Gerry noticed that Linda had no lunch. "Linda," she said, "please come and help me eat my lunch."

There was only one apple, so Gerry gave it to Linda.

Gerry continued to give to others. It wasn't long until all of the other children just loved Gerry. She was the first one they invited to play with them. Everyone liked her.

Gerry said to her plant, "Little plant, thank you for showing me how to be beautiful. I have buried myself and denied myself, and now every body loves me."

—R. N.

THIS DAY I WILL REMEMBER

(As told by Naomi Lefever of Lancaster, Pennsylvania.)

While on the Steel Pier at Atlantic City a few years ago, our attention was drawn to a great crowd of people screaming on the beach. As we looked out over the waves, we saw a child about fourteen years old drowning. As the lifeguards were nearing him the crowd became hushed and tense.

A large crowd of us had gathered at the guard rail of the pier, and I

felt desperate as I watched. In my heart I breathed a prayer that the child would be saved. Suddenly the silence was broken by my little four-year-old daughter, Marlene Lefever, as she cried out aloud, "Dear Jesus, please don't let that little boy die!"

Marlene had just given her heart to the Lord Jesus a few months before, and now before the great crowd she called to her Savior. The little boy didn't die. He was dragged unconscious into the boat, but he lived.

In my heart I praised God for the living faith of my little girl in the living God. Little as she was, she was saved, and she knew it, and before the great crowd of people she showed it.

—O—

Dear Boys and Girls:—

Did you ever see anyone sow seed? When I was a little girl my father had a garden. He usually had a lettuce bed, as he called it. He would take the lettuce seed and scatter it on the piece of ground that he had dug up and raked smooth. After he did this he would rake it lightly and then leave it. Soon the seed would germinate and grow.

Our lesson is about a sower who just scattered his seed as far as he could as he walked along in his field. Jesus no doubt saw the sower sow his seed in that day. He might have been watching one as he spoke this parable. He wanted those who heard to get some precious truths from this parable. He said the seed is the word of God. The word of God is given out by different ones and in different ways. Sometimes it is the minister or evangelist who does the sowing. The teacher of the Sunday school gives out the word of God. Then those who talk to their neighbors about God are sowers of the

Word. Boys and girls can give out the Word of God. You do not know what kind of a heart the person has that hears the Word of God. It might be the group of boys and girls who are trying to persuade you to do wrong. You tell them that the Bible tells us that it is wrong to do as they want you to do. Now in that group you might not know just what kind of hearts they have. They might not let you know just how the Word of God affects them. One boy told me that a group was opposing him as he took his stand for a certain Bible truth. He thought all of them were against him, but later one boy came to him and told him that he believed it just like he did but he didn't have the courage to tell it.

Now the Word of God that the sower sowed fell on four groups of hearers. One was the wayside hearers. This is the seed that fell on the path or the unplowed ground. This would be people who have hard hearts. They would admit that it is true that we must obey God's Word to get to heaven but before they can turn to God, believe and be saved, the devil takes away the word out of their hearts. Then the word fell on some soil that was over some rocks. Oh, they were so happy to hear the word and with joy they believed, but when temptation came they had no root so it did not last. Then other seed fell among thorns. The thorns grew so fast that they choked out the word. The cares and riches and pleasures of this life are thorns. They will stick and prick and choke out every bit of God. This person did not bring forth fruit.

Thank God, there are a few who accept the word of God. They have a good and honest heart and cling to God. They are determined to bring forth fruit. They hold fast to what God gave

them. The cares of this world have no hold upon them. They are steadfast and with patience bring forth good fruit. God is pleased with them. —Aunt Marie

Lesson 4, January 22, 1967

THE SEED AND THE FRUIT

Luke 8:9-21

Luke 8:9 And his disciples asked him, saying, What might this parable be?

10 And he said, Unto you it is given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God: but to others in parables; that seeing they might not see, and hearing they might not understand.

11 Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God.

12 Those by the way side are they that hear; then cometh the devil, and taketh away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved.

13 They on the rock are they, which, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, which for a while believe, and in time of temptation fall away.

14 And that which fell among thorns are they, which, when they have heard, go forth, and are choked with cares and riches and pleasures of this life, and bring no fruit to perfection.

15 But that on the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience.

16 No man, when he hath lighted a candle, covereth it with a vessel, or putteth it under a bed; but setteth it on a candlestick, that they which enter in may see the light.

17 For nothing is secret, that shall

not be made manifest; neither any thing hid, that shall not be known and come abroad.

18 Take heed therefore how ye hear: for whosoever hath, to him shall be given; and whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken even that which he seemeth to have.

19 Then came to him his mother and his brethren, and could not come at him for the press.

20 And it was told him by certain which said, Thy mother and thy brethren stand without, desiring to see thee.

21 And he answered and said unto them, My mother and my brethren are these which hear the word of God, and do it.

Memory Verse: Take heed therefore how ye hear: for whosoever hath, to him shall be given; and whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken even that which he seemeth to have. Luke 8:18.

Central Thought: Take heed how you hear the Word of God and obey it.

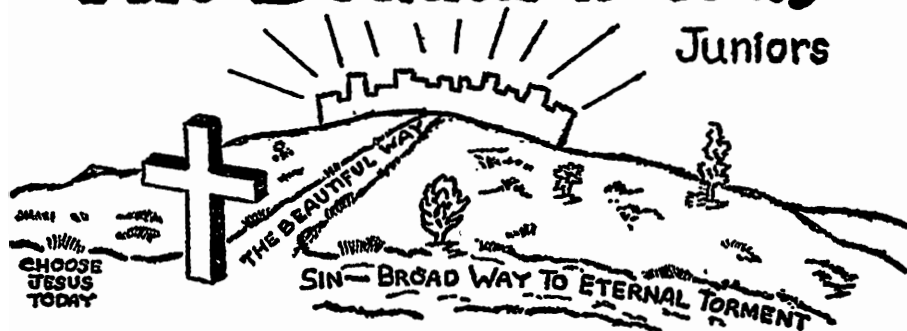
QUESTIONS:

1. To whom is it given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God?
2. Who is the sower and what is the seed?
3. What happened to the wayside hearers and the rocky hearers?
4. How did the thorny hearers accept the Word of God?
5. What about the good-ground hearers, how did they accept it?
6. How does the 17th verse explain the 16th?
7. Whom did Jesus say were His mother, brother, and sister?

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 18, No. 1

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Part Five

Jan. 29

If Only We

If only we could keep in mind
The love in heaven's plan
And what rich mercy, sweet and kind,
Has offered it to man;

If only we could sense the fact
Of life's uncertainty,
And how today that we should act
As for eternity;

We would not hesitate to claim
The blessings of His peace
And live to love and bless His name
'Til life on earth shall cease.

—Leslie Busbee

What Does Christ Mean To You?*

"Next Sunday I want each of you to bring a statement from someone to whom you asked the question, 'What does Christ mean to you?' " Sister Brown told her Sunday school

*parable

class of juniors.

There were many experiences that week as the juniors endeavored to get statements from others.

Nell asked the grocer the question, telling him that she was supposed to take the answer to Sunday School the next Sunday. This embarrassed the grocer because he didn't go to church, nor did he think much of Jesus, but he hated to tell Nell that. She insisted that he tell her exactly how he felt, when she saw him hesitate. He said, "Nell, you are a good girl and I know that you love Christ. I hope you always will. But as for me, I am too busy to take time to love Him."

"Oh, but you must," Nell insisted. "One of these days you will die and you will have to meet Him. What are you going to tell Him then?"

"You have put me on the spot," he answered. "Maybe I had better take time. I guess you had better run along now as I have to get busy."

When Nell told about the grocery man at Sunday School the next Sunday the teacher said that they would

pray for him but that she knew that he would not forget what Nell had told him.

Bill asked his boy friend one day as they were walking home from school. Bill didn't see much of him except at school. He said, "What does Christ mean to you?"

"What?" asked Jack. He thought maybe he hadn't heard right. Christ wasn't mentioned in his home.

"What does Christ mean to you?" Bill repeated.

"Well, He doesn't mean much to me because I don't know Him," said Jack. "Who is He?"

"Don't you know who Christ is?" Bill asked. "He is the Savior of the world."

"Savior?" repeated Jack. "What's a Savior?"

"Did you ever do any sins, like telling a lie or disobeying your parents or stealing or something like that?" asked Bill. "Well, that's sin. Jesus came to save us from our sins. Sins will cause us to go to hell. Sins make us feel bad deep inside. Jesus wants us to confess our sins to Him and then He makes us feel good inside. When He saves us He is our Savior."

"Oh," answered Jack as they went on in silence for awhile. Jack was deeply touched. He knew that he had told some lies and he had taken some things that didn't belong to him and he wondered how Bill knew. He almost got scared, then he thought well, he doesn't know, he just mentioned that was a sin. He felt relieved and then he heard Bill saying, "Did you not know that God knows everything? He can see us when no one else can. He knows when we are good and he knows when we sin and are bad. Christ, who is the Son of God, is called Jesus in the Bible. He loves

us and I told him I was sorry that I had sinned and he forgave me. Now I am happy."

"Oh, I want Christ to be my Savior," Jack said with deep feeling. Bill told him that he would pray for him. When Bill told at Sunday School what Jack said, Sister Brown said that all of them must pray for Jack.

Betty asked Louise what Christ meant to her. She said that Christ was her Savior and that she loved him. She said that she prayed to him every night. Louise was older than Betty and as Betty looked at her sweet face she thought that she would like to be as sweet as Louise when she grew up.

Rachel asked Linda the same question as they waited on the corner for Elsie to change her dress. The girls were going to the store and had stopped by for Elsie.

"Oh, I am too young to think about Christ," Linda said. "I want to have a good time now. When I get old I will think about Christ."

"Yes, but Linda, what if you do not live to be old," Rachel said, thinking about how she had almost been killed in a car accident.

"Oh, I think I will live to be old. Anyway I am going to have a good time," Linda insisted with a toss of her head. "Just as soon as I get out of school I am leaving home and then I can have lots of boy friends. Mother is too cranky with me now. My cousin said it is fun to go to dances, hit the high spots, drink and smoke."

"Oh, Linda!" Rachel said with a shudder. "How horrible for you to talk so. Don't you know that is all on the street that is leading you right down to hell? And I don't call that fun. Your cousin surely didn't try to make you think that everything

goes smoothly in such a life. Is she happy?"

"Oh well, she said that sometimes you had to fight and bluff your way through but she said you could do it," Rachel said talking a little more sensibly. "Of course, I am not sure she is right. She was crying the night that I spent with her. I thought that she wasn't very happy. Oh, Rachel, hell would be terrible to be in, wouldn't it? After talking to you, I think I will change my mind. Christ is the only one who can bring true happiness." —M. Miles

FISHING WORMS

Everybody knows what a fishing worm looks like. But everybody does not know how valuable fishing worms are to the farmer. In one acre there are about 50,000 to 55,000 fishing worms that work all the time—eating dirt! And as the humble earthworm eats the dirt he digests all the bad things in the dirt and leaves behind only rich, pure dirt. In this way he makes the land fertile so that our gardens will grow. The fishing worms are very lowly, but they are very useful.

God loves humble people. Do you want to be "first" all the time? Then you are not humble, for the humble person is willing to be last.

Dear Boys and Girls:—

The word "Messiah" means "Anointed One." In the old Bible times they always anointed the one who was to be the king. Do you remember how Jesse's boys passed before Samuel when he wanted to anoint one of them as king? Of course, David was the youngest and was out in the field watching the sheep. He had to be called because he was the

one to be anointed. Samuel anointed him to be the next king. Then the priest was anointed under the law of Moses to serve. Sometimes the prophets were anointed also, but when Jesus came, he was prophet, priest, and king. He was called the Messiah or Christ, the "Anointed One," by God.

Jesus asked His disciples a question in our lesson. He wanted to know whom the people thought He was. Now some thought he was John the Baptist. You remember that Herod had John the Baptist imprisoned and beheaded because John had told him that it was not lawful for him to have the wife of his brother, Phillip. (Matt. 14:1-12) After Herod heard about Jesus, his conscience bothered him. He told his servants that Jesus was surely John the Baptist who had risen from the dead. Of course this was false, but some believed it. So when Jesus asked His disciples whom people thought he was, they said some thought he was John the Baptist.

Then some thought he was Elias or Elijah. In the prophecy of the fore-runner of Jesus, the name Elijah was used, but they did not know that John the Baptist fulfilled this prophecy. (See Malachi 4:5.)

But then Jesus brought the question right down to them personally. Whom do you think I am? Peter was quick to answer, "The Christ of God." Down through the prophecies of the Old Testament they said that the Christ was to come. Now he had come and he was recognized by His disciples. Jesus was glad and thankful that they knew Him but He told them not to tell it yet. He knew that some would not accept Him yet so He wanted to wait until He was able to help more people. He knew that He would be put to death but that He would rise again the third day. I

am sure they did not understand what He meant.

The last part of our lesson tells about those whom He called but they had other things to do. God wants those who will put Him first in their lives. We can't look back. We want to always do the right regardless of what others might think of us. We want to keep our eyes on the goal, which is heaven. God will help you if you will always love and serve Him with all your heart.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 5, January 29, 1967

THE MESSIAH AND HIS MISSION

Luke 9:18-22, 57-62

Luke 9:18 And it came to pass, as he was alone praying, his disciples were with him; and he asked them, saying, Whom say the people that I am?

19 They answering said, John the Baptist; but some say, Elias; and others say, that one of the old prophets is risen again.

20 He said unto them, But whom say ye that I am? Peter answering said, The Christ of God.

21 And he straitly charged them, and commanded them to tell no man that thing;

22 Saying, The Son of man must suffer many things, and be rejected of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be slain, and be raised the third day.

57 And it came to pass, that, as they went in the way, a certain man said unto him, Lord, I will follow thee whithersoever thou goest.

58 And Jesus said unto him, Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have

nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head.

59 And he said unto another, Follow me. But he said, Lord, suffer me first to go and bury my father.

60 Jesus said unto him, Let the dead bury their dead: but go thou and preach the kingdom of God.

61 And another also said, Lord, I will follow thee; but let me first go bid them farewell, which are at home at my house.

62 And Jesus said unto him, No man having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.

Memory Verse: For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: but whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it. Luke 9:24.

Central Thought: Jesus is our example. He had a mission and did not turn from it.

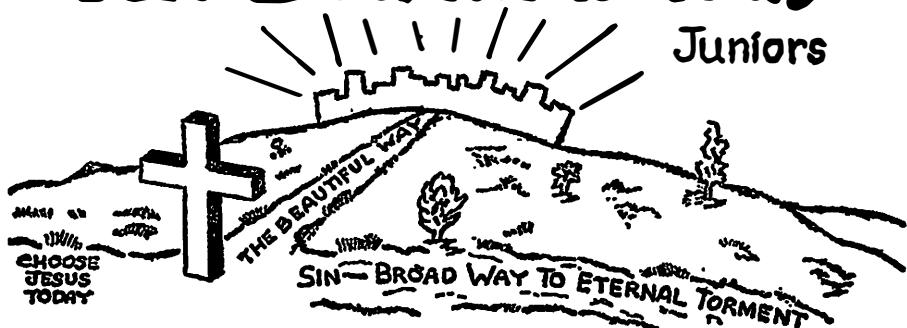
QUESTIONS:

1. Whom did the people think Jesus was?
2. Why did they think He was John the Baptist?
3. Whom did Peter say He was?
4. Why didn't He want them to tell others who He really was at that time?
5. Did He tell the disciples that He would die and be raised the third day?
6. Do you think the man followed Jesus after he found out the way he lived?
7. When did the other two men say they would follow Him?
8. Who is not fit for the kingdom of God?

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



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Part Six

Feb. 5

Inside — Outside

Some lives are garnished to the sight
Of men (whose praise they seek)
When in their hearts they are not
right
And far from being meek.

While others claim heart purity
Without regard or care
Of fruit their fellowman will see;
To disobey they dare.

'Tis error both; God's holy word
Proclaims hypocrisy:
The entire person must be stirred
To hate iniquity.

—Leslie Busbee

Willis Gets Bible Salvation

Willis Brown's mother died when he was very small. His aunt and his father reared him. Many times he longed for his mother. His father was very cruel when he whipped his boys. He had a terrible temper. He would leave marks and gashes on

them. To keep from getting a whipping Willis told many lies to cover up for himself and also for his brother. He did many evil things and at an early age started drinking. He married but was not good to his wife. He didn't believe in God. He claimed that he was an infidel. He had murder in his heart and carried a gun all the time. Sometimes when he got so drunk that he thought of taking his own life, his wife would take the gun from him but give it back when he became sober.

One time a minister of God came into the country. Some of his buddies got saved so he decided he would go and see what was happening. One woman, for whom he had a great deal of respect, came and asked him to get saved but the boys laughed at him. The preacher said that he had been converted and then healed. Willis looked at him and wondered if a person with such an honest face could lie, yet he didn't believe him.

There was a woman in the crowd who had a sick child. The preacher asked her if she wanted him to pray

for the child. As the preacher offered prayer, Willis could see two other preachers whom he knew were hypocrites, laughing. The preacher asked God to heal the child to prove to the skeptics and unbelievers that God answered prayer and would do as His Word said. He said, "Amen." Willis could see a change in the child. The preachers made fun and turned to Willis and said, "There is your sanctification." Willis said, "That was God answering prayer." This touched him and caused him to believe in God. He had seen so much hypocrisy, people claiming to live for God and living such wicked lives or trying to cover up their wickedness while professing to live for God that he did not believe in religion. Now he saw something real.

Willis tried to get rid of what he had seen and tried to make fun of the meeting and religion but he couldn't help but know that God answered that preacher's prayer. He told his family about it, too.

Willis went back to the meeting. The preacher preached and proved to Willis that God was the same and that people were living beneath their privileges; that he was a sinner in the sight of God; that salvation was a business transaction between God and him; and it was salvation or hell; that he could stumble over hypocrites and go to hell but could not climb over them to get out.

Willis went home and thought over his past life. He could see again and again how God had spared his life because he was not ready to die. He had been told by three doctors that he would die with TB and no cure could be found for him. He had severe pain with pleurisy and he tried to keep steamed up with whiskey and

quinine to stand it, but it got worse. He knew that his diseases were beyond man's help. He knew that if he should die his creditors would take his property and leave his wife and children without anything. He smoked and chewed all night and didn't sleep. He was counting up the cost of being a Christian.

The next morning he went about his business but when he got into the saddle on his horse, he decided to quit sin. In the name of Jesus Christ he looked up to the God whose power he had denied and recognized Him as a merciful God, and the Jesus whom he had refused to serve, he now called on for conviction. He said, "I will pray six months if I live that long, to get salvation if there is any for me. I will even try for six years if necessary." He could not weep, his heart was so hard. He was convinced he was a sinner and bound for hell. As he rode along he would say, "O God, have mercy! take everything from my mind and send conviction to my heart that I may weep for the way I have treated you."

Mr. Hill tried to make him think the preacher at the meeting house was a hypocrite. Then he thought about what Mr. Hill said about John Lambert, that he could drink a little and keep his salvation. He knew he was wrong on that point and decided that he could be wrong about the preacher who was holding the meeting so he began to pray again to God as he rode along. "Oh God, send conviction to my heart."

He told his wife he was going to that meeting. He told her that he wanted her to pray that he could get religion. With tears running down

her cheeks, she felt gladness in her heart.

He didn't get saved that night but kept praying for two days. He hated a man and needed God to take the hatred out. He knew it meant heaven or hell. The third time he got down on his knees and cried to God, "I will do anything, Lord." A load was lifted off his soul. He loved everybody. He writes his experience thus: "A light shone in my soul that drove away the gross darkness and love leaped into my breast. Oh, glory! tongue cannot tell it, pen cannot write it, mind cannot conceive it, my soul could scarcely hold it! Praise God! it still remains and as I write this the flow of God's love rolls over my whole being and through my soul." Willis M. Brown had no fear of others and wanted to tell everybody. The devil tried to make him believe he could not live it so he went to the altar and prayed, "Lord, help me to live what I profess." God did help him. God healed him and called him to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ.

—Rewritten by M. Miles from
"Life Sketches of W. M. Brown"

Dear Boys and Girls:—

In Bible times the Jews had a custom which they thought was pleasing to God. They washed their hands often as a ceremony. It was a tradition of the elders. (Mark 7:3, 4) When they came from the market place they would wash because they had been surrounded by sinful people. They also kept their sepulchres or graves whitewashed lest some one would stumble onto them and be unclean during feast days. (Matt. 23:27) Under the law a person who touched a grave was unclean.

Bags that they carried their money

in were long cone-like bags of the size to hold a certain amount of money. Then they were tied or sealed and stamped according to the value of the money inside.

Do you know what a hypocrite is? The dictionary tells us that it is a person who pretends to be better than he really is, or good without being good. One time a boy put on a tight-fitting mask and knocked on the door. It was in the evening after dark and his sister went to the door. It scared her so that she almost fainted. But it was just her brother. He came in laughing but when he saw how white his sister looked he was sorry. He pretended to be what he was not. You could call hypocrisy play-acting. Were you ever with someone and when she met a certain person she was so nice to her? Perhaps she told the girl that she had on a pretty dress and said nice things about her. Then after she was gone, the person you were with would say that she thought that was an ugly dress and that she hated the girl. I have seen that happen. Do you know that person was being a hypocrite? She claimed to be the person's friend, but was not.

Jesus was asked to eat at a Pharisee's table. Because he didn't wash his hands after their ceremony they found fault with him. Jesus could look into their hearts. He told them just how their hearts looked to Him. They wanted to keep a ceremony strictly because everyone watched to see if they did, but they passed over judgment or justice in doing good and they did not have the love for God in their hearts. They were careful to put money in the money box at the synagogue because men watched, but they did not live right every day. They liked to be greeted with honor in high places because of their outward works

but Jesus told them they were hypocrites.

Jesus told the people that they should not seek after the things of this world but seek God first and then all these things would be added to them. He told them that some of them valued their money bags which might fail but that if they laid up their treasures in heaven it would not be stolen. —Aunt Marie

Lesson 6, February 5, 1967

THE DANGER OF HYPOCRISY

Luke 11:37-44; 12:29-34

Luke 11:37 And as he spake, a certain Pharisee besought him to dine with him: and he went in, and sat down to meat.

38 And when the Pharisee saw it, he marvelled that he had not first washed before dinner.

39 And the Lord said unto him, Now do ye Pharisees make clean the outside of the cup and the platter; but your inward part is full of ravening and wickedness.

40 Ye fools, did not he, that made that which is without, make that which is within also?

41 But rather give alms of such things as ye have; and, behold, all things are clean unto you.

42 But woe unto you, Pharisees! for ye tithe mint and rue and all manner of herbs, and pass over judgment and the love of God: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.

43 Woe unto you, Pharisees! for ye love the uppermost seats in the synagogues, and greetings in the markets.

44 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye are as graves

which appear not, and the men that walk over them are not aware of them.

Luke 12:29 And seek not ye what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; neither be ye of doubtful mind.

30 For all these things do the nations of the world seek after: and your Father knoweth that ye have need of these things.

31 But rather seek ye the kingdom of God; and all these things shall be added unto you.

32 Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

33 Sell that ye have, and give alms; provide yourselves bags which wax not old, a treasure in the heavens that faileth not, where no thief approacheth, neither moth corrupteth.

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

Memory Verse: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. Luke 12:34.

Central Thought: One dear saint used to say, "Be what you are and not what you ain't."

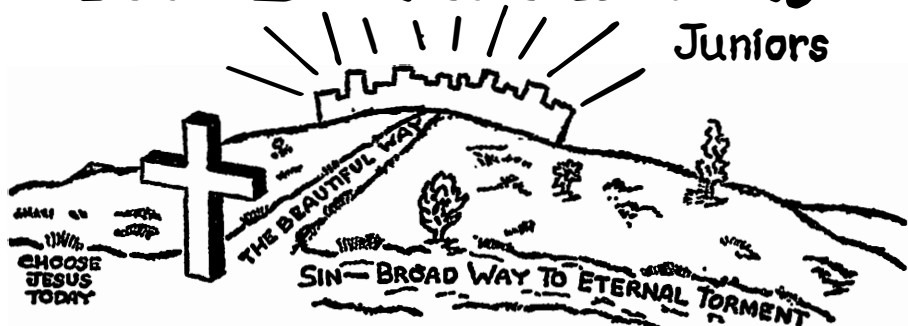
QUESTIONS:

1. What is a hypocrite?
2. What kind of ceremony did the Jews keep?
3. What did Jesus mean when He said they made clean the outside of the cup but the inside was full of wickedness?
4. What important things did the Pharisees leave undone?
5. What will be added to us if we seek God first?

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 18, No. 1

Jan., Feb., Mar. 1967

Part Seven

Feb. 12

God Seeks Fruit

God gave us life, in Him we move
And have our mortal being;
In everyone He seeks to prove
The joy His goodness seeing.

The fruits of praise and love and
faith
Is ever in His pleasure;
The heart that heeds the words He
saith,
Rejoicing without measure.

But oh, what judgment we are worth
And sorer punishment
If we deny Him here on earth
And waste His goodness lent!

—Leslie Busbee

Little Things

Polly had a very bad habit. She borrowed all sorts of things and very often forgot to return them. Her mother spoke to her many times about it, but Polly soon forgot her mother's words. Sometimes it was

brother Jack's red pencil, sometimes it was sister Phyllis' hair ribbon, but always Polly forgot to return them. It made a great deal of trouble for her, but somehow Polly could not break herself of this unfortunate habit.

"Oh, they are just little things, Mommy. They don't amount to anything," she said when Jack was cross about her borrowing his new pen and spoiling the point.

"But little things grow into big ones, Polly, dear," her mother said. "Some day you will borrow a really valuable thing and lose or destroy it, then trouble will begin."

Polly thought a lot about that. And she thought about the really valuable thing she had borrowed from Mabel Lee. A big story book with beautiful colored pictures in it. She had borrowed it a long time ago and now she had forgotten where it was.

"I hope Mabel has forgotten about it," she said to her brother as they walked to school one morning in early February.

"Well, she hasn't. She asked me

the other day if you were through with it," Jack said.

"Oh dear, here she comes now!" cried Polly. "What shall I do if she asks me for it?"

She was so embarrassed that she hardly spoke to Mabel who did not ask about the book. Mabel was eating a big red apple and she stopped just long enough to say, "Hello."

"My, I am glad she didn't ask me about it," Polly said when she had passed. "After all, it is just a little thing. Mabel has lots of books."

When Jack and Polly reached school they found the room decorated with flags and red, white and blue streamers hanging from the picture of Abraham Lincoln. It was Lincoln's birthday.

When the arithmetic lesson was over, the teacher told her class she would read some Lincoln stories to them. Everyone was glad.

The very first one she read was how Lincoln had always been honest in the smallest things. No mistake was too little for him to make right. He once walked miles to return a few coppers to a man for whom he had made wrong change!

"He earned his name, 'Honest Abe,' by being strictly honest in the smallest things," the teacher explained.

Polly had been listening eagerly to the story of the great American. Her cheeks burned as she remembered how she had thought a borrowed book or pen, or toy "a small thing," and had never bothered to return it. That was no way to live up to the standard Lincoln had set! She resolved to turn over a new leaf right away.

As soon as school was out Polly ran straight home. She delved into her box of toys and books. At the very bottom she found Mabel's book.

She also found Jack's ball and a tennis racquet she had borrowed from the girl next door. In another box she found a ribbon and a handkerchief that belonged to Jean. She pressed them neatly and put them in her sister's dressing table. Then she took the story book and hurried over to Mabel's house.

"Thank you, Polly. You may have another book of mine if you like," Mabel offered.

Polly shook her head. "No, thank you, Mabel. I want to learn to take better care of things before I borrow anything else," she told her.

When she got home she gave Jack his things and said, "I won't borrow a single thing until I know I can remember to return it!"

"Why, whatever has come over Polly?" Mother asked, smiling.

"I just found out how important little things are, Mommy. If a penny was so important that Mr. Lincoln walked miles to give it to the man it belonged to, then I guess there isn't anything small enough to be forgotten."

"That is right, Sis," Jack agreed. "And you are welcome to any of my things; if you feel that way I know you will take care of them and give them back!"

And ever after that Polly remembered about the "little things."

—o—

Don't ever let yourself feel good if you do a wrong. Correct that wrong and keep your heart tender and keep right with God. Others will think more of you if you correct a wrong than if you do a wrong and never correct it.

When you correct a wrong others will think more of you. They will know that you are honest.

Draw a Line to the Correct Answer

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| 1. Lord's Prayer | 39 |
| 2. Number of books in the Bible | Psalms 117 |
| 3. The longest verse | 27 |
| 4. The shortest verse | Exodus 20 |
| 5. The middle chapter | John 11:35 |
| 6. The Beatitudes | 66 |
| 7. The Ten Commandments | 2 Kings 19 and Isaiah 37 |
| 8. Two chapters nearly alike | Esther 8:9 |
| 9. Number of books in the Old Testament | Matthew 5 |
| 10. Number of books in the New Testament | Matthew 6 |

Dear Boys and Girls:—

Our lesson today is about repentance. The dictionary says that repentance means to have a feeling of sorrow or regret, especially for wrongdoing; remorse. Now you can have that and not have godly repentance. A person can be real sorry that he got caught stealing and feel some remorse and even wish he had not done it. But Bible repentance and godly sorrow is deeper. It includes this and more. You must be sorry that you have disobeyed God, who is a God of love and be filled with regret and remorse for wrong-doing because you have grieved and wounded a God who loved you so much that He sent His Son to die on the cross to take away your sins. But you rejected Him and went right on and sinned against Him. Do you remember the story we had in last week's paper about Willis Brown and how he asked God to send such conviction, or a feeling so deep, that he could weep because of the way he had treated God? That is real Bible repentance. God will forgive you if you ask Him with godly sorrow because you sinned against Him. Then you need to correct your wrongs and live a life of thanksgiving to God for forgiving you.

The first part of our lesson is about some who thought that the 18 on whom the tower of Siloam fell, and those who were killed by Pilate while they were in the Temple offering sacrifices, were very wicked because these things came to pass. Jesus said, "I tell you nay: but except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." Just because they died in that manner doesn't prove anything. All people are headed for hell and death will take them there unless they repent. We have no promise of our life for the next moment. We can't look at others and think because calamities befell them that they are wicked.

Jesus spoke a parable which is very plain in showing His mercy. He wants us to show mercy to others, too. The man who planted the fig tree in his vineyard represents God. That fig tree represents man. The dresser of the vineyard represents Jesus. God looked for fruit from that man's life. He wanted the fruit of obedience, love, kindness, honesty, faith, joy, longsuffering, forgiveness, meekness, and etc. For three years God looked for these fruits but He found none. See His great mercy! So he told the dresser, Jesus, to cut it down. He was almost convinced that the man was not ever going to serve

Him with all of his heart and bear fruit. He was going to withdraw His Spirit from him. Now Jesus begged for him. He said, "Let me dig about him. Let me send some hard things that will bring him to his knees or let me show some special mercy to him in such a way that he will praise me and draw close to me. And if he doesn't bear fruit, then you can cut it down."

It makes us shudder to think of the awful warning that Jesus gave to the Jewish nation in the last verses of our lesson. They rejected Jesus and God moved out of the temple and their house was left unto them desolate.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 7, February 12, 1967

THE CALL TO REPENTANCE

Luke 13:1-9, 24, 35

Luke 13:1 There were present at that season some that told him of the Galileans, whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices.

2 And Jesus answering said unto them, Suppose ye that these Galileans were sinners above all the Galileans, because they suffered such things?

3 I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.

4 Or those eighteen, upon whom the tower in Siloam fell, and slew them, think ye that they were sinners above all men that dwelt in Jerusalem?

5 I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.

6 He spake also this parable; A certain man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came and sought fruit thereon, and found none.

7 Then said he unto the dresser of his vineyard, Behold, these three years I come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and find none; cut it down; why cumbereth it the ground?

8 And he answering said unto him, Lord, let it alone this year also, till I shall dig about it, and dung it:

9 And if it bear fruit, well: and if not, then after that thou shalt cut it down.

24 Strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able.

35 Behold your house is left unto you desolate: and verily I say unto you, Ye shall not see me until the time come when ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Memory Verse: Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance? Rom. 2:4

Central Thought: Jesus will gather us unto himself if we will let Him.

QUESTIONS:

1. What is the lesson Jesus wanted those to learn who told him about the people who were killed?

2. Who does the owner of the vineyard represent?

3. Who does the dresser of the vineyard represent?

4. How long did God look for fruit in the life of the man?

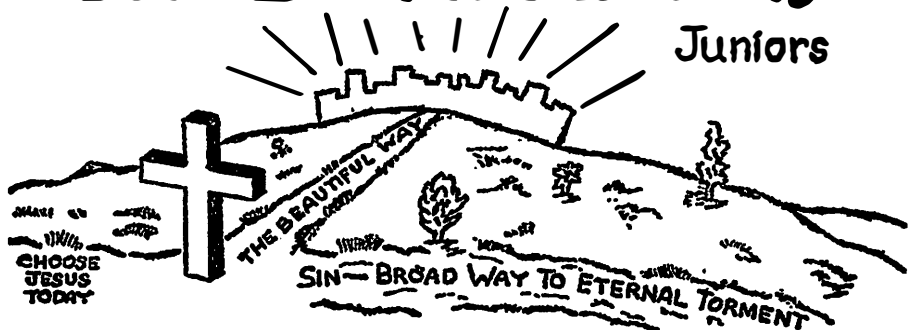
5. What are the fruits that God is looking for in our lives?

7. What does it mean for God to let a person be "cut down"?

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 18, No. 1

Jan., Feb., Mar. 1967

Part Eight

Feb. 19

There Is No Depth

There is no depth of sin and woe
Which cannot pardoned be
If in contrition deep we go
By faith to Calvary.

There is no path that leads astray
From which we cannot turn;
There is no night but what the day
Can light for those who yearn.

With welcome arms the Father still
Awaits His wayward child;
Through mercy in His gracious will,
The lost are reconciled.

—Leslie Busbee

How God Saved One Family

Mother attended a campmeeting at Guthrie, Okla. She had sought the Lord for salvation but still she was not fully satisfied. She went home and continued to seek God. One day she took her Bible and a tract written by Bro. Fred Pruitt on "How to Get Saved." She went into her bed-

room and decided she would pray until she felt satisfied. The Lord blessed her and saved her. How the joybells rang in her soul! She was so happy. She praised the Lord and rejoiced. When her boys came home from school they knew something had happened to Mother. They would look at her happy face and smile. She told them that the Lord had saved her.

One day Raymond said, "I wanted to get saved so while I was over in the sandfield I got on my knees and prayed. But I didn't get saved." The sandfield was a field full of sand and the boys liked to play in it. They spent a lot of their time there.

Mother kept saved and loved the Lord. She had learned to trust the Lord for the healing of her body, also. This was a wonderful thing. One day Raymond came in from the field. He had been running the tractor for his daddy. Although he was only twelve, he did a good job. He said his throat was sore. His fever went high and for two days he suffered with his throat. Mother kept praying and looking to God to heal him.

One day, God in his mercy, instantly healed him and took it all away. This caused Raymond to love the Lord very much. He had a greater desire than ever to get saved.

God also began to deal with Raymond's older brother, Dale. God had healed him at different times. One time he stepped on a nail when he was in the watermelon patch getting a melon. Blood poisoning set in and Mother was greatly concerned about him. She took it to the Lord in prayer. At that time she was desiring to go to the campmeeting. She felt that this had happened because the devil wanted to hinder her from going. She prayed to God for help. The Lord made her feel clear to go as she would have more to agree in prayer with her at the meeting. She decided to go. When she got back home, Dale was healed. The Lord had taken care of everything. This caused Dale's heart to turn toward the Lord.

Later this family moved to Guthrie. The very first night of the campmeeting Raymond had such a desire to get saved. He listened to the Word of God being preached. Bro. Stephenson made it very plain. It caused Raymond to feel conviction heavy upon his soul. Finally, during the altar call, he went over and stood by Bro. Stephenson. He wanted him to pray for him. They went to the altar and God saved his soul.

God was also dealing with Dale. The devil worked hard to keep him from getting saved. He had wanted to join a rodeo group. Mother prayed earnestly about it. She wanted him to live for God. One night the Lord won his heart and he went to the altar. The devil worked hard to keep him from getting saved. After much

prayer he came through with victory. God blessed him and he was happy. He put his arms around his mother and said, "I am so happy. I want Daddy to get saved, too." His daddy had left the meeting and gone to bed. He went to him and got down on his knees beside the bed and begged him to get saved. This touched his father's heart but he said, not yet. He said the cost was too high. Dale told him how happy he was.

It wasn't long until Dale's father gave his heart to God. That made one entire family living for the Lord.

—L. Meek

God wants to save boys and girls, mothers and fathers, and everyone who will come to Him. He is standing with outstretched arms saying, "Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest." (Matt. 11:28) If you are not saved today, don't wait one moment longer. Find a place of prayer. Kneel down before God. Tell him how sorry you are that you have sinned against his great love. Tell him that you are sorry that you have grieved him. Repent with tears. Jesus will save you. He will forgive you. He will write your name in the Book of Life. You don't want to go to hell, do you? It is a terrible place. There is no love there, but perfect hate. There is no peace but perfect trouble. All those who are ugly and mean will be there. You will suffer continually. You will feel like you are dying but you won't die. The fires of hell will burn you over and over but never consume you. You will ever feel those pains. Don't go there. I beg you in Jesus' name, turn to God today. He loves you and he is waiting for you to choose to go to heaven. It

is in your hands. You can choose to live for God or choose to live for the devil. You can choose to go to heaven or choose to go to hell. Please give Jesus your heart. He loves you and he wants you to love Him. Hell is only for those who choose to go there. Heaven is for those who choose to live for God. Won't you get right with God today and be ready for heaven when you die? You do not know when that will be. Death is sure and you must meet God in the judgment. "If you confess your sins he is faithful and just to forgive your sins."

—Sister Marie Miles

When an older person comes into the room you should give them the best chair. You can sit on the floor if necessary. You are young and it won't hurt you. God will bless you for the little deeds of kindness you do.

It is a good thing to keep your temper. Jesus will help you. Pray and he will help you to be good.

When you play games, play honestly. Don't be deceitful and don't cheat.

Dear Boys and Girls:—

The parable in our lesson today teaches us the great love of the heavenly Father in seeking the salvation of souls. The two sons in our lesson needed God. Let us see the great need of the one who stayed at home. He was a selfish boy and guilty of ingratitude. He needed the love of his father as well as did the one who went away.

The father gave the sons some of their share of the money that would fall to them when the father was gone. He did not give all because he was still in possession of the estate when the younger son returned.

It probably took some days for him to turn the cattle, etc. that he received into cash but he gathered together all that he had and went far from home and there he wasted his money. What can a person waste in riotous living? He had money and there are those in the world who will be your friend if you have something to hand out. Notice how many at school or at other places are around you with a smile on their faces if you are giving out a treat. As soon as it is gone, who stays with you? Those who stay are your true friends. This boy, no doubt, lost his character, his reputation and maybe his health. Smoking, drinking, gambling, telling dirty stories, lewdness, fornication, hatred and many other things came into his life and heart. The devil is never satisfied until he takes a person down so low that he feels there is no hope for him. This poor boy was finally broke with no friends and sought a job. He was sent out into the fields to feed the swine.

The husks mentioned in our lesson are the fruit of the carob tree. It produces pods, shaped like a horn, varying in length from six to ten inches and about a finger's breadth or rather more; it is dark brown, glossy, filled with seeds and has a sweetish taste. It is used for food by the poor, and for feeding swine in Syria and Egypt. (Smith's Dic.)

Probably the boy was to climb the trees and shake down the pods for the hogs to eat. God talked to him out there alone. That is the time God can often speak to people, when they get to the end of their way. He wants them to do as the prodigal and make a decision to turn to the Lord with all of their hearts. God is waiting with outstretched arms for them to come. He will bless them and welcome them home.

He will forgive them of their sins and make them pure and clean again. He will put the white robes of salvation on them. They were "dead in trespasses and sins" but are made alive in God. They were lost but are found. There is joy among the angels when one sinner repents. The saints rejoice, but most of all, the person who is saved is made happy.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 8, February 19, 1967

GOD YEARNS FOR THE LOST

Luke 15:11-24

Luke 15:11 And he said, A certain man had two sons:

12 And the younger of them said to his father, Father, give me the portion of goods that falleth to me. And he divided unto them his living.

13 And not many days after the younger son gathered all together, and took his journey into a far country, and there wasted his substance with riotous living.

14 And when he had spent all, there arose a mighty famine in that land; and he began to be in want.

15 And he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country; and he sent him into his fields to feed swine.

16 And he would fain have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat: and no man gave unto him.

17 And when he came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger!

18 I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee,

19 And am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants.

20 And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him.

21 And the son said unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son.

22 But the father said to his servants, Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet;

23 And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry;

24 For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry.

Memory Verse: For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost. Luke 19:10.

Central Thought: Those who waste their "substance" in riotous living are wasting their lives.

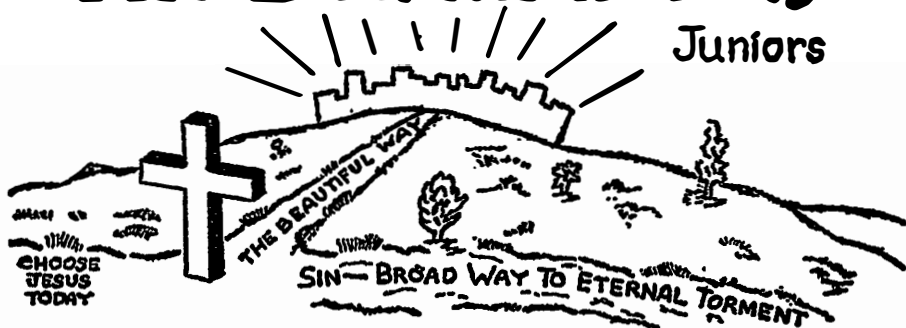
QUESTIONS:—

1. What did the boy ask of his father?
2. What did the son do after he received his part?
3. What does "riotous living" mean?
4. What are husks?
5. Did the boys become humble and what did he do?
6. Was the Father watching for him?
7. How was he treated when he got home?
8. Does God long for us to come home?

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



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Jan., Feb., Mar. 1967

Part Nine

Feb. 26

A Steward

A steward is a man to whom
Another's wealth is trusted well;
Within his heart there is no room
For sloth or laziness to dwell.

In faithfulness is his reward,
His Master's money to increase
Although it may be labor hard
That will the fruit of gain release

And we as stewards for the Lord
His grace to trade with others here,
Which will a harvest rich afford
When Christ the Savior doth appear.

—Leslie Busbee

False Courage

False courage is a terrible thing; and the thrill seeker, having the first taste of this courage, finds it easier and easier to let the barrier down each succeeding time to where it tends to grow on him and becomes a living part of the thrill seeker.

Then try to break it—try to stop it, and the devil laughs at you for your folly. I wish every youngster in this world today could take a good look at a narcotics user during a withdrawal period as they are coming off dope. The sight is so revolting and sickening, that I'd be safe to say not another ounce of dope would ever be sold illegally in the world. I wish every youngster in this world, before he took his first drink, could see a drunkard with the D. T.'s, cowering in a corner for fear of snakes, or rats, or bats that aren't there. To them it's real, because drink has warped their minds and caused them to literally see things that aren't there. Could you see it, you'd never touch a drop of liquor as long as you lived. I wish every youngster, before he stole the first car for a joy ride, or went with someone in a stolen car just for the thrill of a joy ride, could see the accident and bodies of another group of thrill seekers who crashed their stolen car by going too fast, or running from the police—teenagers killed seeking a thrill, looking for

some "kicks." What a degrading waste it all is! And I wish you could see it all. I have, and let me assure you it's revolting to the point of sickness within a person. So where does it all end for the smart man, the man with a chip on his shoulder, the lazy man, the man who feels the world owes him a living, the thrill seeker? I'll tell you where it ends—in prisons, in mental institutions, in graveyards, in heartbreak. But even worse than this, it ends with the devil in hell. So if you are this day seeking that easy living, or feeling too smart, or planning to go out for some "kicks" with the gang, I implore you to stop and come to a realization of where your deeds will take you. False values and false loyalties will lead you to destruction and to hell, believe me!

—Wayne Turner

(Editor's note: The writer of the above was marvelously converted in jail several years ago. His own testimony in tract form is available at this office. Continuing to serve the Lord and serve his life sentence for murder, Bro. Wayne Turner is now assisting the Chaplain in the State Prison at Angola, La.)

Beginning Family Worship

I enjoyed the radio very much before I was saved. I would sit up late at night and listen to it. I did not want to miss any of the stories that were on through the day. It was a part of my very life.

But God dealt with my soul and I got saved. Oh, the joy that filled my heart, and I loved my Lord. He had done so much for me. The greatest desire of my heart was to please Him. He became part of my life. He wanted first place and I wanted Him to have

it because I loved Him so much.

I didn't turn the radio on through the day, but when school was out, the boys would turn it on. When my husband was home they would have it on until late at night. It grieved me because I now knew what affect it was having on them. I knew that listening to murder stories and all the worldly, foolish things was not good for them. I prayed and asked God to take it out of our home or control it some way. Since my husband was the head of the house I could not do anything about it myself. One time I talked to a saint of God about the condition. He told me to make it a matter of earnest prayer and say nothing about it. With renewed faith, I earnestly prayed about it. I would ask the Lord to put it out of operation. Many times when they would have it going, I would pray about it.

One day the boys came home from school and turned the radio on. It gave forth a loud, roaring noise instead of what they expected. They thought surely that their daddy could fix it, but he couldn't. That evening they just sat around with nothing to do. They seemed lost as this had been such a habit for them. I began to ask the Lord to show me what to do now. It came to me to get some song books and we could sing. We sang some, and then I read some from the Bible. The next evening it was the same way. I again got the song books and we sang and then I read out of the Bible. I then told them I thought we should have prayer. This was something new in our home. We had never had family worship before. I got down on my knees, but my husband and two boys just sat

there and didn't move. They were surprised. This was hard for me, but I just prayed anyway. The next night I again got the songbooks and we sang. I read out of the Bible, and then I said, let's have prayer. They knelt with me this time. We had family worship every night after that. Later my husband and two boys got saved.

The radio was never fixed. About two years later my older son got one. I told him he had better use it right or the Lord would put it out of operation, that he should be careful to listen to the right kind of music, etc. He got lean in his soul and I prayed about it. I saw that he was not listening to the right things. His radio quit working. —Lillian Meek

—

Dear Boys and Girls:—

The unprinted part of our lesson is the parable that Jesus spoke to the Pharisees and to His disciples. A rich man put a steward over all of his business. He trusted him to be wise and take care of it for him. One day he checked into his business and he saw that the steward was wasting his goods. He called the steward to him and said, "What is this that I hear about you? I want you to give an account of your stewardship. I no longer want you to be my steward."

Now the steward was in trouble. He thought to himself, "What shall I do? I am losing my job. I am too old to dig for a living and I am ashamed to beg." Then as he continued to think about it he said, "I know what I'll do. I'll do a good turn for all of the people who owe my master money and get on the good side of them. Then when I am put out of my job they will take me to their homes." He called those who owed his master and said to one,

"How much do you owe?" He said, "I owe 100 measures of oil." The steward said to the debtor, "Take thy bill and sit down quickly and write fifty." The steward called another debtor to him and said to him, "How much do you owe my lord?" The debtor said, "100 measures of wheat." The steward said to him, "Take thy bill and write 80." This was a worldly way of taking care of business. He worked hard to win the favor of the people. While it was in his hand he could do this and he did it quickly before he lost his job. He made good use of his last hours before he lost his job. His master commended him for his diligent work and cleverness.

Now Jesus wants us to learn a lesson from this parable. As one put it, the whole earth is the house. The heavens are the roof, the stars the lamps, the table that is spread are the fruits of the earth. The owner and builder of this house is God. Man is the steward. Into his hands the business of this house is committed. Sometimes man forgets that God is watching and he must give an account of his actions. He eats, drinks and does as he pleases in a careless manner. The owner (God) sees this and puts him out of the house into torment. He doesn't take care of his business right. He uses the things of God to serve another master with. He is more diligent to obey the devil than God, yet God has given him all that He has. Our lesson tells us that we can not serve two masters. God wants us to love Him more than the things He gives to us. Some people love money more than God. They will do wicked things to get it. They will seek after worldly pleasures more than after the things of God. They want to be "highly esteemed among men." But it is more important to put high values on the

things of God as they are to be first.

The last parable in the lesson is to make us know that we are not doing God a favor by worshipping Him. We are the ones to lose if we disobey God and do not serve Him. We were lost in sin and could not help ourselves. We can only plead mercy at the hand of God. He will save us through His great love. All that we might do we are still unprofitable servants. We can never repay God for all He has done for us.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 9, February 26, 1967

FAITHFUL IN LITTLE OR MUCH

Luke 16:10-15; 17:7-10

Luke 16:10 He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much.

11 If therefore ye have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true riches?

12 And if ye have not been faithful in that which is another man's, who shall give you that which is your own?

13 No servant can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

14 And the Pharisees also, who were covetous, heard all these things: and they derided him.

15 And he said unto them, Ye are they which justify yourselves before men; but God knoweth your hearts: for that which is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God.

Luke 17:7 But which of you, having a servant ploughing or feeding cattle, will say unto him by and by, when he is come from the field, Go and sit down to meat?

8 And will not rather say unto him, Make ready wherewith I may sup, and gird thyself, and serve me, till I have eaten and drunken; and afterward thou shalt eat and drink?

9 Doth he thank that servant because he did the things that were commanded him? I trow not.

10 So likewise ye, when ye shall have done all those things which are commanded you, say, We are unprofitable servants: we have done that which was our duty to do.

Memory Verse: He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much. Luke 16:10.

Central Thought: Heavenly treasures are more important than earthly treasures.

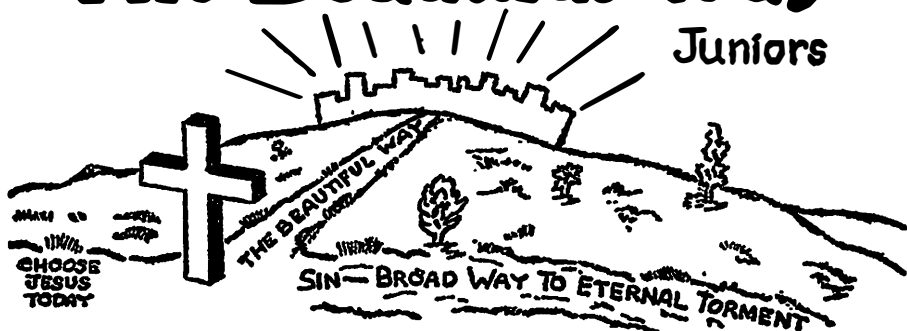
QUESTIONS:

1. Tell the parable that Jesus gave about the unjust steward.
2. What was his purpose in getting in good with the debtors of his lord?
3. Are we to use the chance we have in this world to get in good with God?
4. How can we get the favor of God upon our lives so He will take us to His eternal home?
5. Are we stewards of all that comes into our hands and to whom do we give an account?
6. Tell the last parable of our lesson.

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 18, No. 1

Jan., Feb., Mar. 1967

Part Ten

March 5

Teach Us to Pray

To pray aright we must be taught
The will of God, and how we ought
To ask in faith and waver not
By living pure and free from blot.

And if we know our pray'r is heard
According to God's holy Word
How steadfast must our faith so be
Until the answer we shall see.

So let us set ourselves to pray
Not fainting as we press our way
Until the goal breaks on our view
And we shall prove His promise true.

—Leslie Busbee

God Answers Prayer

Sister Eldeen is old and very weak. She cannot walk about like most folks can. She uses a walker. That is a frame that she holds on to to help her walk. Some walkers have a little seat in them and if one gets tired, one can sit down. Sister Eldeen lives

with her daughter and family in South Dakota. They take loving care of her. She took care of her daughter when she was little and could not care for herself. Babies would die if no one fed them or cared for them. So Sister Eldeen's daughter loves her mother and now that she is not able to care for herself she cares for her. I think that is wonderful, don't you? Some day perhaps you boys and girls will have to care for your mother and father. They are going to get old, also, if they live. They will need someone to see about them. I know you will be glad to do that because you love them.

One day Sister Eldeen's daughter and family planned to drive to a distant town for the weekend to visit her husband's folks. You see, her daughter's husband wanted to see his folks, also. Older people get real lonesome as they can't do as many things as they used to. They enjoy someone coming to see them. They have something to think about for a long time. Sister Eldeen desired very much to stay at home. She felt that

it would be nice for just her daughter and family to be able to speed along without having her to care for. Her daughter didn't like to leave her but she insisted. Sometimes Sister McFarling, another saint who lived 12 miles from her, would come and stay with her but she couldn't this time. So Sister Eldeen's daughter asked a relative to look in from time to time to see about her mother and to see if all was well.

The daughter and family left and all went well. The relative stopped in to see if she was all right about six o'clock in the evening. Sister Eldeen said she was fine and that the relative need not come again as she was going to bed as soon as she finished her supper.

As she was eating her supper, Sis. Eldeen noticed that the cat's dish needed some water in it. So she leaned over to get the dish to fill it. She leaned too far and fell out of her chair to the floor. She was not able to get up as she was too weak and old. She had fallen in a very painful position, too. She tried and tried to get up but she couldn't. What should she do? No one knew she had fallen. Who will come to help me, she wondered. The house would soon be dark and anyone passing would think she had gone to bed. Poor dear! But boys and girls, there was Someone who saw her. There was Someone who knew all about her. God's great loving eye was looking down upon her. He knew she had fallen. Then there was another thing that was precious. Sister Eldeen knew the God who was looking down upon her. She knew Him as her personal Savior. She knew how to pray. She was living so her prayers could go right through to heaven's throne.

That is a wonderful way to live. None of us know when we might be in need. We want to know how to pray and have faith in God. God can do anything. God can talk to others far away from us. So Sister Eldeen was praying as she lay there. She asked God to send help. God gave her a scripture which says, "Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord." Sister Eldeen prayed, "O, dear Lord, send thy Spirit to cause someone to come to help me."

Sister McFarling also is a child of God. She lives close to the Lord. She knows His voice when He talks to her. She not only hears His voice, but she also obeys His voice. Sister McFarling was very busy preparing supper for her husband. Suddenly a very heavy feeling came over her. She felt troubled. She looked to the Lord and it seemed the Lord made her feel strongly that she should go to see about Sister Eldeen. She kept feeling this way so she told her husband about it. She told him that she feared that Sister Eldeen had fallen. She asked him, "Shall I fix your supper first and then go see about her, or shall I go now?"

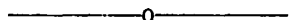
"If you feel you must go, let us go at once," Mr. McFarling answered. So they drove twelve miles to the city. When they reached the house it was all dark. Sister McFarling went into the house and called. She heard a feeble voice from the kitchen telling her how to turn the light on. There she found dear Sister Eldeen lying on the floor. She was lying in the water in a painful position.

Sister Eldeen was very happy to see Sister McFarling. She said, "I was never so glad to see anyone in my life." She could have lain there

all night and perhaps longer, if God had not sent His Spirit to Sister McFarling and made her know she ought to go see about Sister Eldeen. Isn't that wonderful! God is so good to His people. We ought to love Him and live so we can get our prayers through. If Sister McFarling had not come, Sister Eldeen might not have lived through such an ordeal.

The Lord gave Sister McFarling strength to lift Sister Eldeen into the walker and then to the bedroom. She helped her put on dry clothes. She wasn't hurt at all, but was shaken up. They had a real prayer service. They thanked God over and over for His great love to His trusting children. Sister McFarling said, "Bless the Lord, O my soul and forget not all His benefits." It truly pays to live for God and have Him near us all the time.

—Written by Sister O. McFarling,
adapted by Sister Marie Miles



Dear Boys and Girls:—

Prayer is talking to God. We cannot see God with our eyes but when we close our eyes to things around us, we can know that we are in His presence. We know that He is near and that He hears our prayer. We talk to God just as we talk to our parents. We let Him know about our needs. We let Him know that we are thankful and happy that He hears us. We tell Him that we love Him and want to please Him. We know that we can't do the right without His help because we have an enemy of our soul, the devil. He would block our way to do right if we did not have some help. He is bigger than we are but God is bigger and more powerful than the devil. We need to daily ask God to help us to overcome the devil and live for

God. God will do that if we will but ask Him.

Jesus told a parable to the disciples after He told them to always pray and not faint. When we need God's help, we must keep asking and not become weary. He said there was a judge that feared not God nor regarded man. He probably didn't let too many know this but some did. There was a widow in the city who was being mistreated and she asked the judge to see that she got justice. Day after day, morning, noon and night the poor widow came to him. The judge would not hear her. He would not do anything to help her. Finally the judge said that he would help her out because her continual coming wearied him. Now Jesus wanted his hearers to get the point of the parable. He said, "And shall not God avenge [or help] his own elect [his children] which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them?" God will render justice but He loves His own and will help them and care for them. But we must ask of Him.

The last part of the lesson tells about the two men that went up to the temple to pray. The one that God commended didn't pray a long pray but it was sincere and from his heart. The other prayer was a selfish prayer and self-righteous. God wants us to pray sincerely and with faith.

The Apostle Paul tells us "in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known unto God." Phil. 4:6. So we want to always tell the Lord thank you for the many things He does for us. Can you name some of the things God does for you? Most of all we should never forget to thank Him for sending His Son to die on the cross for our sins to bring us salvation.

Boys and girls, be sure that you pray often. You do not always have to kneel to pray but you can pray in your heart as you walk to school or just anywhere. Live for God and He will bless you.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 10, March 5, 1967

THE RIGHT WAY TO PRAY

Luke 18:1-14.

Luke 18:1 And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint;

2 Saying, There was in a city a judge which feared not God, neither regarded man:

3 And there was a widow in that city; and she came unto him, saying, Avenge me of mine adversary.

4 And he would not for a while; but afterward he said within himself, Though I fear not God, nor regard man;

5 Yet because this widow troubleth me, I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me.

6 And the Lord said, Hear what the unjust judge saith.

7 And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them?

8 I tell you that he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?

9 And he spake this parable unto certain which trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others:

10 Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican.

11 The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican.

12 I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess.

13 And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner.

14 I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.

Memory Verse: Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. Matt. 7:7.

Central Thought: Prayer brings the soul in touch with God, but without faith it is but a husk.

QUESTIONS:

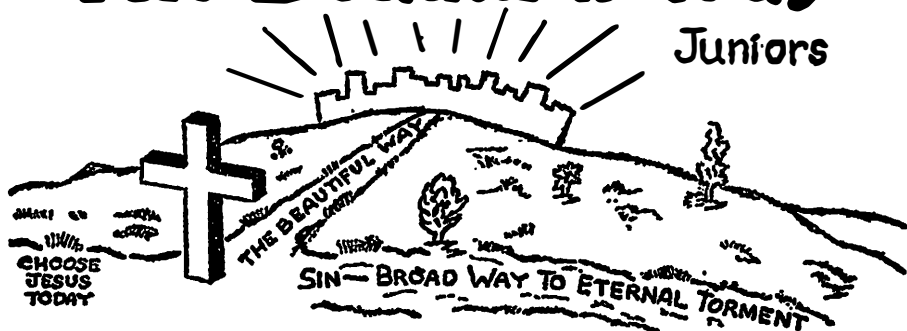
1. What is prayer?
2. Repeat the parable that Jesus told.
3. Tell what it means.
4. Tell about the publican's and the Pharisee's prayer.
5. Why did Jesus say that the publican's prayer was right?
6. Can you name other people who have prayers in the Bible?
7. How are we to pray; when, and where?
8. Tell about a prayer that you know of that was answered.

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 18, No. 1

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Part Eleven

March 12

The Living Stone

Fall on this Stone, and broken be;
Let all thy pride dissolve from thee.
Let self be slain, all homage give
And on this Stone thou mayest live.

Rejected by the pride of man
Who seeks an earthly way to span,
This Stone is chos'n of God to be
The Headstone for eternity!

And all who will not to Him bow
To build upon His graces now
Their hopes of life they had in mind
Will feel His weight to powder
grind.

—Leslie Busbee

The Real Santa Catarina

Riding over the dry desert lands surrounded by rock and cactus covered mountains, we passed droves of quail. At times we see horses, sheep and goats which are driven about to find the small amount of feed available. They eat the red plant growth that covers the sandy ground in

places. As we passed an Indian village, we saw a blind native woman sitting in the sunlight by the side of her thatched cottage. It is said that she is over a hundred years old. She and other older Indian natives tell this story of the real Santa Catarina. This mother states that her mother was a small girl when this tragedy happened. As one views this beautiful land and feels the peace and quietness of the atmosphere, also observes the friendliness of the natives, this tragedy would never be thought to be true. But the quiet winds that blow over the desert and mountains could tell another story.

This event took place nearly one hundred and fifty years ago. At that time this particular tribe was dwelling in caves in the mountains and were considered to be wild. However, at the present time this tribe is considered to be extinct. Only the Pai Pai and a small amount of two other tribes are left in and about this Indian reservation area marked off by large square blocks. These tribes in Santa Catarina are scattered about

over the rocky desert lands having the beautiful mountains in the background. They do not seem to have much future. Even attending school to the third grade is counted a great blessing and privilege. That, however, is just when the Mexican government happens to find a teacher who will stay in Santa Catarina. The Pai Pai Indians seem to be content to dwell in these cactus stock thatch huts, some having mud brick sides. They use huge rocks on which to grind their corn for making patties, and they beat their meat with rocks to make it tender. They make rich cheese from cow and goat milk. Once in awhile an Indian gets to go to the United States, which they call "the other side," and it seems to them to be almost out of this world. They can be heard playing their banjos and singing almost any time of the day. It is not any news to hear of an Indian boy staying for days alone with his horse and goats on the mountainside.

Into this beautiful setting of the quiet cliff-dwelling, peace-loving Indians came the Roman Catholic workers. This procession set up dwellings in which to live while having their cathedral and monastery built. In their need for men laborers to build these, they captured the Indians by promising them gold. In order to keep them working, they would lock the Indians up at night.

As the story goes, a beautiful Catholic monastery and cathedral were completed on a leveled-off peak. A high brick wall surrounded the buildings, except the kitchen which was separate. Against this surrounding wall were small cells with barred windows where the Indian slave men and women bunked at night. They were

locked at night to keep the Indians from escaping. When the slave laborers would rebel, they were beaten and treated cruelly. Many died under this cruel treatment, knowing too that they could never return to their homes. A large gaping hole in the nearby graveyard is left to tell the tale of the fate of those who died. They were buried in a common grave and some kind of substance poured over their dead bodies before they were covered with dirt.

The sad story of these unhappy laborers grew more grievous as it reached the ears of the remaining tribe which had escaped the capturing. One fatal night the Indians went on a war dance. They gathered guns, knives, hatchets, etc., and climbed the monastery walls. They murdered every Catholic inside these walls—nuns, priest, and all—and then burned the buildings. The locked bunks were broken open, and the remaining prisoners released.

This little village is still called Santa Catarina, which was the name of this Catholic mission. Today when the sightseers visit there, they can see the deep holes dug by the Indians who are still hunting for the gold that was promised to the slave laborers. The largest hole is seen at the highest point where the priest's quarters were located. The gold hunters think the priest could have had the gold in his possession. As far as we know, no gold has ever been found in these ruins. The brick oven is still left a space from the ruins of the main building. Many broken pottery pieces are scattered on the sloping peak, although many of these pieces have been picked up for souvenirs. A few feet away we visited the Indian grave-

yard. This fenced-in space is kept clean and neat. Waist-high piles of different colored rocks cover the graves. These rocks were gathered by the slave laborers and piled up on the mountainside, and to this late date, they are still used by the Indians to cover the graves. The story is that when the Indian prisoners had nothing else to do, they were kept busy gathering and piling up these rocks.

It is noted that some of the Indians still hold to the Catholic belief, having the sign of the cross on their graves, and some hang their crux over the cross on the grave. They make the sign of the cross with a handful of dirt at a funeral.

—Written by Carrie Sheppard
Box 2262, San Ysidro, Calif. 92073

Sometimes when you go out into the garden, park, or woods, keep your eyes and ears open and listen to all the different sounds you hear. Maybe you can write some of them down.

"Lo, the winter is gone; The flowers appear on the earth; The time of the singing of birds is come." Song of Solomon 1:11a, 12a.

Dear Boys and Girls:

Our lesson brings out some solemn thoughts. It extends to us today. God had sent his prophets and the people rejected them. God has given us the Bible, the divine Word of God and the people are rejecting it. God sent His Son to the world, who proved his love for us to die on the cross, but people are rejecting Him. What more can a God of Love do?

When Jesus was brought before Pilate and he asked the Jews whom should he release, Barabbas or Jesus, the people

said to release Barabbas. They would rather a murderer be released than Jesus the Son of God. Then Pilate turned to them and said, "What shall I do then with Jesus, which is called Christ?" They said, "Let him be crucified." They also told Pilate to let the blood of Jesus be upon them and their children. Oh, how sad! We think of the millions of Jews that were killed in World War II. I wonder if that is still some of the punishment they received for rejecting Jesus. Today they still reject him, or most of them do.

Boys and Girls, you are going to also have to do something with Jesus. He is on your hands. You are either going to have to accept him as your Saviour or reject him. The parable that Jesus spoke tells us that they rejected the beloved son, which is Jesus. They killed him. What happened to those who so cruelly mistreated and rejected the son? They were destroyed, and the vineyard was given to others.

The stone is Jesus and the builders of the Jewish people rejected him. They would not have anything to do with him. But Jesus is still the chief corner stone of the building of God. We each are "lively stones" in that building. We need to fall upon Christ and let him save us. We need to become "broken and contrite in heart." But if we don't fall upon him and plead for mercy for our sins, he will come in judgment and we will be lost and left out of heaven. It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of a God who demands justice. He has done all he can to help us be saved. We must do something now ourselves. It is up to you and me to accept Jesus or reject Him.

The vineyard represents the divine privileges that God had for the Jewish people to come to him. Under the Old

Bible period, God sent his prophets, which are the servants sent to the husbandmen of the vineyard, who are the people. It shows the mercy of God by continually sending the prophets to help the people to know that they needed to come back to God. Finally, God sent His precious Son, but they rejected Jesus and killed him. Jesus turned from the Jews to the Gentiles. He told them that their house was left unto them desolate.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 11, March 12, 1967

WHAT WILL YOU DO WITH JESUS?

Luke 20:9-18

Luke 20:9 Then began he to speak to the people this parable; A certain man planted a vineyard, and let it forth to husbandmen, and went into a far country for a long time.

10 And at the season he sent a servant to the husbandmen, that they should give him of the fruit of the vineyard: but the husbandmen beat him, and sent him away empty.

11 And again he sent another servant: and they beat him also, and entreated him shamefully, and sent him away empty.

12 And again he sent a third: and they wounded him also, and cast him out.

13 Then said the lord of the vineyard, What shall I do? I will send my beloved son: it may be they will reverence him when they see him.

14 But when the husbandmen saw him, they reasoned among themselves, saying, This is the heir: come, let us

kill him, that the inheritance may be ours.

15 So they cast him out of the vineyard, and killed him. What therefore shall the lord of the vineyard do unto them?

16 He shall come and destroy these husbandmen, and shall give the vineyard to others. And when they heard it, they said, God forbid.

17 And he beheld them, and said, What is this then that is written, The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner?

18 Whosoever shall fall upon that stone shall be broken; but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder.

Memory Verse: Heaven and earth shall pass away; but my words shall not pass away. Luke 21:33.

Central Thought: There is coming a day when we shall have to give an account as to what we have done with Jesus, our Saviour.

QUESTIONS:—

1. What is a vineyard and what does it represent in our lesson?

2. Who are the servants that were sent to the husbandmen who cared for the vineyard?

3. Who are the husbandmen?

4. Now who is the "beloved son" that at last was sent in hopes they would accept him?

5. What happened to the husbandmen?

6. What will become of the vineyard?

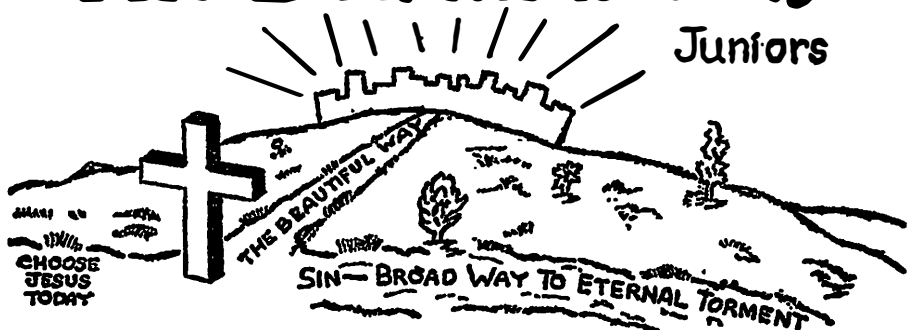
7. What are we going to do with Jesus?

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Juniors



Vol. 18, No. 1

Jan., Feb., Mar. 1967

Part Twelve

March 19

Two Thieves

Two thieves were crucified that day

When Christ hung on the cross,
One scorned, in anger turned away
Esteeming all as loss.

The other justified the Lord—

"He's naught amiss like we,"
And then his pray'r did grace afford:
"Oh Christ, remember me!"

These two are figures of us all

But we must here decide
Before the Savior Christ to fall
Or from His pow'r to hide.

—Leslie Busbee

Death Traps*

"Bill, did you hear about those soldiers getting blown up when they stepped on some mines that had been planted at night close to their headquarters?" asked Raymond.

"Yes, I heard about that," answered

Bill. "They should have been more careful. If I had been there I would have examined the ground more carefully."

"Well, they made one mistake but never lived to make another," Jerry said. He was much older than the other two boys. Jerry had made some mistakes when he was younger but now he was different. He had given his heart to the Lord. "But fellows, there are death traps right here around us."

"Not here in the United States," spoke up Bill. "It is over there, where the war is going on."

"I am not so sure about that," answered Jerry. "You can look at a sign board and see a death trap. Did you notice that new one they put up on Fifth Street?"

"Oh, you mean the one with the fellow smoking with such a pleasant look on his face?" asked Raymond.

"Yes, that is the one," answered Jerry. "That is a death trap because it makes others think it is the right thing to do. Some fellows look at that sign and they get a notion that

*parable

they want to smoke. They think that it must be something wonderful. Then they hear about tobacco being so wonderful on the radio and maybe see it often on TV. They hear others say they can smoke or leave it alone, just as they want to. Of course they might also hear that it is harmful to your body and will cause lung cancer but they close their ears to those things and start smoking. They sneak around at first and then later get bolder. They step right into a death trap. They get the habit and it gets a hold on them. I have heard of many who have tried to quit but they can't. I read about one man who started smoking when he was fourteen by stealing several cigarettes a day from his father. Later when he couldn't buy them he would pick up stubs off the street and toast them in an oven. He then rolled them into cigarettes in rice paper. He said they tasted horrible. He got lung cancer and died at an early age. I call smoking a death trap."

"I know it is a death trap, but so many do it and the fellows want me to do it, too," Bill declared. "I have tried it several times but it made me sick so I don't do it much. I wouldn't do it at all if the fellows would let me alone."

"You need to give your heart to God so He can help you not to yield," answered Jerry. "I know that was the way it was with me, too, before I got saved."

"They beg me to smoke, too, but my mother would be terribly hurt if I did," said Raymond. "I am sure her prayers for me help me to resist the temptation. They tell me that a person with cancer suffers death over and over. It must be horrible.

I think it would be better to let the fellows tease me than to suffer."

"Yes, and not only that, but it is wrong according to God's Word," Jerry told them. "There is a scripture in the Bible which says, 'If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are.' (1 Cor. 3:17). God has told us that we will be destroyed if we defile our bodies. I am sure that God doesn't want us to harm our bodies by smoking poison. You take it in little by little but it finally gets you. Tobacco is a big death-trap. It is as bad as a mine that has been planted because it seems that not very many who get the habit ever quit unless they come to God and get delivered."

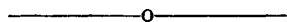
"I just tell the fellows they can be eaten up with cancer if they want to but not me," Raymond stated. "They can just smoke their old cigarettes. They don't bother me because I just take a firm stand against it."

"I wish I had more backbone," Bill said. "I sure don't want cancer either. I know of people who have it and they suffer terribly."

"Jesus was tempted by the devil to do wrong," Jerry said. "But Jesus resisted the devil and refused to obey him. We must also say no to temptation. Prayer helps, too. So fellows, you will have to pray. It takes more than just backbone. You need God to help you. If you give in and smoke, then you are apt to be tempted to use dope. Then maybe gambling and drinking strong drinks. There is no stopping place. If you don't have any money you are tempted to steal to get the things you want. Boys, it pays to live for God. I am glad I have made that decision. At times it

is not easy but after I have been tempted and say no to the devil and come out with victory, I look back and think of the great adventure I had. It's a greater adventure than facing a bear or some such thing, I think. The devil makes you about as afraid as if you were facing a bear at times but when you don't yield to him, you feel good inside."

"Fellows, I feel that I can do better now," Bill told them. "I don't want to get into any death traps either."
—M. Miles



Dear Boys and Girls:—

I trust that today your hearts and minds will be touched as we think and talk about our blessed Savior who suffered so much for you and me. He did no sin. He was innocent. He took on himself the form of flesh that he might suffer in the flesh as we do. He did this that he might be able to free us from the awful penalty of sin that hung over each of us. Boys and girls, if you tell a lie, steal, or commit any other sin, it must be punished. God requires that sin be punished. But Jesus has said, "I'll take your punishment and let you go free." How wonderful that is! There was one boy who was to be punished by his father for disobeying him and leaving the gate open which let the cows get into the corn. But this boy's brother felt sorry for his younger brother. He said to his father, "Let me take his whipping." His father said that he couldn't do that. The older brother said, "We read in worship this morning that Jesus was 'wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities.'" The younger boy promised not to let it happen again and the father gave him another chance, saying that if he did it again

the older boy's offer stood good. This caused a greater love in the heart of the younger boy for his brother. Boys and girls, Jesus has done more than that for us. Hell and eternal banishment from God faced us as our punishment. But Jesus died on the cross for our sins and saved us from hell, if we will let him be our Savior. It causes the tears to flow when we think of His great, great love.

Our lesson tells of His coming to the time of the cross and then being put on the cross. He left the upper room where he and his disciples had observed the Passover Supper (It was then that Jesus instituted the Lord's Supper and feet washing.) and went to the Garden of Gethsemane. There he prayed if it be the Lord's will for the cup of suffering on the cross to be taken from him, but if not, "Not my will, but thine be done." He thought of us and how we would be lost without a Savior. He was in such agony that "His sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground." (Luke 22:44) Oh, how he suffered! but he was willing. He wanted the disciples to pray also lest they enter into temptation.

Just north of the Damascus Gate is the place of the crucifixion. They took our blessed Lord and put him on the cross on the ground. They drove nails into his precious hands and feet. They raised the cross and dropped it into a hole. Oh, the suffering that he underwent for you and me! How we ought to love Him for it! They put him between two robbers as if he were one, too. One of them railed on him but the other asked for mercy. Jesus told the one, "Today thou shalt be with me in paradise." He was forgiven. Jesus died for you and me.
—Aunt Marie

Lesson 12, March 19, 1967

THE LOVING SAVIOR

Luke 22:39-42; Luke 23:33, 34a, 39-46

Luke 22:39 And he came out, and went, as he was wont, to the mount of Olives; and his disciples also followed him.

40 And when he was at the place, he said unto them, Pray that ye enter not into temptation.

41 And he was withdrawn from them about a stone's cast, and kneeled down, and prayed.

42 Saying, Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me; nevertheless, not my will, but thine, be done.

Luke 23:33 And when they were come to the place, which is called Calvary, there they crucified him, and the malefactors, one on the right hand, and the other on the left.

34a Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do.

39 And one of the malefactors which were hanged railed on him, saying, If thou be Christ, save thyself and us.

40 But the other answering rebuked him, saying, Dost not thou fear God, seeing thou art in the same condemnation?

41 And we indeed justly; for we receive the due reward of our deeds: but this man hath done nothing amiss.

42 And he said unto Jesus, Lord, thy kingdom.

43 And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise.

44 And it was about the sixth hour,

and there was a darkness over all the earth until the ninth hour.

45 And the sun was darkened, and the veil of the temple was rent in the midst.

46 And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice, he said, Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit; and having said thus, he gave us the ghost.

Memory Verse: Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again. No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father.

Central Thought: We should love Jesus for taking our punishment for sin.

QUESTIONS:—

1. Where had Jesus been when he went to the Mount of Olives?

2. Where was Jesus when he prayed asking God to remove the cup of suffering from him?

3. Did Jesus go to the cross willingly?

4. Was he crucified alone?

5. What did the men who were crucified with Jesus say to Him?

6. What took place in the temple when Jesus died on the cross?

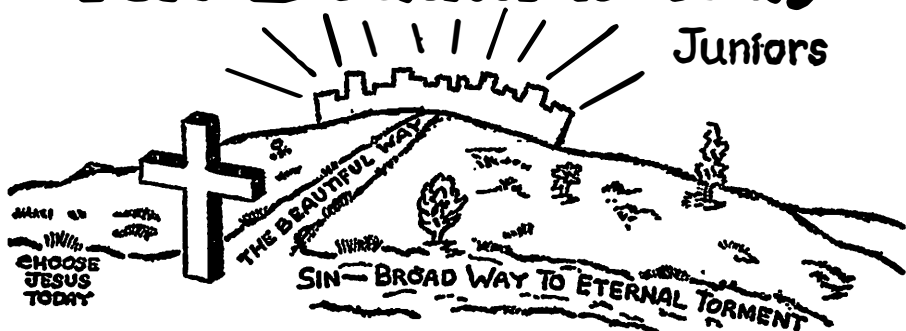
7. Name some reasons why we should love Jesus with all our hearts.

8. Can any of you start the song, "The Old Rugged Cross"?

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 18, No. 1

Jan., Feb., Mar. 1967

Part Thirteen

March 26

Jesus Lives!

He who in the tomb did lie
Who upon the cross did die
Slain by wicked men
Sits on yonder throne of grace
In the blessed heav'nly place
Conqueror of sin!

Jesus lives to die no more;
Sets for us an open door
Of abundant life!
All who will can enter in,
Share the blessed crown to win
In the holy strife!

—Leslie Busbee

Waiting Place for the Soul

"We talked about us putting on a new body at the resurrection, but where does the soul go until the resurrection?" Dale asked his father.

"Son, there is a waiting place for the departed souls until the resurrection. The Bible tells us 'Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God

who gave it.' (Eccl. 12:7). We know that people die and their bodies perish and go to dust. We see that here in this world. Just as surely as the first part of the verse is true, so is the second part, also. Our spirit goes back to God who gave it. Man is a two-fold being, outward man and inward man. (2 Cor. 4:16) This house of clay or outward man goes back to dust.

"There are three states of the human spirit or soul. First the soul lives in the body in this world. Second, in death, it leaves the body and goes to the unseen world which is called Hades and waits for the resurrection. Third, the soul leaves Hades and is given a new body and goes to its eternal abode after the resurrection and judgment."

"What is Hades?" asked Dale.

"Hades is a Greek word for the place or waiting place for disembodied souls. The Hebrew word for it is Scheol. The literal meaning of Hades is invisible, the unseen world, the unseen state. We are told that the early Jewish historians, Josephus

and others, also the early church fathers said that the Jews called the abode of the happy departed spirits paradise, or Abraham's bosom and the abode of the wicked spirits and souls of sinners at death, also demons, they called it Tartarus or lowest Hades."

"Does Hades have two rooms?" asked Darlene.

"I want you to open your Bibles to Luke 16:19-31. This is the true account of Lazarus, the beggar, and the rich man. Lazarus was saved and belonged to God. The rich man was a sinner and left God out of his life. The angels carried Lazarus to Paradise or Abraham's bosom. The part of Hades where the disembodied souls were comforted and at rest. It is a heavenly realm where 'the wicked cease from troubling; [the righteous] and there the weary be at rest.' (Job 3:17). 'There the saints of all ages meet 'and rest from their labors.' They are in a state of blessedness; for 'blessed are the dead which die in the Lord.' They actually are consciously enjoying happiness in a state of blessedness. They are 'absent from the body, and present with the Lord,' (2 Cor. 5:6). They are in paradise. Jesus told the converted thief, 'Today thou shalt be with me in paradise.' (Luke 23:43) John the Revelator also saw disembodied souls reigning with Christ in paradise. (Rev. 6:9-11).

"Heaven after the resurrection will be more wonderful though, won't it?" asked Darlene.

"Yes, heaven will be much better, but paradise is wonderful," Daddy answered. "A girl was dying and she was allowed to tell something of what she saw. She said, 'I hear music; don't you hear it? And, Moth-

er, I see a door . . . It is open. I see inside. It is a beautiful place. It is heaven (or Paradise). I see forms clothed in white, many, yes, a multitude of beautiful beings, their hands upraised. . . . Why there is Pa! (her father) . . . Come, dear Lord, I am ready.' An effort on her part to close her eyes and mouth, a few agonizing moments, and the open door received her gentle spirit.' "

"Oh, it must be wonderful to be able to see into the unseen world!" Darlene exclaimed excitedly.

"Where do the wicked or sinners go when they die?" asked Dale.

"In the account that Jesus gave us about the rich man we are told that he was in a place where he could see the beauties that Lazarus enjoyed. He saw him comforted in Abraham's bosom. But he could not go to where Lazarus was nor could Lazarus go to where he was. In verse 26 it tells us that there is a great gulf fixed that they cannot pass. But we read how the rich man is tormented. The wicked remember the many times they had a chance to get right with God when they lived in this life. They trouble about their loved ones coming to that place. It is an actual place of torment. It is called lowest Hades, or Tartarus. In Deut. 32:22 we read, 'Shall burn in the lowest hell' (lowest Hades). Peter plainly tells us that God 'hath reserved the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished.' (2 Peter 2:9.) Where is that place they are waiting until the judgment? It is answered by the Bible. 'Reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day.' (Jude 6) Demons are yet to be punished. (Matt. 8:29; Rev. 20:19). The demons, together with the spirits of

wicked people are reserved—kept—in ‘chains of thick darkness’ or ‘in the lowest Hades.’ There in ‘pits of gloom’ they await their awful doom, which falls upon them at the judgment. Mercy gone and the past not forgotten, they writhe in the depths of despair, knowing that they will be cast into the lake of fire at the judgment.”

“I don’t want to go to that place,” Darlene said with a shudder.

—Marie Miles

Before Paul became an apostle of Jesus Christ he went to the very best schools in Tarsus. He learned from great teachers.

After Paul was saved, the ones he had persecuted were the ones he wanted to help. He was a changed man. Where hatred had been in his heart, love now dwelt.

Dear Boys and Girls:—

We love the story of the resurrection. If there had not been a death, there could not have been a resurrection. Jesus died on the cross and was put into the grave. They thought they were rid of him but thank God he arose from the grave. How wonderful it is today to know that he is alive! He is sitting at the right hand of God interceding for you and me. He is our living Savior. And because he arose, we will arise some day. This glorious promise of the resurrection has a two-fold meaning. It assures those who have died “in Christ” that they shall arise, and promises never-ending life to those who are alive now and belong to Christ. Never-ending life means that we shall die and live with Christ forever, which is eter-

nal life. We will put on a new body when we arise—a body that will never feel any pain nor heat nor cold. We shall never be hungry over there; but all will be joy, peace, and contentment, and more than we can imagine. Because Christ arose, we shall also arise.

I do hope our boys and girls know what Easter means. It seems so many look forward to new clothes, colored eggs, candy rabbits and chickens, but do not really understand what a wonderful thing it is to know that it is a time when we think about our precious Savior who arose from the grave and gave us the plan of salvation.

If Jesus had not arisen, those who have died would not arise when Jesus comes bursting through the clouds to take us all home to be with him. Jesus is the firstfruits of that resurrection. Some day this old body of ours will put on a new body. Did you ever watch a caterpillar turn into a beautiful butterfly? Isn’t that wonderful? We are just in an old ugly shell now. Some day we are going to blossom out into a new and wonderful body. That body will be perfect and live forever.

We notice that our lesson tells us that Jesus arose on the first day of the week. Sunday is the first day of the week. We read in the Word of God that the disciples and others began to meet together to worship the Lord on the first day of the week. Today we meet together on Sunday in memory of the day that our blessed Lord arose from the grave. It was a wonderful day and still is to us today. We should never forget all Jesus did for us. We are thankful that God sent the Holy Spirit into the world and that He will dwell in our hearts today when we surrender all to Him. —Aunt Marie

Lesson 13, March 26, 1967

THE RESURRECTION

Luke 24:1-9, 44-49

Luke 24:1 Now upon the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they came unto the sepulchre, bringing the spices which they had prepared, and certain others with them.

2 And they found the stone rolled away from the sepulchre.

3 And they entered in, and found not the body of the Lord Jesus.

4 And it came to pass, as they were much perplexed thereabout, behold, two men stood by them in shining garments:

5 And as they were afraid, and bowed down their faces to the earth, they said unto them, Why seek ye the living among the dead?

6 He is not here, but is risen: remember how he spake unto you when he was yet in Galilee.

7 Saying, The Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.

8 And they remembered his words,

9 And returned from the sepulchre, and told all these things unto the eleven, and to all the rest.

44 And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me.

45 Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the Scriptures,

43 And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behooved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day:

47 And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

48 And ye are witnesses of these things.

49 And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you; but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.

Memory Verse: And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

Central Thought: We rejoice because we are serving a living Christ.

QUESTIONS:

1. Why do we keep the first day of the week as a day of worship today?

2. Do you agree with the person who said that the angel did not roll the stone away to let Jesus out, but to let the disciples in?

3. Why did the angels say, "Why seek ye the living among the dead?"

4. Did they remember that Jesus had told them he would be crucified and arise the third day?

5. Where did the last part of our lesson take place?

6. Did Jesus fulfill words spoken of him by Moses over 2000 years before?

7. What are witnesses? Who were the witnesses of Jesus' work, death and resurrection in this world?

8. Why did Jesus ask the disciples to tarry in Jerusalem?

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 18, No. 2

April, May, June 1967

Part One

April 2

Ascended on High

What a sight it must have been
When the Saviour went on high
Leaving wond'ring faithful men
Looking upward to the sky.

What a comfort to them there
Were the words He spoke before:
"Preach this gospel everywhere,
I am with you evermore!"

What a message did they hear
From the angels who did say:
"Why do you stand gazing here?
Christ will come again some day."
—Leslie Busbee

Power to do Right*

"I wish I had some dynamite and we could blow this old chicken house up and we wouldn't have to tear it down," Ralph said as he helped his father.

"Dynamite, did you say?" Ralph's

father said as he laughed softly. "Why, Son, that would blow it all over the barnyard and pasture. We would have a job picking up the little pieces."

"What does dynamite look like?" Ralph asked as he held a board in midair.

"Well, it is reddish-brown and resembles raw sugar," answered Daddy. "A man named Nobel invented it."

"How does it go off?" Ralph inquired.

"It is detonated by using either an electric or non-electric blasting cap," Daddy explained. "A person has to be very careful in handling dynamite."

"I know, because it is powerful stuff," Ralph concluded.

"Yes, there is power in it," agreed Daddy, "but I know something that has more power than dynamite."

"What's that?" questioned Ralph.

"It is the blood of Jesus," answered Daddy. "Dynamite has power to do many things but only the blood of Jesus can wash away our sins. When a boy or girl asks God to forgive him

of his sins and with godly sorrow repents, then the blood of Jesus will wash his sins all away and they are remembered against him no more. That is great power, isn't it?"

"Yes, it is, and I am glad that my sins are gone," Ralph said with happiness in his heart. "I guess you could say it is something like dynamite only dynamite blows things to pieces but the blood of Jesus washes them away and there aren't any left."

"Well, if you want to put it that way," answered Daddy as he pulled off more boards from the old broken-down chicken house. He put the good boards in one stack and the rotten ones in the truck to be hauled away to be burned. "Did you know that the word 'power' comes from the root word 'dynamite'?"

"No, but they are somewhat alike," Ralph answered.

"Before Jesus went into heaven he told the disciples that he would give them 'power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon' them. (Acts 1:8) They needed power in their lives to do right just as we need power to do right. The devil is bigger than we are and we have to have power to overcome him. When we are tempted to do wrong we can pray to the Lord and he gives us power to say no to the devil."

"Daddy, I want to tell you something, but don't tell Bill's father about it because I would get into trouble. When I went to town with Bill and his parents the other day Bill wanted me to steal," Ralph confided. "We went into the five and ten cent store and Bill said he gets lots of little things from that store. When I asked him where he got the money to pay for them he said he

didn't need money. He told me it was easy to take things. I told him that was stealing but he said they had lots of things and didn't need all of them. He wanted me to pick up some balloons. They were pretty and I wanted one but when I looked at one and thought about taking it, I began to tremble. Something inside made me know that would be stealing and wrong. I told Bill that I would not do such a thing and that he had better quit taking things or he would get caught. I took hold of him and we walked out of that store."

"Son, I am proud of you," Daddy said as he looked at his son with joy. "I am glad you told me about this. I am going to buy you some balloons. We will blow them up together and rejoice. It is an awful thing to steal. Taking little things like that will only make one bold to take bigger things. Son, always remember this one thing, Bill will have to make everything right with the store manager before he can get to heaven. Bill needs to be warned about this and his father needs to know so he can help him. If he continues on like this he is likely to end up in jail. I am glad you did right, however. You see, God gave you power to say no, didn't He?"

"Well, I guess so, or I would have taken a balloon because Bill seemed to think it just the thing to do," Ralph answered feeling real good inside that he didn't do wrong.

"I wish every boy and girl would seek God to give them more power to live for God," Daddy said as he pulled off more boards. "That is the best prayer that they can pray. God will give them power not to steal, not to tell lies, power to obey their

parents, power to go straight and power to be a child of God."

"Oh, Daddy, I shudder to think that I might have taken a balloon," Ralph said as he threw a board over into the pile. "I am glad for the power that God gave me to do right."

"I am, too, and just as soon as we get through here we will go to town and get those balloons and you can enjoy them," Daddy said as he continued his work. "You wouldn't have enjoyed a stolen one, I am sure."

—M. Miles

Dear Boys and Girls:—

I trust that you are on your guard each day. Each of us has a mighty foe who does not want us to live for God. He will do everything he can to turn you away. If you had to face this mighty foe alone you would be overcome, but, thank God, there is a Friend who is greater than that foe who will fight your battle if you will let Him. When other boys and girls try to persuade you to do wrong, be sure to stand firmly and do not yield. Secretly, in your heart, pray to Jesus and ask him to help and he will come right then while you are talking to the ones who are trying to get you to do wrong. You will feel an inner strength and a firmer determination to do the right. It will work, so be sure to pray. Jesus is greater than the devil, who will work through others to get you to do wrong.

The first part of December in 1966 we started our lessons about Jesus. In that lesson, I believe it was, the prophet Isaiah foretold of Jesus' coming and what he would do. Since then we have studied about his coming and some of the good things he did. We studied about his going to the cross and dying for our sins. But, thank God, he did not

stay in the grave but came forth triumphant over death. Today we are going to study about his going back to heaven, from whence he came, to be with His Father, to sit on the right hand of God to intercede for you and me as we call upon Him. Oh, how wonderful it is to have such a wonderful Savior as Jesus for our closest Friend! He knows all about our problems and troubles and knows how to help us. He helps us through the words that he spoke and which were written down for our instructions. He helps us through others who love Him. He helps us through that inner voice or drawing toward right, which is the Holy Spirit.

After his resurrection he appeared to many and there were many witnesses who saw him. (Read 1 Cor. 15:5-8.) In our lesson today he is on the mount of Olives with his disciples and was soon to leave them. Notice closely his last words. The most important message or what he wanted them to be sure to remember was that after he was gone they would receive the Holy Spirit, which was promised to them by God. Just as they went down into the water and the outer man was covered, even so the inner man would be filled with the Spirit. Notice that Jesus tells them that they would "receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you," power to live without sinning and power over the devil, their enemy. They would have power to witness for God. They would have understanding and would preach about the kingdom of God which Jesus came to establish. While they stood looking, he arose up into the sky out of their sight and two men in white told them that Jesus would come again in like manner. We need to be ready to meet him in the air. The world will be on fire and those who love him will rejoice at his coming.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 1, April 2, 1967

JESUS TAKEN UP

Acts 1:1-11

1 The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach,

2 Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen:

3 To whom also he showed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God:

4 And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me.

5 For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.

6 When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?

7 And he said unto them, It is not you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power.

8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

9 And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight.

10 And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel;

11 Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you in to heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.

Memory Verse: But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. Acts. 1:8.

Central Thought: Are we using the power given us by the Holy Spirit to witness for God?

QUESTIONS:—

1. Tell some of the infallible proofs that Jesus arose from the grave.

2. How many days was Jesus seen after his resurrection?

3. What was the commandment Jesus gave about preaching the gospel? (See Mat. 28:19, 20.)

4. What was the "promise of the Father" that they were to wait for in Jerusalem?

5. Explain the baptism of water and of fire.

6. Did the disciples look for a literal kingdom instead of a spiritual kingdom?

7. What does verse 8 tell us they would receive and do when the Holy Spirit came upon them?

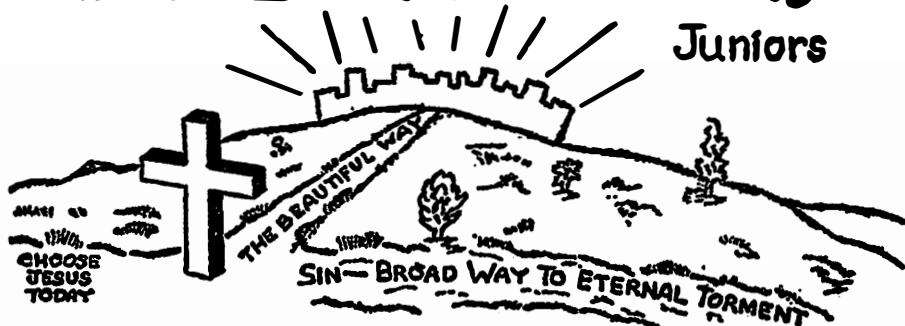
8. What did the two men in white tell the disciples when Jesus was taken up?

9. How will Jesus come again?

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 18, No. 2

April, May, June 1967

Part Two

April 9

When the Holy Spirit Came

What a day upon this earth,
Such the world had never known
When the Holy Spirit's worth
To the sons of men was shown.

When upon a faithful few
Came His power from above,
Filling, blessing through and through
With His wond'rous burning love.

To the people forth they went
With a message glad to tell:
"In the name of Christ repent,
And with you He, too, can dwell!"

—Leslie Busbee

The Temple of God

"I wish I could have been there when the glory of the Lord filled Solomon's temple," Betty said as her mother finished reading the 5th chapter of 2 Chronicles. "It must have been wonderful. All of those singers and the 120 trumpeters praising God would have been a wonderful sight

to see and hear."

"That is right, it did say there were 120 trumpeters," James said. "That is the same number that was in the upper room on the day of Pentecost."

"James, I am glad you remembered that," Mother remarked. "There is a connection with this Scripture and the 2nd chapter of Acts. We think about how Adam and Eve sinned and the whole human race was separated from God, and how sad this made Him feel. God wanted to be as close to those of his creation as he could. Remember we read about God instructing Moses to build the tabernacle and when it was finished that his glory filled the tent house? God could then be among his people. He forgave the sins of the people when they offered sacrifices to him. The lamb that they offered was to be without spot or blemish because it was a type of Christ who came to this world to die on the cross for us. Solomon built a house for God to dwell in so he could be among the people. It replaced the tent house. When the

people looked toward the temple and prayed, God heard and answered their prayers. But God still had a better plan for us. God wanted to dwell in our hearts. James, turn over to 1st Cor. 6:19, 20 and read what it says."

"What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's," read James.

"How did God get out of Solomon's temple into people's bodies?" questioned Betty. "Or did his glory fill Solomon's temple and them, too?"

"God dwelt in Solomon's temple before Jesus came, but when Jesus died on the cross he moved out of the temple. On the day of Pentecost when the 120 disciples were all together, waiting for the Holy Spirit to come upon them, God moved into the hearts of his people. Each of the disciples was a temple and all together they were the temple of God. When they were all of one accord just as the trumpeters and singers were one, suddenly God's glory came down from heaven upon them and filled them. That was more glorious than the day that Solomon's temple was filled with God's glory. God's design was now complete for he had intended from the beginning to dwell within his people."

"That is wonderful, isn't it?" Betty declared. "Just think, part of God is dwelling in my heart and body! It is hard to understand, but it is true. It makes me feel happy and glad to know that God is right with me all the time."

"That is the reason the 120 disciples were so happy," declared James.

"They rejoiced so greatly that a large crowd gathered to see what was going on."

"Some thought they were drunk," Betty said. "I guess they couldn't figure it all out so just decided that was why they were acting like that."

"Peter boldly told them that was not true seeing it was only the third hour (9:00 a. m.) of the day and they couldn't be drunk," Mother explained. "He told them about the prophet Joel prophesying of this coming to pass. Many others rejoiced and believed on Jesus that day. Then later more were saved. The Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved." (See Acts 2:47.)

"Is the temple of God the same as the church?" questioned James.

"Yes. On the day of Pentecost when God's Spirit came upon the 120 disciples, God set his church in motion here in the earth. The church of God began that day and God has had a church ever since. He will always have a church. When Jesus comes bursting through the clouds in the end of time He will have a church or people here who will be changed and put on a new body to meet him in the air. That will be a wonderful day."

"I want to be sure my life pleases the Holy Spirit so I can meet Jesus in the air," Betty said and James agreed with her. —M. Miles

TALKING

Do you know that speech is one of God's gifts to man, and to man alone? No animal can speak. There are some birds that say words like people do, but they only repeat what they hear someone say. They do not have

minds to think what they are saying.

Only people, you and I, have been created with the power to speak. Isn't that wonderful? Aren't you glad you are not an animal? Animals never become people. Even though people sometimes act like animals, they will always be human beings.

What are some of the things that speech does for us? It makes us responsible to use the right words. The Bible tells us, "By thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned." (Matthew 12:37). To be saved, we must confess Jesus as our Lord and Saviour. It is with our words we tell others what Jesus has done for us when He saved us (Romans 10:9, 10).

Matthew 5:34, 37 tells us not to swear at all but use clean talk. The devil wants us to use our tongue for him, but look at what James says happens when we use our tongues for the devil—James 3:6, 8—the tongue is set on fire of hell.

Our speech is to be gracious and pure (Colossians 4:6). God is pleased when we praise Him with our tongue. (Hebrews 13:15).

Dear Boys and Girls:—

I trust that you are still loving the Lord. He loves you and how precious Jesus become to us when we are careful to obey His Word! I know that in school there are always those who don't care to do the right. But, boys and girls, you must not let them cause you to do wrong. Stand firmly for the right. You may feel hurt by the sneers or slighting remarks made to your back but those are just small things compared to living in eternity in hell where you will have them continually from the horrible demons and

all those who have chosen to be there. In hell there will be those who will hiss at you and even blame you for their misery. Oh, that is a terrible place! Be sure you live so you will not go there. Think about these things when you feel hurt from the slighting remarks made to you because you want to live for God in this wicked world.

Our lesson today is very important. Boys and girls, we want you to remember that the day of Pentecost, when God sent the Holy Spirit into the world, is the day when God set the Church of God in motion. It was a glorious day. That is the reason Jesus had to go away. He said that if he didn't go back to heaven then the Holy Spirit or the Comforter would not come. Jesus was here in person and could only be with a few at a time to help them, but thank God, the Holy Spirit can be in each of our hearts. A person in China and a person in America can each have the Holy Spirit dwelling within their hearts. How wonderful that is!

The disciples obeyed Jesus and in the upper room at Jerusalem the 120 waited for the Holy Spirit to come. They chose another man to take Judas' place. His name was Matthias. Peter was there and had been forgiven of turning against Jesus the night of His crucifixion. All of them were saved and their sins had been forgiven. Their lives were clean and pure and their hearts were in one accord. They were ready for the Holy Spirit to come into their hearts. That is the condition that we must meet today before the Holy Spirit will come into our hearts to cleanse our nature of the effects of what we inherited from Adam. We have a new nature then. Those boys and girls who growl, complain and murmur need their natures changed so they will be kind, loving and agreeable.

They need to get saved and then seek for the Holy Spirit to come into their hearts and give them a new nature and power to overcome all evil and live a life pleasing to the Lord.

Be sure to count the different nationalities that were there that day and heard about the Holy Spirit coming into the world and dwelling in the hearts of the 120. God wanted the world to know about it so he gave them the gift of tongues or languages so that "every man heard them speak in his own language." Wasn't that wonderful? Remember it was a language and it was understood by those who heard it in their mother tongue or language. That was a wonderful day.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 2, April 9, 1967

THE COMING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Acts 2:1-11

1 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.

2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.

3 And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.

4. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

5. And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven.

6 Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were

confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language.

7 And they were all amazed and marvelled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galileans?

8 And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born?

9 Parthians, and Medes, and Elamites, and dwellers in Mesopotamia and in Judea, and Cappadocia, in Pontus, and Asia,

10 Phrygia, and Pamphylia, in Egypt and in the parts of Libya about Cyrene, and strangers of Rome, Jews and proselytes,

11 Cretes and Arabians, we do hear them speak in our tongues the wonderful works of God.

Memory Verse: But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

Central Thought: We need the Holy Spirit to change our natures.

QUESTIONS:—

1. What happened suddenly to the 120 persons in the upper room?

2. How did the Holy Spirit at that time make his presence known to others?

3. How many nationalities heard the gospel preached in their own language?

4. What gift of the Spirit was most needed at that time?

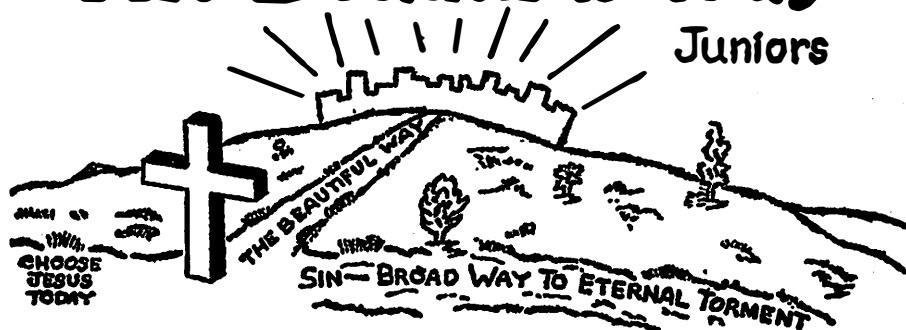
5. At what other times would the gift of tongues be needed?

6. What does the Holy Spirit do for us in our hearts and lives?

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 18, No. 2

April, May, June 1967

Part Three

April 16

Peter's Message

Ye men hear now this message true
That Christ of God is glorified;
He, whom ye sought away to do,
Sits now by the Almighty's side.

And by the Father's promise giv'n
Sent now the Holy Spirit down,
Made Lord of earth and King of
heav'n
He wears the everlasting crown.

Repent and turn to Him today;
Confess that He is Christ the Lord,
And walk the everlasting way
And know the grace He does afford.
—Leslie Busbee

Jose' Mother Understands

Jose lived in El Alamo, Mexico. There were five children in his family besides his mother and father. All of the children had either six toes or six fingers except little Jose, who was about ten years old, and he had five finger and five toes.

There were missionaries in El Alamo when Jose and his family moved there. These missionaries taught the dear people about Jesus. They taught the people that they must ask Jesus to forgive them of their sins for them to be ready to go to heaven. They pictured the scene of the cross to them of Jesus hanging with the nails driven through his hands and feet. The missionaries told them that Jesus had not committed sins but was pure, clean, and innocent. How wonderful it was that Jesus loved boys and girls men and women so much that he was willing to die for their sins. Some of the people believed on Jesus and were saved.

A number came to the little chapel where the missionaries told them about Jesus. Jose was among them. He didn't like to miss. He loved to memorize the verses and when the missionary talked about Jesus Jose's big brown eyes would sparkle. He would look right at the missionary as he told him the story of Jesus and how he loved little boys and girls.

One day Jose became ill. Big

knots swelled up in his stomach. His throat was closed up and he could not eat. His parents did not tell the missionaries that Jose was sick. His parents did not believe in worshipping Jesus and praying to him. They worshipped Mary, the mother of Jesus and prayed to her. But Jose loved Jesus. When the missionaries heard that Jose was in the hospital they were sorry that he was sick. They remembered how he loved Jesus and would pray to him. The missionaries visited him in the hospital. He was sick for three weeks then the Lord took him. He was buried in El Alamo. They had his funeral in the chapel where the missionaries taught the people about Jesus. Bro. James Huskey took care of the funeral. Some little girls dressed in white walked in front of the casket. The missionaries felt that Jose had gone to be with Jesus.

After Jose died his parents gave their hearts to God. Jose's sweet life helped them to get saved. It was hard for his mother to get saved because she seemed to want to still pray to Mary. But she finally was able to understand that Mary was just a woman like other women. She was chosen to bring the Son of God, Jesus, into the world. We read in the first chapter of Acts that Mary, the mother of Jesus, was in the upper room with the 120 on the day of Pentecost, waiting for the Holy Spirit. She, too, felt that need as much as the others who tarried for the Holy Spirit.

One time Jesus was talking to the multitude and his mother and brethren came, desiring to talk to him. They could not get to him because of the crowd. Right in the middle of his sermon someone told him that

they were here to see him. But Jesus answered and said, "Who is my mother? and who are my brethren? And he stretched forth his hand toward his disciples, and said, Behold my mother and my brethren! For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother." (Matt. 12:46-50.) So you see, Jesus did not count his mother as any more important than any other woman. She also needed to do the will of God to be in the family of God. He wanted the people in that day and also today to know that she was not to be worshipped. Yet Jesus showed respect to her as his earthly mother. God was Jesus' Father and only through woman could Jesus come here in the flesh.

I am sure that Mary rejoiced greatly on the day of Pentecost when she was filled with the abiding Holy Spirit. Boys and girls, it is wonderful to be saved and to know that your sins are forgiven, but it is more wonderful to have the Holy Spirit dwelling in your body which is the temple of the Holy Spirit.

God wanted to dwell in his people but he could not until after Jesus came and died on the cross and arose again. Before this, God's Spirit dwelt in the temple that Solomon built and before that in the tabernacle that Moses had built. God loves us and wants to be with us. Isn't it wonderful that we live in the day when he dwells in our hearts! —M. Miles

Time to Stop

One day Joe went to Sunday school for the first time. He liked the Bible story about Jesus making the storm

go away. The teacher said, "We should always have faith in God. He will help us. We should not be afraid."

The teacher gave Joe a little card. The card had a picture of the storm on the sea. It showed the boat in which Jesus' helpers were. Under the picture were the words, "Have faith in God."

On his way home, Joe lost his card out the bus window. He cried out, "Stop the bus! I have lost my faith in God."

The bus driver was a nice man. He stopped the bus. Joe got out and picked up his card. When he got back on, he said, "Now I have my faith in God."

We should always hold fast to our faith in God. We should always trust Him with all of our hearts.



Dear Boys and Girls:—

Did you know that Jesus is a King? God revealed to David that Jesus would be a King. Our lesson is part of Peter's sermon on the day of Pentecost. Really, it was the Holy Spirit's sermon. Peter was filled, submerged and overflowing with the Spirit of God. The Holy Spirit had come into his heart and taken his abode there. His body was the temple of the Holy Spirit. He no longer was the timid Peter who denied Jesus. Why? Because he had power now to witness for God. Boys and girls, that is one of the works of the Holy Spirit. Peter stood up boldly and the Holy Spirit spoke through him.

Peter pointed the people that day to Jesus who had lived in Nazareth. Nazareth was a despised city of that day and in the part of Galilee that most of the people did not like. (John 1:46; Matt. 2:23; Luke 1:26, 27.) That didn't make any difference to God. His approval was

upon Jesus. It is not the place you live, the color of your skin, or the kind of relatives you have that brings the favor of God upon you. The only way to have the pleasure of God resting upon you is to have your heart right. Peter called their attention to the fact that Jesus did miracles among them and many wonders. This they could not deny. They all knew about it. With boldness Peter plainly told them that they had taken Jesus and crucified him. They had put him on the cross with wicked intentions and they must give an account of these. But remember, Peter also told them that they did not do this without God's permission. According to the foreknowledge of God, Jesus was "the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world." (Rev. 13:8) With thunderous words Peter boldly declared that God raised Jesus out of the grave. It was not possible for the grave to hold him. Man killed him but could not keep him in the grave. Peter proclaimed that they were witnesses to this fact. Jesus was exalted as king and is sitting on the right hand of God. Since God had promised that he would send the Holy Spirit after the resurrection and ascension of Jesus, Peter told the people that they could see that the Holy Spirit had come upon them.

Peter declares that, without question and doubt, this same Jesus whom David spoke of that was to sit on the right hand of God is both Lord and Christ. (Psa. 110:1) Jesus was in lineal descent from David which made him the rightful king. This was contrary to their belief. They expected Jesus to sit on an earthly throne; but, thank God, he is sitting on the throne in heaven and will reign till he makes all his enemies his footstool.

Peter concluded his message with the words directed to those present that this same Jesus is the Christ. When they heard this they were convinced. They

cried out, "What must we do?" Peter told them to repent and be baptized and then they could receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. He had been promised to them and to those of other nations and all who will call upon the name of the Lord.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 3, April 16, 1967

PETER'S SERMON AT PENTECOST

Acts 2:22-24; 32-39

Acts 2:22 Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know:

23 Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain:

24 Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death: because it was not possible that he should be holden of it.

32 This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses.

33 Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, he hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear.

34 For David is not ascended into the heavens; but he saith himself, The Lord said unto my Lord, sit thou on my right hand,

35 Until I make thy foes thy footstool.

36 Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ.

37 Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?

38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

39 For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.

Memory Verse: Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. Acts 2:38.

Central Thought: Each of us should live so we can be "approved of God" and a witness for Him.

QUESTIONS:—

1. In what Psalm did David prophesy that Jesus would sit on the right hand of God as King?

2. Who preached the sermon in our lesson, using Peter as a mouthpiece?

3. How did Peter become so bold on the day of Pentecost when before Jesus was crucified he was so timid he denied Him?

4. What did people think of Nazareth?

5. What does the phrase, "foreknowledge of God" mean in connection with Jesus?

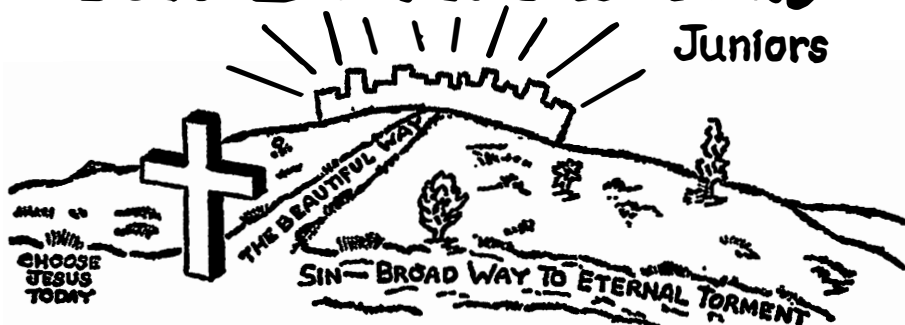
6. Was Peter's message effective?

7. What did Peter tell the people to do to be ready to go to heaven?

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



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April, May, June 1967

Part Four

April 23

Faith in His Name

Jesus is in Heaven
Praying for us there;
Every blessing given
Shows His loving care.

Pardon for the sinner,
Healing for us all
Comes to us, the winner,
When we heed His call.

Trust Him, never fearing;
He great things can do.
He is for us caring,
He will take us through.
—Leslie Busbee

*Such A I Have Give I Thee**

"I am going to give Betty one of my oranges," Laura said as she kissed her mother before going to school. "Sister Brown told us that she wanted us to share of all we had this week."
"That is a good thought," Mother

responded. "Why did she tell you to do that?"

"We studied about Peter and John going up to the temple and the crippled man asking for money. Peter and John didn't have any money to give him but they said, 'Such as I have give I thee.' They had the gift of faith and God healed the lame man. Sister Brown told us that we each have many talents and blessings that we can share with others as Peter and John did. I thought about the two oranges that Grandmother gave me and remembered that Betty never brings fruit in her lunch. I thought this would be one way in which I can share some of my blessings."

"Laura, I think that will be wonderful," Mother said.

Laura started out for school. On the way she saw little Jerry stumble and fall. I can share my strength with Jerry and help him up, she thought, and off she ran to help little Jerry. She picked him up and brushed off his clothes and helped him pick up his books.

"Oh, thank you," Jerry said, wip-

*parable

ing away the tears. "You are very kind."

"Jerry, God gave you and me kindness and strength so we can help others. Our Sunday School teacher told us to do as Peter and John, who said 'Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee.' That is what I am trying to do this week," Laura said as she and Jerry walked to school.

"I never thought about that before," said little Jerry. "I am so small that I thought I didn't have anything to give anyone, but I can be like you. I can give kindness and love."

As Laura came up to the school building Big John rushed by her and almost knocked her down. She started to yell at him and scold him but then she remembered her motto for the week: "Such as I have give I thee." She remembered that Sister Brown had told them to keep only those things that were good and then they could give out good things. She stopped and thought this over awhile. She saw John running on down the sidewalk. She forgave him quickly and got rid of that bad thought. She was then able to feel sorry for John. He didn't have many friends and he tried to push others around so he could get attention to himself. "What can I give John?" thought Laura. She noticed him watching Dale and Bill throwing their ball to each other. Both boys had ball gloves on. She had never seen John with a ball glove. She thought about the old one her brother had given her. She never used it anymore. She would give it to John, she thought. She hurried over to John and told him to stop by her house as she had something to

give him. John was very happy to get the glove.

"I'm sorry I almost knocked you down," stammered John. "You have taught me a lesson by being kind to me when I was rude. I'll try to treat others better from now on."

Laura found many ways to practice her motto and she found that she was happier than she had ever been before. She wondered why so many people smiled at her. She tried to remember always to give all the things she could to others that would help them.

—M. Miles

God Heals Maude

"Mother, will you ask Bro. Brown to pray for me?" Maude asked as she saw Bro. Brown coming up the steps. Maude was afflicted with drooping eyelids. Her eyes would not stay open. She would go around the house holding her head back so she could see out beneath her eye lids. The neighbors were troubled and insisted that Maude's mother take her to a doctor. But Maude's parents trusted God for the healing of their bodies. God had performed many miracles in their home.

Bro. Brown came into the house and was talking to Maude's mother and the children. He was telling of the many wonderful things God is able to do. Bro. Brown was saved and had been healed many times. He was a preacher of the gospel and had seen God heal many times in answer to his prayers. Maude walked up to Bro. Brown and asked him to pray for God to heal her eyes. Bro. Brown just laid his hands upon her head and prayed earnestly for God to heal her eyelids so they would stay

open. After he finished praying, he again began to tell Maude's mother about the good things of God. Maude went over and sat down by the door happy that she could look out and see the wonderful things that God had made. God healed her and she never had any more trouble with her eyes.

—M. Miles

MARY

Mary was a pretty little brown-eyed girl in Pennsylvania. One day Mary heard Jesus say, "Follow Me." Mary obeyed. She believed on the Saviour and followed him. Every day she lived for Jesus.

When Mary grew up, she again heard Jesus say, "Follow me." Mary obeyed. She did what Jesus wanted her to do. She went to Africa as a missionary.

Dear Boys and Girls:—

I trust that all of you are fine today. I hope you are being careful to watch and pray and live for God. It grieves my heart when I read in the newspaper or hear about children your age being taken before the courts of the land for wrong deeds which they had done. You must never let anyone cause you to feel sorry because you do the right things. There are boys and girls who will call you a coward because you won't do wrong with them, but they are the ones who should be ashamed. When you do right, you are the one who is brave and strong. Cowards are the ones who harm others and damage property. They are not strong enough to do right. They are easily influenced by the devil and his subjects to do wrong. Don't ever let it move you in the least when you

say no to those who want you to do wrong and they call you a coward. I thank God for every boy and girl who is brave enough to say no to anyone who tempts them to do wrong.

We have a wonderful lesson today. Isn't it wonderful to know that through faith in Jesus' name we can be healed just like the lame man at the gate Beautiful! God is still healing today.

One time I was in a meeting and a boy came there in a wheel chair. He had not been able to walk since birth. The ministers prayed for him and he got up and walked with someone helping him a little. Later he was fitted with braces and was able to walk by himself all the time. Until he was prayed for, there had been no hope of his ever being able to walk. In our lesson the lame man leaped and walked. God saw fit to heal him completely without him having to have any braces. God works in different ways with different cases and not always as we think He ought to.

I once knew a mother who had a little girl over two years who had never walked by herself. This mother got saved and heard about how God could heal. She had her little girl prayed for and God made her able to walk. Later something seemed to hinder the little girl so she quit walking. One day at meeting she was prayed for again and she got right up after prayer and walked by herself and walked all the time after that. God had put strength in her little legs and made her well. God is so wonderful to heal!

I am sure you can tell of times when God has healed you. I think it is a wonderful privilege to trust God for the healing of our bodies. Peter and John did not heal the man but faith through the name of Jesus brought him healing. We must have faith today. —Aunt Marie

Lesson 4, April 23, 1967

PETER AND JOHN AT THE TEMPLE

Acts 3:1-16

1 Now Peter and John went up together into the temple at the hour of prayer, being the ninth hour.

2 And a certain man lame from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms of them that entered into the temple;

3 Who seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple asked an alms.

4 And Peter, fastening his eyes upon him with John, said, Look on us.

5 And he gave heed unto them, expecting to receive something of them.

6 Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk.

7 And he took him by the right hand, and lifted him up: and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength.

8 And he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God.

9 And all the people saw him walking and praising God:

10 And they knew that it was he which sat for alms at the Beautiful gate of the temple: and they were filled with wonder and amazement at that which had happened unto him.

11 And as the lame man which was healed held Peter and John, all the people ran together unto them in the porch that is called Solomon's, greatly wondering.

12 And when Peter saw it, he answered

unto the people, Ye men of Israel, why marvel ye at this? or why look ye so earnestly on us, as though by our own power or holiness we have made this man to walk?

13 The God of Abraham, and of Isaac and of Jacob, the God of our fathers, hath glorified his Son Jesus; whom ye delivered up, and denied him in the presence of Pilate, when he was determined to let him go.

14 But ye denied the Holy One and the Just, and desired a murderer to be granted unto you;

15 And killed the Prince of life, whom God hath raised from the dead; whereof we are witnesses.

16 And his name through faith in his name hath made this man strong, whom ye see and know: yea, the faith which is by him hath given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all.

Memory Verse: And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive. Matthew 21:22.

Central Thought: Faith in God's power changes things.

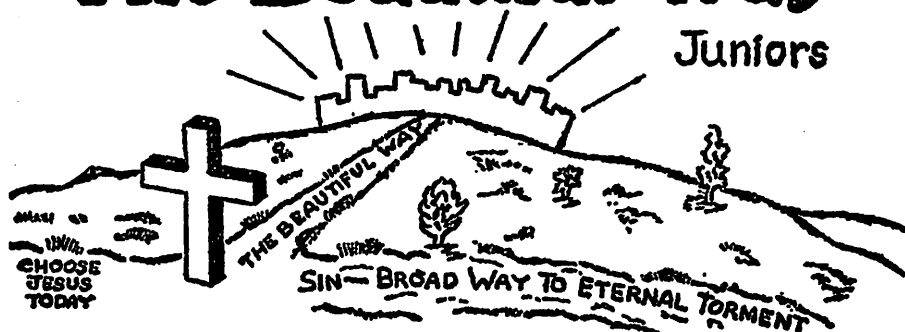
QUESTIONS:—

1. Name the gate and tell what the lame man was doing there.
2. What did the lame man ask of Peter and John?
3. What was their answer?
4. What did Peter do that proved he believed the lame man was healed?
5. How did the man act?
6. Did Peter say that it was his own power and holiness that made the lame man well?

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 18, No. 2

April, May, June 1967

Part Five

April 30

The Lord Is on My Side

I'm not afraid to bravely stand,
For truth and right to abide,
The enemy I can command:
The Lord is on my side.

Altho like Christ I'm set at naught
And counted as outside,
I'll live and labor as I ought:
The Lord is on my side.

I know to follow Him below
Will mean to be denied,
But singing I will onward go—
The Lord is on my side!

—Leslie Busbee

The Record Board

"Son, do you see this board?" asked Bill's father as he picked up a board as the two were together in the garage.

"Yes," answered Bill wondering what his father was going to make with it.

"I have been thinking that you do

not know just how often you do wrong so I have thought of a plan. I am going to nail this board to this rafter and we will use it for a record board," Bill's father said as he took his hammer and some nails and nailed the board firmly to the rafter.

"Record board?" Bill asked, "What kind of a record?"

"It is going to be a record of the bad things and the good things you do," Bill's father explained. "When you do wrong, I am going to put a nail in the board and then for every good deed you do I will pull out a nail. Within a month let us see how many nails are left or if any have been put in. How about that?"

"I hope there won't be any nails in the board to pull out," Bill said as he thought about how hard it was getting to be to get up in the morning.

One day he was out in the garage and looked at the board. It had a lot of nails in it. Bill felt bad and hoped that his daddy had not let anyone else know what the board was there for. He thought of his Sunday School verse which said, "Let your

light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." (Matt. 5:16.) This made Bill feel even more guilty. "Look what they see on that board," thought Bill. "God surely won't be glorified from any good works of mine. Not many of them have been pulled out. I know I haven't been praying very much lately. I know what I'll do; I'll pray every morning, in the middle of the day, and evening, and I know God will help me. I am going to see if I can get all those nails pulled out soon."

The next morning Bill got up at the first call. He emptied the trash without being told and Mother took note of that. She was going to tell Father to pull out a nail. When school was over, Bill didn't stop by George's house, but came straight home. Another nail was to be pulled out. As the days went by Bill tried hard to do all the things that he was supposed to do as soon as he was told. He mowed the lawn, fed the chickens, pulled the grass out from around the fence, took care of the baby without murmuring, and vacuumed the rug without Mother having to remind him. He washed the car one evening and surprised father. How happy Bill was to see those nails disappearing.

One day Bill was with his father in the garage and watched him pull out the last nail. "Son, I am proud of you. Isn't it wonderful to see that record board clear?"

"Yes, Dad, it makes me feel good to have all of them gone," Bill answered. "I was ashamed of so many being there and I prayed hard for God to help me to do better."

"Son, I am sure that you did and we prayed for you because we knew that you needed to do some watching with your praying," Daddy said. "We can pray but if we don't watch, we will not be doing what God wants us to do. You remember when Jesus was in the garden with his disciples and he asked them to pray with him because he knew that he was going to be taken by wicked men and crucified?"

"Yes, and Peter went to sleep," answered Bill.

"Jesus told them 'Watch and pray that ye enter not into temptation.' Later we read where Peter was overcome and took a sword and cut off the ear of the high priest's servant. Jesus rebuked him for it and healed the servant's ear. Peter was not prayed up, neither did he watch. Son, I am glad that you have learned a lesson that it pays to pray and watch to see that you obey God's word and do as you are told."

"But, Daddy, what hurts me is that the nail marks are still there."

"Yes, Son, that is the way of wrong doing. It leaves a mark in one's life," Daddy said as he laid his hand upon his son's shoulder. "Sin is a terrible thing and there is a reaping to be done. Hateful words that are said cause a wound that take time to heal but it might never be erased from the mind of the person who has been harmed. A boy who has stolen and been taken before a judge has a record kept of that crime. In later years if that boy gets into trouble that record is brought up again. The boy might have asked God to forgive him and made the thing right but that record is still kept in that court files. Son, it pays to live right and keep

your life straight. God's way is the best way and he will keep us from sin and there will not be the reaping of a life of sin. I am glad that you are able to understand some of these things while you are young because it will help you to keep out of many troubles as you grow older."

"I am glad that you help me to do right," Bill said as he looked at his father with admiration. —M. M.

Dear Boys and Girls:—

Do you like to hear stories about heroes? I do. I like to hear about those who have courage to stand for right. There are some in the world who display courage but it is a false courage. Their courage does not bring them peace nor help make the world better by helping others to live right. A false courage would be like a man fighting a group of policemen. He knew that he would be taken but was willing to be taken fighting. To me that is not true courage nor does a man like that become a hero who will stand for right.

Our lesson brings to our attention true heroes and men full of courage. It is a story of Peter and John. They were full of courage and real bravery. They had a true cause to stand by and support. They conquered fear through the power of the Holy Spirit. They knew that if they had Jesus on their side they would be all right. If we stand firm for right then we have all heaven behind us and we can feel secure and safe.

A great stir had been caused by the healing of the lame man. Peter's sermon after the outpouring of the Holy Spirit was causing the Jewish leaders to become alarmed. Over 5000 people had believed on Jesus. The Jews had killed Jesus, hoping they would hear no more about him, but it didn't work. In-

stead, the numbers believing on him had increased. They also were alarmed at Peter and John, who had been fishermen, preaching religion when that was supposed to be the duty of the rabbis. They feared what the outcome of this might be.

The Sanhedrin (San-he-drin) was the supreme court or council of the Jews, although they were under the Roman government rule. The Sanhedrin was composed of over seventy men who were chief priests, elders, and scribes. They were called together to decide what to do with Peter and John after the lame man was healed. They asked Peter by what authority or name he had done this. Peter, being full of the Holy Ghost, was given courage and he boldly declared that the lame man was healed by the power of Jesus Christ whom they had crucified. He also told them that only through his name could salvation be found. Peter's courage and words of truth, also the presence of the lame man who had been healed caused the council to be speechless. They told Peter, John, and the lame man to step out while they discussed the situation. While they were gone they admitted that the man had been healed and that a notable miracle had been performed. They decided they would command them not to speak nor teach in the name of Jesus lest they be punished. When Peter heard this he boldly declared, "Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye." God will bless us, too, if we will have courage to obey God rather than man.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 5, April 30, 1967

WITNESS BEFORE RULERS

Acts 4:5-20

Acts 4:5 And it came to pass on the

morrow, that their rulers, and elders, and scribes,

6 And Annas the high priest, and Caiaphas, and John, and Alexander, and as many as were of the kindred of the high priest, were gathered together at Jerusalem.

7 And when they had set them in the midst, they asked, By what power, or by what name, have ye done this?

8 Then Peter, filled with the Holy Ghost, said unto them, Ye rulers of the people, and elders of Israel,

9 If we this day be examined of the good deed done to the impotent man, by what means he is made whole;

10 Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole.

11 This is the stone which was set at naught of you builders, which is become the head of the corner.

12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved.

13 Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus.

14 And beholding the man which was healed standing with them, they could say nothing against it.

15 But when they had commanded them to go aside out of the council, they conferred among themselves,

16 Saying, What shall we do to these men? for that indeed a notable miracle hath been done by them is manifest to

all them that dwell in Jerusalem, and we can not deny it.

17 But that it spread no further among the people, let us straitly threaten them, that they speak henceforth to no man in this name.

18 And they called them, and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus.

19 But Peter and John answered and said unto them, Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, Judge ye.

20 For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard.

Memory Verse: For we can not but speak the things which we have seen and heard. Acts 4:20.

Central Thought: One has said that courage is being able to sleep in peace knowing that God is awake; or facing danger when fear is conquered through Christ.

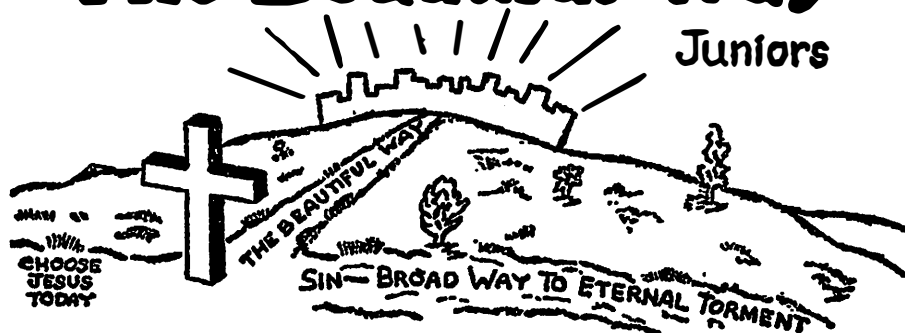
QUESTIONS:

1. What is the Sanhedrin?
2. What was the main question they asked Peter and John?
3. Did Peter plainly tell them that they had crucified Jesus?
4. Through what name was the man healed?
5. Had Peter and John been to a teachers' school or how did they know how to preach?
6. Did the council admit that it was a miracle that the lame man was healed?
7. What did the Sanhedrin decide to do with Peter and John?
8. What was the answer Peter and John gave them?
9. What is courage?

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 18, No. 2

April, May, June 1967

Part Six

May 7

When He Comes

When He comes, the Holy Spirit
Fills the soul with peace and joy,
Seals the heart from sin to cheer it
That the devil can't destroy.

When He comes, all fear is driven
And new strength revives the heart,
Lifts us in the grace of heaven,
Fellowship He does impart.

His abiding brings together
Those whom Satan drove apart,
Causing love and peace the rather
With His presence in the heart.
—Leslie Busbee

UNITY

"Mother, will you help me?" asked Debra. "I am supposed to explain what unity is next Sunday in Sunday School. I know what it means, but how can I explain it?"

"Unity would mean things working together smoothly, wouldn't it?" said Mother as she did the ironing.

"Yes, but can you give me an illustration?" Debra asked.

"When I was a girl at home I used to help my father in the printing shop. We printed thousands of tracts with the gospel message in it. Many, many hours I spent in the evenings after I came home from school running the tract folder. I would push the tract in between two wheels. Those wheels came down together and a belt carried the tract down to the end. Then another blade came down in the middle of the tract and pushed it between two other wheels. Some more belts carried it down to the end of them. Another blade would come down and crease it again between wheels onto another belt that carried it all folded into a carrier. Now, all those wheels, blades, and belts had to work together to get it folded straight."

"That must have been fun running a machine like that," said Debra.

"At times I enjoyed it but there were times when I wanted to go some where and it was real work to me. Most of the time, though, I felt that

I was doing something for God and helping souls find heaven and I did not mind. But, can't you see what unity means by the way the machine worked? Sometimes a blade would come down too fast or a belt would get crooked and that would throw the paper out of position and things would not go right. That would be disunity. Do you understand?"

"Mother, she is a girl and can't understand machinery," spoke up Bill. "I understand it and I'll use that for my illustration. Give her another one more simple.

"Oh, do, Mother," Debra said. "I don't quite understand that one."

"Well, perhaps you can use an orchestra for your illustration of unity," Mother suggested. "Can you tell me when it would be all in unity? All working together?"

"Well, at school when Mr. Jones raises his baton they all start to play together in the same key and it is beautiful," Debra related. "I guess you could call that unity."

"When would it be disunity?" asked Mother.

"I guess it would be when they are tuning up their instruments. It is terrible and no harmony at all," answered Debra.

"That's right," Mother agreed. "I am sure that your Sunday School teacher is wanting to help you to understand that it is beautiful for everyone to work together. We can only do that when we are filled with the Holy Spirit. The church of God is guided by the Spirit of God. The Spirit binds everyone together. The Spirit teaches all to love one another and not to please themselves. The Spirit helps each one to understand the words that Jesus told us to live by.

The Spirit of God in one soul reaches out to the Spirit of God in another. It is the same Spirit in all and binds them together in unity of Spirit, mind and soul. It is wonderful to have the Spirit of God ruling in your life and in the lives of all of God's children. Those in the early church (we read about it in Acts) were together. It says, "The multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul." (Acts 4:32) God worked in them and through them."

"Mother, that is what our lesson is about," Debra stated. "I understand what it means now." —M. Miles

Fear God and Not Man

"I wonder what those officers are doing," Lawrence said as he pulled his car over to the side of the road. Two patrol cars were signalling him to stop and as soon as he stopped his car they jumped out with machine guns turned on him and came up to the car.

Lawrence and Maybelle, with their baby, Byron, and their mothers, were on a trip to El Paso, Texas. They served God and had no reason to feel fearful. They knew they had not done wrong. The officers came up to the car and looked in.

"Let me see your driver's license," one officer said, still holding his machine gun in position. Lawrence gave him his driver's license. They asked him where he was from and where he was going. They asked Maybelle if Lawrence was her husband. They questioned their mothers. The officers looked the car over and soon were convinced that everything was all right. Then the men told Lawrence that they were looking for

some bank robbers from Oklahoma and that his car fit the description of the get-away car of the bank robbers. They let them go on their way. The next day they read in the paper that the officers thought they had caught the Oklahoma bank robbers but they turned out to be just tourists on a journey.

Boys and girls, we need not fear the officers of the law, rulers, nor anyone when we are living right. Jesus has told us, "And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell." (Matt. 10:28.) We need not fear man, but we should fear God. Man does not have a hell for us to go to, neither a heaven. But God is to be feared. We should fear to displease him. We know that if we love him and keep his commandments we shall be ready to go to heaven and be with him. If man kills us, they only kill the body. They can't touch the soul.

Boys and girls, be careful to do right and God will bless you. —M. M.

—o—

Dear Boys and Girls:—

I know that there are times when you have been severely tried. Perhaps at school there have been a number of cutting remarks made because you want to do right. It seems that in the neighborhood the other boys and girls shun you because you don't go to shows and all the worldly amusements they do. These things bear heavily upon you and you are tempted by the devil when he tries to tell you it doesn't pay to live for God. But I know, too, that you pray and the Lord gives you courage and power to go right on and live for God. You do other things that take the place

of the company and good wishes of the boys and girls around you. As you stand firmly and show kindness to all, you soon have the victory. You know that it is not you that they are really mistreating, but it is Jesus, whom you serve.

Our lesson teaches us that it was Jesus whom the rulers were persecuting instead of the saints.

After the council let Peter and John go they returned to the church. No doubt they had been real troubled when they knew that Peter and John had been taken by the rulers. They prayed earnestly that God would help them out. As soon as they were released they went to their own company to report all that had taken place. Can you tell in your own words what they reported? When the church heard the report they lifted up their voice in praise and thanksgiving to God for helping them. They prayed to God who had made the sea, land, and everything in the earth. They remembered that David had said that the kings would rage and the heathen imagine vain things. It had come to pass because the rulers had gathered against Christ. They prayed for God to help them since he knew about the threatenings of the rulers that they would be punished if they spoke in the name of Jesus. There was no drawback in them. They didn't try to get out of speaking in the name of Jesus but they prayed to God to give them more boldness and courage to speak God's Word. They asked God to heal in a greater manner than ever before. They wanted him to do many signs and wonders through the name of Jesus.

God was pleased when he saw that group of Christians in unity praying and determining to preach His Word. He sent a fresh anointing upon them. They were greatly blessed and great grace

was upon all of them. The place was shaken. It was wonderful to have the blessings of God upon them. Just what would have the story been if they had turned away from Christ and decided not to preach in His Name? Boys and girls, it pays to obey God rather than man.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 6, May 7, 1967

THE EARLY CHURCH

Acts 4:23-33

23 And being let go, they went to their own company, and reported all that the chief priests and elders had said unto them.

24 And when they heard that, they lifted up their voice to God with one accord, and said, Lord, thou art God, which hast made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all that in them is:

25 Who by the mouth of thy servant David hast said, Why did the heathen rage, and the people imagine vain things?

26 The kings of the earth stood up, and the rulers were gathered together against the Lord, and against his Christ.

27 For a truth against thy holy child Jesus, whom thou hast anointed, both Herod, and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles, and the people of Israel, were gathered together,

28 For to do whatsoever thy hand and thy counsel determined before to be done.

29 And now, Lord, behold their threatenings: and grant unto thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word,

30 By stretching forth thine hand to heal; and that signs and wonders may

be done by the name of thy holy child Jesus.

31 And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.

32 And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common.

33 And with great power gave the apostles witness of the great resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all.

Memory Verse: And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness. Acts 4:31.

Central Thought: Let Jesus take all the honor and dishonor that comes to you.

QUESTIONS:

1. Where did Peter and John go when the Sanhedrin released them?

2. What did they say about God and His power in their prayer?

3. What had David prophesied that they saw come to pass in that day?

4. Were the rulers just against the early Christians or were they against Jesus?

5. Did they tell God about the threatenings of the rulers?

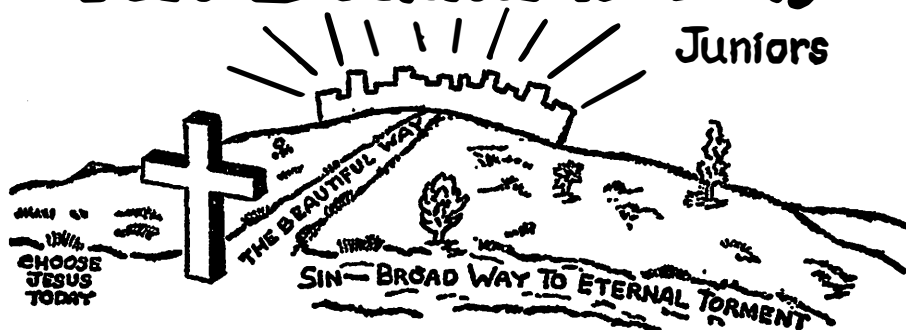
6. What did they want God to do for them?

7. How did God bless them as they prayed with one accord?

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 18, No. 2

April, May, June 1967

Part Seven

May 14

Except the Lord

There is a law divinely sealed
Proved time and time again:
"Except the Lord the house will build
The labor is in vain."

Except by God the bow is strung
The arrows miss the mark;
Except by God the song is sung
It will not pierce the dark.

Although 'tis by great beauty filled
Short-lived will be its gain,
"Except the Lord the house will
build
The labor is in vain."

—Leslie Busbee

For the Girls I Know

When Margaret went up to bed that night, she stood for a moment self-absorbed, in the middle of the room. Then she exclaimed aloud, "Oh, I wish all the girls could have heard it!" Then, as the suggestion flashed upon her she cried joyfully: "I know what

I'll do; I'll write it down just as they said it." The next moment with her pad in her lap, she was sitting under the light, and with her sharp pencil began to scribble:

This afternoon the sewing circle met here, and when I came in after school I peeped in the front parlor door, and the ladies were such a pretty busy sight that I stood to look, and then one of them, a dear, beautiful old lady, said, "If I were a girl again I would be more thoughtful of my mother. Not until I had girls of my own to work for did I begin to realize what my mother had done for me."

Then another lady, middle aged, with sharp worried face, spoke quickly, "If I were a girl again I would learn to do something to support myself. Here I am forty-two as you all know and I can't earn my breakfast unless I go out and do housework. Nobody cares for an unskilled and untrained work-woman, and that's what I am. It's a blessing to me that I don't have to earn my breakfast."

"If I could be a girl again," said

a lady with a sweet voice, "I would never leave my Sunday School. You can't think how I envy the girls who have grown up in Sunday School as if it were a home, and they are as much at home as I am among my children. I've been out of Sunday School thirty years, and it is a loss that can never be made up to me." ("I have been out of Sunday School a year. I left because I didn't like my teacher. I am going back next Sunday.")

"If I could be a girl again," a placid-looking woman said, "I would never give up studying. I would never allow myself to lose the habit of learning things. Why, it is even hard for me now to learn a long Bible verse. I must choose a short one, or humiliatingly write on a slip of paper to look at the last minute."

"And if I were a girl again," spoke up a lady with a quick tongue, "I would never allow myself to speak of anybody's faults—no, not anybody's. You can't think how much you get to see faults if you let your mind run on them."

Then a lady in a corner spoke sadly, "If I could be a girl again I'd begin by not being ashamed to be a Christian. I would take a stand, and stand. You who have never failed cannot think how it helps to have people know what to expect of you. By shilly-shally work, you don't know what to expect yourself."

The girl again seemed to be going through the two rooms, and every lady had something encouraging to say about her own girlhood. "If I could be a girl again," came from somebody, "I would make myself write letters. Today when I write one of my awkward letters (and I never write a letter if anyone else

will do it for me) I regret that I hated to write letters, and would never learn to make it easy. I always feel that I lost something when I hear people who have letter friends. My sister writes the happiest letters to twenty invalids. She is doing a 'cup-of-cold water' work in a way that I never can."

"And I," said a little woman, "would learn to sew. I am awkward with a needle as though it were a hoe, and my needle makes about as good work as a hoe would." Everybody laughed.

Then such a pretty woman said, "If I could be a girl again I think I would rather be a homely girl. I was pretty and people told me so, and I was spoiled. I loved admiration better than bread and butter, and twice I lost promotion in school for having a beau and going to parties. However, a pretty girl can have good sense!"

"If I were a girl again," said an intellectual looking lady, "I would not give up everything for study. I would be a womanly and house-wifely girl, as well as a student, and if I had one taste that dominated all others, I would not let all the others go to waste. I was deep in mathematics when I could not spell my own language as correctly as a girl of twelve, and my penmanship was disgraceful."

"And I would try to make friends," remarked a silent-looking lady. "I forgot when I was a girl that I would need friends when I was older, and when I see women with their school friendships keeping them young, it makes my lonely heart ache."

"If I could be a girl again," said somebody whose face I couldn't see, "I would read only the best books." "I would study and read the Bible more,"

somebody said in reply. "I would take it as real and alive, and meant for me, and grow upon it."

Then quite a young lady said, "I would stay as young as I could—not live ahead of my age, but as a girl flower, bloom in God's sunshine and rain."
—Selected

Pray for the people in India. Many of them starve because they do not have enough food. It could happen here in the United States so we should be thankful for what God gives us.

Dear Boys and Girls:—

I think it is wonderful when boys and girls are pals to their mothers. Some might say that they try to be pals with their mother but she seems too busy to listen. Well, I'll admit that your mother has a great many problems that you do not know much about. Mothers want to keep their children happy and shield them from some of the hard things in life so they keep their problems to themselves. But do keep trying to be a friend to your mother. She needs your love and confidence. She needs your help in carrying the load in the home. Then perhaps Mother has been trying to be your pal and you have not responded. There is no person in all this world who loves you as much as your mother and father do. Mother will help you much in life if you will take her advice and listen to her. Let me tell you a little secret, too. Some day you are going to get to the age that you might want to marry. Did you know that other young men and young ladies watch to see how you treat your mother? They know that the way you treat your mother is the way you will likely treat the one you marry. Others take note how you treat

your mother, too. They know if you show love and consideration to her that you have a loving disposition, kindness, and gentleness in you. Anyway, we all love our mothers and want to let them know it, don't we? I think it is wonderful to have a day set aside to show special love and honor to mothers, don't you? Of course, we should honor them every day.

The disciples had been arrested, cast into prison for preaching and healing in the name of Jesus, but were freed by an angel. Then they returned to their preaching in public at the temple. Again they were taken and brought before the council. They were reminded of the commandment that had been given them to quit preaching in Jesus' name. The high priest said, "You have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine and are blaming us for Jesus' death."

Peter boldly declared, "We ought [must] obey God rather than man." The angel that released them said, "Go, stand and speak in the temple to the people all the words of this life." (vs. 20) Peter meant to obey God even if it cost his life. Again he preached to them about Jesus (whom they crucified) who had been raised from the dead and was the Saviour of Israel. This made the people angry and they took counsel to kill the disciples. After putting the disciples out of the room, a lawyer named Gamaliel (Guy-may-lih-ul) warned the men against violence. He mentioned others who had caused trouble but had come to naught. He said, "If this be of God you cannot overthrow it, but if it is not, it will come to naught." How true! The gospel of Jesus Christ is still being preached today. Thank God! Boys and girls, God will take care of his own work and His own people. We should trust Him fully. —Aunt Marie

GAMALIEL ADVISES THE COUNCIL

Acts 5:27-39

Acts 5:27 And when they had brought them, they set them before the council: and the high priest asked them,

28 Saying, Did not we straitly command you that ye should not teach in this name? and, behold, ye have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intended to bring this man's blood upon us.

29 Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men.

30 The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom ye slew and hanged on a tree.

31 Him hath God exalted with his right hand to be a Prince and a Saviour, for to give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins.

32 And we are his witnesses of these things; and so is also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him.

33 When they heard that, they were cut to the heart, and took counsel to slay them.

34 Then stood there up one in the council, a Pharisee, named Gamaliel, a doctor of the law, had in reputation among all the people, and commanded to put the apostles forth a little space;

35 And said unto them, Ye men of Israel, take heed to yourselves what ye intend to do as touching these men.

36 For before these days rose up Theudas, boasting himself to be somebody; to whom a number of men, about four hundred, joined themselves: who was slain; and all, as many as obeyed

him, were scattered, and brought to naught.

37 After this man rose up Judas of Galilee in the days of the taxing, and drew away much people after him: he also perished; and all, even as many as obeyed him, were dispersed.

38 And now I say unto you, Refrain from these men, and let them alone: for if this counsel or this work be of man, it will come to naught:

39 But if it be of God, ye cannot overthrow it; lest haply ye be found even to fight against God.

Memory Verse: I know that thou canst do every thing, and that no thought can be withholden from thee. Job 42:2.

Central Thought: Every "born again" child of God should say, "We must obey God rather than men."

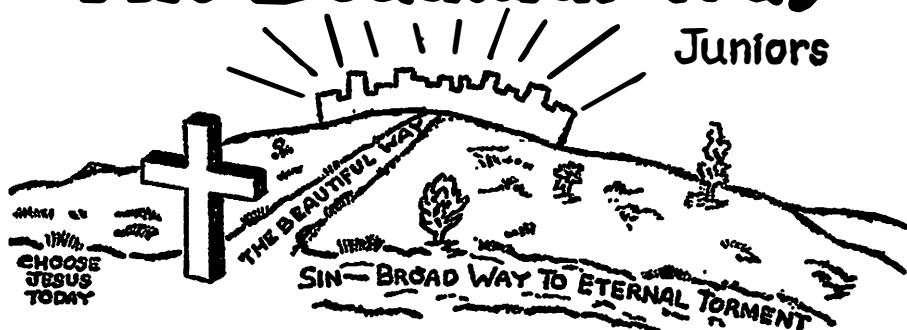
QUESTIONS:

1. Why had the apostles been in prison?
2. What did the angel tell them when he let them out? (Acts 5:20)
3. What were they accused of doing when brought before the council again?
4. How did Peter answer them?
5. How did the council take this sermonette?
6. What was the name of the lawyer who helped the disciples?
7. What two men in times past had caused trouble among the Jews?
8. What advice did Gamaliel give the council?
9. Is the gospel of Christ still being preached, more than 1900 years after our lesson took place?
10. Should we love Jesus enough to be willing to lay down our lives for Him?

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Juniors



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April, May, June 1967

Part Eight

May 21

Looking Steadfast Upward

Looking steadfast into heaven
Stephen did the Lord behold,
By this vision strength was given
For his Master to be bold.

Take this lesson for our learning
When the woes of life we face,
Look steadfast with heart yearning
Into heaven's blessed place.

There the Saviour stands with power
To uphold your pathway here;
In temptation's trying hour
You shall never faint nor fear.

—Leslie Busbee

The Story of a Tract

Hearing that an old cobbler was drawing near his end without realizing his need of the Saviour of sinners, it occurred to me to send a booklet to him. The one I chose hardly seemed to be a suitable book to send, but, remembering that in it a poor boot cleaner was made an in-

strument in God's hands of blessing to an officer, I let it go on its errand to a small village in Devonshire where this cobbler lived. The result I give nearly in the words of the poor cottager who was the medium of conveying the silent messenger and whom I asked to write an account of its success.

"When writing to you one day, it suddenly occurred to my mind to tell you about an aged cobbler who was dying in the village, unconcerned about his soul's salvation. Although several Christians had visited him, and read God's Word and prayed with him, yet all had failed to arouse him to the fact that he needed a Saviour. Then your tract came, and somehow I felt certain God had directed you to send it. So I got an earnest Christian man who, I knew, had often visited him, to go that same evening and read it to him.

"T— told me at first the dear old man did not seem to pay much attention, but before he had finished reading it the Holy Spirit had begun to work, and he became deeply inter-

ested, asked many questions, and said: 'If a gentleman like that needed preparing to die, how much more do I need forgiveness!' He felt for the first time that he was a sinner. He became very anxious to be saved, and T— pleaded long with him in prayer, directing him to the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world. After some time, God, by His mighty power, opened the old man's eyes, and enabled him to believe in Christ as his own personal Saviour, and to rejoice in His redeeming love. He kept saying: 'It is wonderful, that Jesus Christ came to die for poor sinners like me!' He was getting very weak then, and only lived a fortnight after his conversion.

"After he had found peace he became anxious about his sister's salvation. She also was very old, and had lived with her brother as a house-keeper for many years, he being a widower. It was very difficult to make her hear, as she was very deaf; but the old cobbler got T— to read the story to her. God in His love made it also a means of blessing to her, so that after some days of anxiously seeking, she found peace in believing John 6:47: 'Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on Me hath everlasting life.' When her brother died she was in her usual health. It makes me so glad to think what joy there was in heaven over those dear souls repenting at the eleventh hour.

It is striking how God works through so many links. Here we have four—the writer of the tract, I who sent it, the woman who passed it on, and the man who read it aloud. May we be cheered by this incident in a Devonshire village, and not be cast down by the world's constant sneer

that tract giving does more harm than good! —Selected

The Framed Telegram

There hangs in the office of a mercantile firm in one of the busiest cities of the United States, a framed telegram, on which there is written one word in plain bold letters, that one word is—**SAVED**.

Business men look at it, and wonder what it means. Its touching story is as follows:

A trans-Atlantic steamer with five hundred souls on board, struck on a rock off the coast of Newfoundland one wintry day and became a total wreck. Telegrams flashed through the country that the vessel had floundered and all on board had perished. Among the passengers on board that ill-fated ship was a young man of great promise who had left his young wife, and his partner in business, only a few days before. When the news reached them, their grief was beyond description. The business was suspended, the office was closed, and the sorrowing wife shut herself up alone, refusing to be comforted.

The following day a telegram arrived bearing one word, "Saved," with the name of the husband and partner signed beneath it. What a change that simple message wrought! The sorrowing wife arose and dried her tears; the business premises were quickly opened, and as a memorial of the great deliverance, the famous dispatch was framed, and hung up in the office of the firm.

I know of some who have been saved from a greater and more awful wreck, and brought, by the power of God, from death to life. Are any of

them ashamed to own their great deliverance, and to confess before men that they are saved? In every sphere of life, at home, in business, amid friends and foes, the conduct and ways of the redeemed of the Lord ought to bear where all may see it, the word SAVED! Does yours do so? Or do you profess to be a follower of the Lord in word while your works and ways deny Him? —Selected

Dear Boys and Girls:—

Down through the years there have been men of strong faith who were willing to give their lives for the gospel of Jesus Christ. There was a time when the government was ruled by wicked men who would kill all Christians. They would hunt for them and bring them up before the rulers. They would be cast into the lions' den and be killed while thousands of people watched and cheered. Sometimes the Christians would be tied to a stake and burned to death. Many cruel things were done but these men and women stood firmly. They knew that soon they would be with their God and Saviour in heaven. They would be comforted and safe. If they denied Jesus they knew that hell was their doom and they would suffer more than millions and millions of years. In fact, there is no time in eternity. It never ends. It would be better to suffer just a few hours or days or even a few years than all through eternity. Boys and girls, be wise and choose Christ. It pays.

In the early years of Christianity it is said that for every one who was killed for Jesus' sake that ten more people were won to Christ. They were convinced that Jesus was real when they saw others die for Him. Jesus has told us that those who would lose their life

would find it. It pays to live for God.

Our lesson is about the first martyr who died for Jesus Christ. No doubt Saul (who is the Apostle Paul) was won to Christ by seeing this man die. Boys and girls, it pays to do right. We might not know it at the time but others are watching and in their hearts they admire those who do right. One boy stood up for right among a crowd. He had to stand alone for a right principle. Later two different boys told him that they believed just as he did but didn't have the nerve to say so. Be a leader! Help others to have right thoughts and right deeds.

Stephen was a good man and they could not find anything to kill him for but they bribed some witnesses to lie against him. The word "suborned" means bribed. How terrible! But God was looking down upon it all. All of us who are saved belong to God. We have been bought with the price of Jesus' innocent blood when we accept Him as our Saviour. Can't God do with us as He wants to? If he sees that by the giving of our life we will help others get to heaven, then we ought to be willing for it to be so. We will go to a better place than this world anyway. Heaven is wonderful.

Stephen saw the heavens open and Jesus standing on the right hand of God. His face shone with God's glory. God had not left him to die alone. Stephen prayed for those who stoned him to death. Then he fell asleep in Jesus. Boys and girls, God will help us to be ready to die for Jesus. We are all going to die some day, anyway. —Aunt Marie

"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved." Acts 26: 31. "Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." Luke 13:3.

STEPHEN—A MAN OF FAITH

Acts 6:8-12; Acts 7:51-60

Acts 6:8 And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and miracles among the people.

9 Then there arose certain of the synagogue, which is called the synagogue of the Libertines, and Cyrenians, and Alexandrians, and of them of Cilicia and of Asia, disputing with Stephen.

10 And they were not able to resist the wisdom and the spirit by which he spake.

11 Then they suborned men, which said, We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses, and against God.

12 And they stirred up the people, and the elders, and the scribes, and came upon him, and caught him, and brought him to the council.

Acts 7:51 Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost: as your fathers did, so do ye.

52 Which of the prophets have not your fathers persecuted? and they have slain them which shewed before of the coming of the Just One; of whom ye have been now the betrayers and murderers:

53 Who have received the law by the disposition of angels, and have not kept it.

54 When they heard these things, they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed on him with their teeth.

55 But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up stedfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus

standing on the right hand of God.

56 And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing on the right hand of God.

57 Then they cried out with a loud voice, and stopped their ears, and ran upon him with one accord,

58 And cast him out of the city, and stoned him; and the witnesses laid down their clothes at a young man's feet, whose name was Saul.

59 And they stoned Stephen calling upon God, and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.

60 And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord lay not this sin to their charge. And when he said this, he fell asleep.

Memory Verse: I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me. Philippians 4:13.

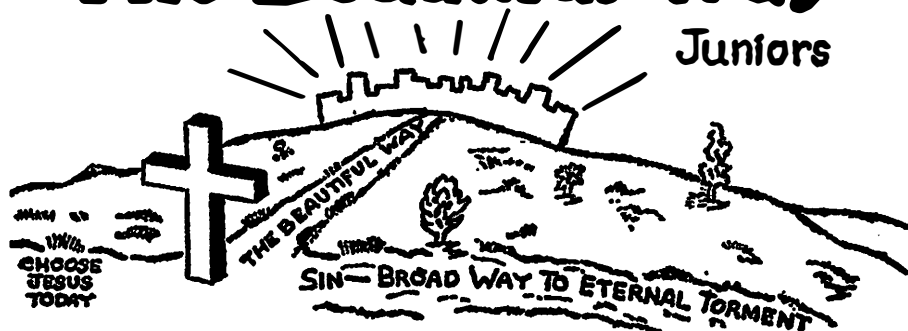
Central Thought: Be willing to give your life for Jesus' sake.

QUESTIONS:

1. What was Stephen full of?
2. Who disputed with Stephen?
3. What did they do when they could not resist the wisdom of Stephen?
4. What did Stephen preach to the council when he was brought before them?
5. How did God help Stephen?
6. Why was Jesus standing instead of sitting beside God at His throne?
7. At whose feet did the witnesses lay their clothes?
8. How did Stephen pray before falling asleep in Jesus?
9. Should we be willing to die for Jesus?

The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 18, No. 2

April, May, June 1967

Part Nine

May 28

There Was Great Joy

Great joy is in the heart of man
When gospel truths are heard,
When tidings of salvation's plan
Are preached from God's great
Word.

For those who sit in darkness, sin,
A light to them hath shined,
The hope of life to put within
Where care and fear entwined.

To hungry hearts the message falls
Like showers on the sod;
The shelter of salvation's walls
Enclose the saints of God.

—Leslie Busbee

Beginning Family Worship

I enjoyed the radio very much before I was saved. I would sit up late at night and listen to it. I didn't want to miss any of the stories that were on through the day. It was a part of my very life.

But God dealt with my soul and I gave my heart to Him. Oh, the joy

that filled my heart! I loved my Lord. He had done so much for me. The greatest desire of my heart was to please Him. He became part of my life. He wanted first place and I wanted Him to have it because I loved Him so dearly.

I quit listening to the radio through the day, but when school was out and the boys came home, they would turn it on. When my husband was home, they would have it on until late at night. It grieved me because I now knew what effect it was having on my family. I knew that listening to murder stories and all the worldly, foolish things was not good for them. I prayed and asked God to take it out of our home or control it some way. Since my husband was the head of the house I could not do anything about it myself. One time I talked to a saint of God about the condition. He told me to make it a matter of earnest prayer and say nothing about it. With renewed courage, I earnestly prayed about it. I would ask the Lord to put it out of operation. Many times when they would

have it going, I would pray about it.

One day the boys came home from school and turned the radio on as usual. It gave forth a loud, roaring noise instead of what they expected. They thought surely that their daddy could fix it, but he couldn't. That evening they just sat around with nothing to do. They seemed lost as this had been such a habit for them. I began to ask the Lord to show me what to do. It came to me to get some song books and we could sing. We sang some, and then I read some from the Bible. The next evening it was the same way. I again got the song books and we sang and then I read out of the Bible. I then told them that I thought we should have prayer. This was something all new in our home. We had never had family worship before. I got down on my knees, but my husband and two boys just sat there and didn't move. They were surprised. This was hard for me, but I just prayed anyway. The next night I again got the song books and we sang, I read out of the Bible, and then I said, let's have prayer. They knelt with me then. We had family worship every night after that. Later my husband and boys got saved.

The radio was never fixed. About two years later my older son got one. I told him he had better use it right or the Lord would put it out of operation, that he should be careful to listen to the right kind of music, etc. He got lean in his soul and I prayed about it. I saw that he wasn't listening to the right things. His radio stopped working. Later, the younger boy got a car with a radio in it. My older boy told him that he had better use it right or Mother would pray about it and it wouldn't work.

The Lord surely hears our prayers and blesses our efforts for His cause when we are willing to move as He directs.

—Lillian Meek

More Valuable Than a Clock

Sanah had been rescued from heathen cruelties and taken to the Children's Home at the mission station. Here he was treated kindly by the missionary who was "Mother" to all the children.

Soon Sanah was loved by everyone. Mother made him her "trustee."

His duties were to sweep and clean around the mission, and to run errands for the missionary. Each morning he went into her office, before she arrived, to clean the room.

One morning while performing this work, a terrible thing happened. Sanah knocked Mother's pretty clock off the desk and broke the crystal into many pieces.

What should he do? His first thought was to run away and return to his people. But he did not want to do that. Then he thought he might pretend that the cat broke the glass, and act as though he knew nothing about it. But how could he act a lie, when he knew it would grieve the Lord Jesus so? Sanah knew that God's Word says, "Provide things honest in the sight of all . . ."

Two miserable days passed.

Sanah could think of nothing but the broken clock on the floor. The temptation was strong to lay the blame on the cat.

At last he decided to ask the old man who kept the gate what to do. He felt sure he would know. "Tell her the cat knocked the clock off the desk," the man told him, "and I will

say it's a fact, and that I saw the cat jump through the window."

"Oh, no," cried Sanah. "That is just the thing I have been trying not to do! I will tell her the truth, and then I will go back into the world again, for she will be very angry with me."

He entered the office. Mother was at her desk reading God's Word when he came in. He told her just what happened, then began to cry. Quickly he turned to leave, so he would not see the angry look on her face.

"Sanah, my son, wait," she said kindly. "Let us talk about this."

To Sanah's surprise Mother did not seem a bit angry. She offered him a nice seat, and gave him some candy from her desk. His fears left.

"Sanah," she began, "the truth is worth more to me than any clock in all the world. I love you because you have told the truth, and you have pleased the Lord Jesus, too. The crystal of the clock can be replaced, but had you told a lie your soul would have been marred. Always tell the truth. Now, please take this clock to the jeweler and have a new crystal put on."
—Selected

Dear Boys and Girls:—

I am sure that you have heard of witches—not just people dressed up in black clothes posing as witches but those who have real devil powers. There are such people in the world. They are agents for the devil and can tell some things that will come to pass in the future and they can work magic. They talk to devil spirits and make objects move by some mysterious power. But boys and girls, all of this is of the devil and you should not have anything to do with it. It is dangerous to trifle

with devil spirits. God does not do things like that; God works for a right purpose. Don't have anything to do with those who claim they can tell your fortune. We read in the Bible that those who work witchcraft and practice sorcery are named among those who "shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone which is the second death." (Rev. 21:8; 22:15.)

Great persecutions came to the early church. After the death of Stephen, James, one of the disciples, was beheaded. Saul of Tarsus, a young man who stood by consenting to the death of Stephen, became one of the greatest persecutors of the Christians. After Saul, who was later called Paul, was saved, he told about what he had done. He said that he had caused many to blaspheme. "He made havoc of the church, entering into every house, and haling men and women committed them to prison." The early Christians began to leave Jerusalem because of this great persecution. God knew what it would take to get them to go out to other places and spread the gospel. So we find that this great tragedy became a blessing to other people. They had the opportunity of hearing the gospel.

We find Philip in Samaria. Do you remember in our lesson several weeks ago that Jesus told the disciples just before he ascended up into heaven to witness for him in Jerusalem, in Judea, in Samaria and unto the uttermost part of the earth? Well, we find they were obeying that command.

Philip preached Christ to the people of Samaria. People believed and were saved. Simon, the sorcerer, had great sway over the people through his witchcraft but he lost it when the gospel came. He also claimed to believe and was baptized but later we find he asked

to buy the power that the apostles had. Peter said, "Thou art in the gall of bitterness and in the bond of iniquity" (verse 23). Envy and pride and desire for power to profit withal showed that Simon was not sincere in his believing. God wants us to be sincere. Aunt Marie

Lesson 9, May 28, 1967

THE GOSPEL IN SAMARIA

Acts 8:4-17

Acts 8:4 Therefore they that were scattered abroad went every where preaching the word.

5 Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ unto them.

6 And the people with one accord gave heed unto those things which Philip spake, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did.

7 For unclean spirits, crying with loud voice, came out of many that were possessed with them: and many taken with palsies, and that were lame, were healed.

8 And there was great joy in that city.

9 But there was a certain man, called Simon, which beforetime in the same city used sorcery, and bewitched the people of Samaria, giving out that himself was some great one,

10 To whom they all gave heed, from the least to the greatest, saying, This man is the great power of God.

11 And to him they had regard, because that of long time he had bewitched them with sorceries.

12 But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus

Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.

13 Then Simon himself believed also: and when he was baptized, he continued with Philip, and wondered, beholding the miracles and signs which were done.

14 Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John:

15 Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost;

16 (For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.)

17 Then laid they their hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost.

Memory Verse: Therefore they that were scattered abroad went every where preaching the word. Acts 8:4.

Central Thought: Persecutions caused the disciples to go forth and tell others the good news that Jesus saves from sin.

QUESTIONS:

1. What caused the disciples to go to Samaria?

2. What did Philip use for his text to preach from in Samaria?

3. Did many believe and were baptized?

4. Who was Simon?

5. Was he sincere in believing the gospel and being baptized?

6. What did the apostles think about the revival in Samaria?

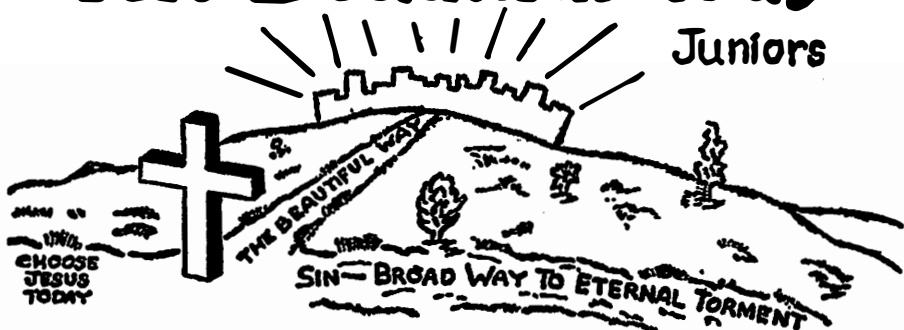
7. Whom did they send to Samaria to see about it?

8. What did they do while there?

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 18, No. 2

April, May, June 1967

Part Ten

June 4

Stand Upon Thy Feet

When Jesus on Damascus road
Old angry Saul did meet
Struck him with blindness to the
ground
Said, "Stand upon thy feet."

Yes, Saul who thought himself a man
Found there his gain was beat,
Was subject to salvation's plan
And stood upon his feet.

Years later when he faced the end
His race of life complete
Encouraged others to contend
And stand upon their feet.

—Leslie Busbee

A Changed Home

"I'm hungry as a bear," Bill said
as he sat down to the table and
started to fill his plate as usual. His
brother Ronnie started to help him-
self, too. "Just wait a minute, boys,"
Daddy said. "Your mother is going to
return thanks for the food."

The boys sat back in surprise. This
was something new in their home.
They had always rushed to the table
and started eating right away. They
listened as their mother told the Lord
how thankful she was for the food
that he had given them and asked
his blessings upon it. After she was
through the boys didn't know what
to do. But they took of the food
politely as it was passed to them.

Mother had given her heart to the
Lord and she wanted to thank Him
for their food. She didn't quite know
how to start. She had always fixed
the meals and the family would come
in and eat when they could. They
lived on a farm and at times some
had to be late.

That evening Mother sat on the
porch swing and waited for her hus-
band to come. She had supper ready
to eat. She wanted to ask him if
he would help her start thanking
the Lord for their food before they
ate. He wasn't saved but was a
good man. When he came she told
him what she wanted to do and asked
him to help her. He told her he

would. The two boys washed up that evening as usual and rushed to the table and started to eat. But they soon found out that things were going to be different from that day on. Mother had been saved and a change had come to pass.

Mother loved to go to prayer meeting. She wanted her husband to go with her. He promised he would go but when the time came the weather was good and he wanted to get his ground plowed so he could get the corn planted. Mother prayed hard that something would change so he would go. She wanted her husband to get saved. He came in for supper and sent Bill out to plow with the tractor while he ate so no time would be lost. Mother was so disappointed. He went back to the field. Mother was out sweeping the yard, praying. She noticed that her husband and son were coming back together from the field. They told her that a wheel had come off the tractor and they couldn't work any more that night. Mother knew that the Lord had had a hand in it all.

"Good, now you can go with me to prayer meeting," Mother said. Her husband and boys got ready and went to prayer meeting. Her husband said that he was going along to watch. As they walked across the pasture to the home where the prayer meeting was held they talked about salvation and how wonderful it was to be saved. Bro. Wilson preached a good message that night and it did all of them much good. Mother testified and asked for prayer that she could live for God. She wept and thanked God for saving her.

Later her husband and boys were saved.

—M. Miles

The One Who Had the Best Time

There is a vacant lot on the corner of East Avenue and Caldwell Street, with two big spreading oak trees in it. My, but it is a lovely play ground for the children from far and near!

Two little friends go there to play almost every fair day, and as they pass my front porch on their way home, I often call out to them: "Hey, girlies, have you had a fine time?"

Now, I often notice that Florrie Bryan seems to have had a better time, and she looks happier somehow than Mary Ella Carter. I have wondered why this was, and yesterday I think I found out.

For some reason Florrie passed by herself, and I called her in to hold a hank of yarn for my socks. I had a big red apple for her, too.

"What have you been playing today?" I asked.

"Oh, we most always play house-keeping," Florrie answered, spreading her arms to hold the yarn.

"And what is the little white thing on your head?"

"Why, don't you see?" Florrie said in surprise that a grown-up person should be so stupid. "That's a maid's cap."

"Oh, I see; so you are the maid, and Mary Ella is the mistress?"

"Yes, ma'am," answered the dear little girl with a sigh: "I would love to be mistress, sometimes, but Mary Ella says she won't be the maid, and when she says she won't she won't!"

"But Mary Ella ought to give up sometimes," I insisted, sternly.

"Yes'm," answered my little yarn winder, "but I'm so used to giving up to Mary Ella that I don't mind

much, and somebody has to be the giver-up to make us have good times, you know."

"No, precious child!" I cried, "I didn't know that being a giver-up would bring me good times; but if it makes me have a face as bright as the morning, like yours, I am surely going to try it."

I don't think Florrie quite knew what I meant, but she thanked me for the apple and skipped away. I believe in my heart she went to look up sour-faced little Mary Ella, to give her half of the red apple.

IN THE INK BOTTLE

Little Dottie was drawing a picture. She was using a pen and bottle of ink. The picture turned out to be a cat without a tail. Mother asked, "Where is the cat's tail?"

Dottie said, "Why, it's in the ink bottle!"

Often we think about helping someone. But we don't do it. Let's not keep the good things in our mind. Let's do them.

Dear Boys and Girls:—

I trust that you are taking time to pray. Perhaps you think you are too busy and have too much home work. You need to drop some things or get up a little earlier and take time to pray. I know a girl who gets up early enough every morning to sit down and read a few verses in her Bible, then kneel and pray before she leaves her room. I would be real glad if I knew that all of you did that. Why not start doing that this coming week? It does not make any difference if you do have to share your room with someone else in the family.

You can pray even with someone else in the room and thus be an example to that one to do likewise. You can pray at any time. The Lord will bless you for taking time to pray.

I trust that some or all of you will get to go to a campmeeting this summer. It is good to be with others who love the Lord as you do. One young boy started praying two months ahead that his folks would take him to campmeeting. The Lord answered that prayer.

Saul was a sinner. He had caused many to be put in prison because they believed in Jesus as their Saviour. He was not the only sinner, but there are many in the world today. But God loved all. He is not willing that any perish but that all come to repentance. God sent Jesus into the world to die on the cross for the sins of the world. This included Saul.

Saul got some letters from the rulers and was going to Damascus to bring some Christians back to be put in prison. As he went on his way a light shined from heaven and a voice spoke "Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me? it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks." Saul fell to the ground and said, "Who art thou, Lord?" He said, "I am Jesus whom thou persecutest." Saul, trembling, asked, "Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?" The Lord told him to go into the city and it would be told him what to do. Saul could not see so was led into Damascus by the men who were with him. God sent Ananias down to teach him how to get saved. God blessed Saul, saved him, sanctified him and opened his eyes. He who had worked against Jesus now worked for him. He preached Christ to many. They were amazed at the change that had taken place in Saul. Many believed when they saw what Jesus had done for Saul. The

Jews took council how to kill him. Paul heard about them waiting at the gates to kill him. The disciples let him down over the wall of the city in a basket. Saul continued to preach Christ unto all. Boys and girls, when Jesus comes into a heart and life, there is a great change.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 10, June 4, 1967

THE CONVERSION OF SAUL

Acts 9:19b-31

Acts 9:19b Then was Saul certain days with the disciples which were at Damascus.

20 And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that he is the Son of God.

21 But all that heard him were amazed, and said: Is not this he that destroyed them which called on this name in Jerusalem, and came hither for that intent, that he might bring them bound unto the chief priests?

22 But Saul increased the more in strength, and confounded the Jews which dwelt in Damascus, proving that this is the very Christ.

23 And after that many days were fulfilled, the Jews took counsel to kill him:

24 But their laying in wait was known of Saul. And they watched the gates day and night to kill him.

25 Then the disciples took him by night, and let him down by the wall in a basket.

26 And when Saul was come to Jerusalem, he assayed to join himself to the disciples: but they were all afraid of him, and believed not that he was a disciple.

27 But Barnabas took him, and

brought him to the apostles, and declared unto them how he had seen the Lord in the way, and that he had spoken to him, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus.

28 And he was with them coming in and going out at Jerusalem.

29 And he spake boldly in the name of the Lord Jesus, and disputed against the Grecians: but they went about to slay him.

30 Which when the brethren knew, they brought him down to Caesarea, and sent him forth to Tarsus.

31 Then had the churches rest throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria, and were edified; and walking in the fear of the Lord, and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost, were multiplied.

Memory Verse: But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. Phil. 3:7.

Central Thought: We live different lives after Jesus becomes our Saviour.

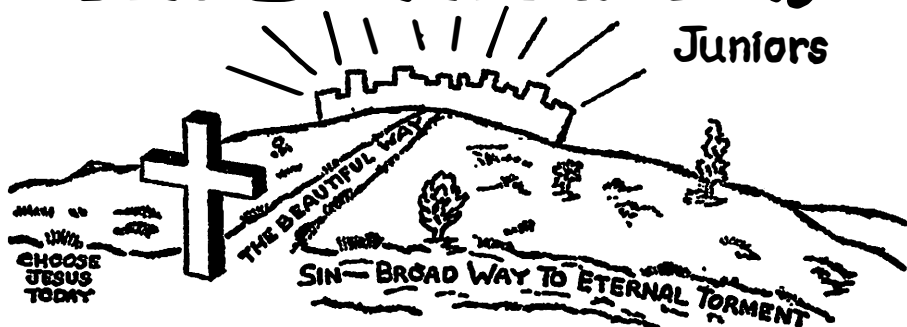
QUESTIONS:

1. Tell about the conversion of Saul.
2. Name one of the sins Saul was guilty of committing.
3. Did others believe when they saw the great change in Saul's life?
4. What was Saul's message?
5. What did the Jews decide to do to Saul?
6. Where did they try to catch him?
7. What did the disciples do to keep Saul from being taken captive?
8. Were the disciples in Jerusalem afraid of him? Who helped him?
9. Did some in Jerusalem try to kill Saul, also?

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 18, No. 2

April, May, June 1967

Part Eleven

June 11

Peter's Vision

Upon the housetop Peter prayed
To him a vision came
And saw four-footed beasts arrayed
Let down in heaven's name.

"Arise and kill and eat," he heard,
"Not so, my Lord," he said,
"No unclean animal or bird
Has ever been my bread."

"What God has cleansed call not unclean,"

This message made him know
That in all nations men are seen
Whose hearts are white as snow.

—Leslie Busbee

The Lost Child

I want to tell you of a little girl who lived at a farm many miles away in England. The farm stood on the edge of a large forest. One day this little girl went too far into the forest; she wandered about for hours, trying to find her way back, but she could not. She tried this way and

that way, but it was all no use. Poor little girl! She was lost! She cried out as loud as she could, "Father! Mother, Mother!" but the father and the mother could not possibly hear. So footsore and tired out, the child at last fell down beneath the branches of a large tree and there fell asleep.

Happily for her, though she did not know it, her father and mother missed her, and at once began to look for her. They searched a great many places, and all about the farmhouse, and wherever they thought she might be. But, alas, it was no good; so they returned sorrowful and disappointed. They began to be very sad, for it occurred to them that perhaps the wolves had seen her and killed her.

The poor parents scarcely knew what to do at the thought of it; the poor mother was wringing her hands and crying out, "My child is lost!" It is indeed a terrible thing to be lost in a forest, without food and with no friends near you; but how much worse is it to be lost, away from God and without a Saviour!

He came to save, as the hymn says, "Oh, what a Saviour is Jesus the Lord!"

But while the parents were sighing and sorrowing, thinking perhaps that their loved one might be devoured by wolves, suddenly they heard three short, quick sounds from a horn. "Listen hard!" cried one, "she is found!" Oh, what joy, the missing one is found! And how did it come about? A man who had been carefully searching came upon a little bit of ribbon. Here is a clue, he thought. Then he found some footprints of the child, and following them up at last found the girl sleeping quietly with traces of tears on her cheeks.

What joyful news! The lost one is found! Gladly the strong man takes her up in his arms and hastens home. The child was lost, but is found.

Did the one who carried her home complain of the burden and of his trouble? We know he did not. He would have done more if more had been required, but now the child is restored to her sorrowful parents, happiness fills the house and weeping is turned into joy.

Does not this little story give us a picture of the Good Shepherd and how He seeks and finds those who are lost; and when He finds them He lays them upon His shoulders rejoicing, and He will bring them to His Father's house? The Good Shepherd had to go through death in order to save the lost. He had to bear the punishment of their sins, so that they might go free. Jesus says, "I am the Good Shepherd: the good shepherd giveth His life for the sheep" (John 10:11). In the gospel

of Luke it speaks of the shepherd's seeking the lost sheep, 'And when he hath found it, he layeth it on his shoulders, rejoicing.' The little girl was carried to her home in the strong arms of her friend.

It goes on to say in the gospel, "And when he cometh home, he calleth together his friends and neighbours, saying unto them, Rejoice with me; for I have found my sheep which was lost." And so in a lesser degree, when the little girl reached her home all in the house were happy, and all the neighbours rejoiced, too.

One Life For Ten

John Muir, for many years a missionary in Alaska, told of an old Indian chief who willingly offered himself as a sacrifice for his tribe. There had been a war all summer between two strong tribes. One old chief saw that unless the war stopped soon and the people had a chance to lay in their winter supply of berries and salmon they would all perish by starvation.

So he went out under a flag of truce to ask the chief of the other tribe to stop fighting, telling him the reason for his request and agreeing that his people also would stop the war. The other chief said that his tribe would not stop fighting then, because ten more of his men had been killed than on the other side.

The Indian chief said to him, "You know I am the chief of our people, and so you must surely think me worth at least ten of our men or yours. Kill me in place of them, and let our people go and gather enough food for the winter."

This sacrificial request was grant-

ed and there in front of the warring tribes the old chief stood up and was shot to death.

Later when the missionaries, Mr. Muir and Mr. Young, came to preach Jesus' sacrifice of Himself for men's sins, the Indians said, "Yes, your words are good. The Son of God is Chief of chiefs and is worth more than any number of men; therefore, when His Blood was shed, the sacrifice was sufficient for the sins of the whole world." —Selected.

—o—

Dear Boys and Girls:—

God is no respecter of persons. God loves all men everywhere and wants us to love them, too. We should not have any prejudice against any because of their race or color. God will save a wicked white man just as soon as he would save a wicked colored man if he will repent with godly sorrow. God is calling for all to repent.

There is much said today about the races. Boys and girls, you should be careful that you do not take part in this great trouble. We want to be sure that we keep love, respect, and kindness in our hearts toward all people. We want to work that all be saved from sin and be ready to meet God. This is what God taught Peter and the disciples of Jesus in our lesson.

The Jews had been taught not to have any dealings with the Gentiles. They were mostly worshippers of idols and God did not want the Jews to worship idols. The disciples had to learn also that God wanted all people of the world to hear the gospel.

Peter had gone down to Joppa, after being sent for when Dorcas died. She was a woman who had done many good deeds and was loved by all. Peter prayed

for her and God brought her back to life. Peter was staying in the home of Simon the tanner.

One day Peter was on the housetop praying when a strange vision appeared to him. A vessel which looked like a big sheet tied at the four corners was let down from heaven. It was filled with all kinds of creatures. Some were four-footed beasts of the earth and others were wild beasts and creeping things, also fowls of the air. When Peter was commanded to rise and eat he refused, saying, "I have never eaten anything common nor unclean." The voice came back to Peter again, "What God hath cleansed, call not thou common." This happened three times.

While Peter was thinking about this vision the Spirit told him that three men were seeking him and for him to go with them, doubting nothing. Soon the men came and Peter went with them to Cornelius' home. Cornelius told Peter that an angel appeared unto him and told him to send for Peter and he would tell him what he ought to do. Cornelius was a Gentile and now Peter knew that God meant for him to preach to the Gentiles, also. God blessed and gave them the Holy Spirit.

When Peter told this to the church in Jerusalem they glorified God that the Gentiles also were granted salvation. Boys and girls, God is no respecter of persons. —Aunt Marie

—o—

OUR PASTOR

Who comes to call when we are ill,
With cheerful words and kind good will,

And gently leads us all to pray,
And soothes our care and fear away?

OUR PASTOR!

—o—

Lesson 11, June 11, 1967
PETER AND THE GENTILES

Acts 11:1-18

Acts 11:1 And the apostles and brethren that were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also received the word of God.

2 And when Peter was come up to Jerusalem, they that were of the circumcision contended with him,

3 Saying, Thou wentest in to men uncircumcised, and didst eat with them.

4 But Peter rehearsed the matter from the beginning, and expounded it by order unto them, saying,

5 I was in the city of Joppa praying; and in a trance I saw a vision, A certain vessel descend, as it had been a great sheet, let down from heaven by four corners; and it came even to me:

6 Upon the which when I had fastened mine eyes, I considered, and saw four footed beasts of the earth, and fowls of the air.

7 And I heard a voice saying unto me. Arise. Peter; slay and eat.

8 But I said, Not so, Lord: for nothing common or unclean hath at any time entered into my mouth.

9 But the voice answered me again from heaven, What God hath cleansed, that call not thou common.

10 And this was done three time; and all were drawn up again into heaven.

11 And, behold, immediately there were three men already come unto the house where I was, sent from Ceasarea unto me.

12 And the Spirit bade me go with them, nothing doubting. Moreover these six brethren accompanied me, and we entered into the man's house:

13 And he shewed us how he had seen an angel in his house, which stood and said unto him, Send men to Joppa, and call for Simon, whose surname is Peter;

14 Who shall tell thee words, whereby thou and all thy house shall be saved.

15 And as I began to speak, the Holy Ghost fell on them, as on us at the beginning.

16 Then remembered I the words of the Lord, how that he said, John indeed baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost.

17 Forasmuch then as God gave them the like gift as he did unto us, who believed on the Lord Jesus Christ; what was I, that I could withstand God?

18 When they heard these things they held their peace, and glorified God, saying, Then hath God also to the Gentiles granted repentance unto life.

Memory Verse: For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth. 1 Tim. 2:3, 4.

Central Thought: God loves all people alike.

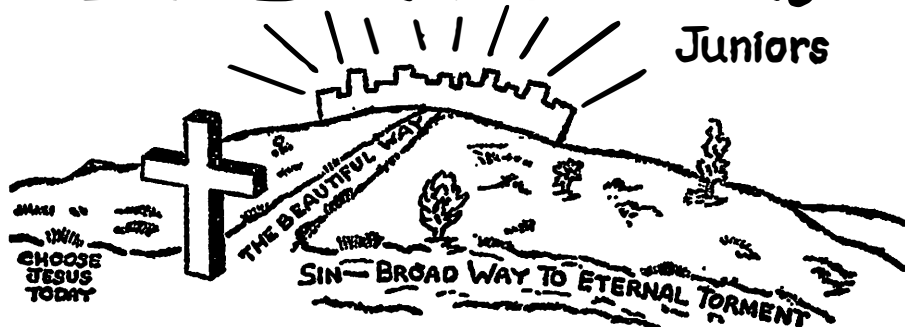
QUESTIONS:

1. Why was Peter in Joppa?
2. What vision did Peter have on the housetop at Simon's house?
3. What did the Holy Spirit tell Peter to do when the three men called for him?
4. Who told Cornelius to send for Peter?
5. What was Peter's message to Cornelius and his house?
6. Did God bless the Gentiles as He had the Jews?

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 18, No. 2

April, May, June 1967

Part Twelve

June 18

A Godly Father

A treasure to the wise in heart
A godly father is
Who will instruction true impart
From wisdom's palaces.

A father who instructs his son
To choose the path of life,
Who shows the joy of work well done
Of peace to conquer strife.

To God be thanked, a father's love
His care doth here provide,
Who points us to that home above
In Him we can confide.

—Leslie Busbee

The Slick Deal

"Father's Day? What's that, Bud?" asked Jan Petrouv. "You have so many special days here in America."

"Father's Day is—well, a special day for your dad. You're supposed to give him a gift and be nice to him."

Jan's thoughts flew at once to his own bent, weatherbeaten father. His life in the Old Country had been such

a hard one, but he was always kind and patient. Now the Petrouvs had come as displaced persons to America. They hoped that things would be better for them on a small farm.

Jan would be glad to give some present to Dad on this Father's Day, if he could earn some money.

"I'd like to give Dad something fine," thought Jan. "I know—a book!"

"I'll buy Dad's first book on his first Father's Day! I'll start looking for after-school jobs," he decided.

Jan had heard that Mr. Mortimer down the road needed pickers for his strawberries. He went to see.

"Yes, Jan, I do need strawberry pickers, and you look like a good worker. I'll try you out," said Mr. Mortimer.

Jan found strawberry picking a backbreaking job, but he kept at it.

On the second afternoon Bud Myers came to work in the large patch, too.

"Hi, Bud, are you working to earn a gift for your dad?" asked Jan.

"Oh, partly, I guess. I'll give him a new lunch box," replied Bud. "Wow, this gives a fellow a backache!"

"Well, my dad does lots of things that gives him aches," said Jan. He remembered his father grubbing out bushes in a misty rain until he got twinges of rheumatism.

Jan wished he could ask Bud's advice, but Bud might not know any more than he did. At last, however, he decided to mention the idea.

"A book for your dad for Father's Day? That's a funny thing to give!" declared Bud, stopping work.

"It's what he wants," said Jan, thinking how his father had longed to own a book of his own.

The next afternoon Bud was late, but he was excited about something.

"Did you get the book for your father yet, Jan?" he asked, trying to make his voice sound careless.

"No, and I still don't know what to choose, Bud," replied Jan.

"Well, I think I can help you," announced Bud. "I've got a book that's the best seller in the world. We've got another copy at home, so I don't need it. It's bound in black and red and gold, but I'll let you have it for four dollars. I'm sure your dad would be pleased."

"Sure, he ought to like a book that sells best in the world, Bud," agreed Jan.

Bud was gay and smiling. He loafed instead of picking many berries and Jan finished the patch.

After he was paid Jan went with Bud to the Myers' home. Bud brought out a black, red, and gold book, as he had said.

"That's like Teacher reads to us from in the mornings, isn't it, Bud?" asked Jan.

"Yes, I told you it's the best seller. Teacher wouldn't read from anything cheap," Bud replied.

Jan went off happy and satisfied. He hid the book in the barn, so that Dad wouldn't see it before time.

But the next day Jan happened to walk up behind Bud and another boy. He hoped to join them, when Bud began to chuckle.

"Those foreigners sure have their uses, Joe," Bud declared. "Know what I did? Jan Petrouv wanted a book for his Father's Day gift, and I sold him a Bible! Some slick deal, huh?"

"I'll say! They're sometimes given away for free! You're the smart one, all right, Bud."

"Sure thing. Jan picked most of the strawberries, but I get all the money," boasted Bud.

Jan didn't join the two. He went up a little lane, sick at heart. It was all a trick—a slick deal.

"I won't give Dad anything," Jan decided unhappily.

But when he thought it over he changed his mind. He would give Dad the book and explain how he had been fooled by Bud Myers. Dad was so kind and understanding that he would be glad that Jan had tried to give him a fine book, anyway.

"And maybe he will enjoy it a little, after all. Our teacher sure reads about God from one like it," figured Jan.

When Father's Day came he took the book to Dad and explained Bud Myers' "slick deal."

I wanted to give you the most wonderful book in the world, Dad, but this is what I have for you," Jan finished sadly.

But Dad looked into the book with great interest. "Why, Jan, that's just what you've done! You have given me the most wonderful and precious Book in the world—the Holy Bible,"

he declared. "I'd rather put my name in this as my first book than in any other. I should have thought of it myself, to own a Bible first of all, but you've taken care of it."

Jan's head swam. "But why did Bud Myers think he put something over on me then, Dad?" he asked.

"Bud and his family don't know the value of God's Word, son. They are 'smart' only in their own minds, and are really losing out," Dad explained.

While Mother and Jan looked on, Dad reverently wrote his name, and theirs too, in black ink in the Bible, as people used to do years ago in his native village.

"I must study and learn to read faster, so that I can read this Bible well. Then we'll take turns reading it out loud in the evenings at family worship," Dad declared. "Thank you so much, Jan."

The Father of Jesus was heavenly and his mother earthly. Jesus is the only one who can be our Saviour.

Dear Boys and Girls:—

Today is the day set aside to honor our fathers. Sometime I think that fathers are neglected. He is away from home a great deal and works hard so you can have a house to live in and food to eat. He comes home in the evenings and is tired. Sometimes he does not feel like talking much. He has been around noise all day and when you and your brothers and sisters are noisy he has to correct you. You might think he is very stern but you must try to understand. He loves you and when you are in trouble he will do all he can to help

you. He plans many things to do for you that he is never able to carry out because it takes money. Yet many times he does things for you. Let Daddy know that you love him. There are many things you can do to help him. Perhaps you can bring him his house slippers when he is ready to rest. Or you can help by mowing the lawn or doing the things needed to be done around the home without complaining.

Those of you who have fathers that love God are greatly blessed. If your father is not saved you can pray for him. God can help him get saved. I knew a boy who prayed a long time for his father to be saved. He was very happy when he got saved.

We have been learning how the gospel was going forth and more people were hearing the good news about Jesus being their Saviour. The disciples preached about Jesus in the towns around them and now they were going to other nations. In our lesson today we learn how the Greeks heard the gospel. Some of the disciples were telling about Jesus in Antioch. Antioch was a great city and many passed through it to other places. It was on a river 16 miles from a seaport. Word reached Jerusalem that some people in that faraway city of Antioch had been saved. The church sent Barnabas to see about them. When he arrived he found all in order. Barnabas encouraged them to be faithful to the Lord. Then Barnabas sought Paul. No doubt Paul had told him that God had chosen him to be a missionary to the Gentiles. Barnabas needed help. When he found Paul he brought him back with him to Antioch and for the next year they labored with them at Antioch. The saints were first called Christians there.

After the prophet Agabus foretold about the famine they took up an offer-

ing to send to help the saints in Jerusalem. Paul and Barnabas took this offering to Jerusalem with them. There is something for all of us to do in spreading the gospel and in helping those in need. We need to look around our own vicinity and then take care of what we see.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 12, June 18, 1967

THE CHURCH AT ANTIOCH

Acts 11:19-30

Acts 11:19 Now they which were scattered abroad upon the persecution that arose about Stephen travelled as far as Phenice, and Cyprus, and Antioch, preaching the word to none but unto the Jews only.

20 And some of them were men of Cyprus and Cyrene, which, when they were come to Antioch, spake unto the Grecians, preaching the Lord Jesus.

21 And the hand of the Lord was with them: and a great number believed, and turned unto the Lord.

22 Then tidings of these things came unto the ears of the church which was in Jerusalem: and they sent forth Barnabas, that he should go as far as Antioch.

23 Who, when he came, and had seen the grace of God, was glad, and exhorted them all, that with purpose of heart they would cleave unto the Lord.

24 For he was a good man, and full of the Holy Ghost and of faith: and much people was added unto the Lord.

25 Then departed Barnabas to Tarsus, for to seek Saul:

26 And when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves, with the church, and taught

much people. And the disciples were called Christians first at Antioch.

27 And in those days came prophets from Jerusalem unto Antioch.

28 And there stood up one of them named Agabus, and signified by the Spirit that there should be great dearth throughout all the world: which came to pass in the days of Claudius Ceasar.

29 Then the disciples, every man according to his ability, determined to send relief unto the brethren which dwelt in Judea:

30 Which also they did, and sent it to the elders by the hands of Barnabas and Saul.

Memory Verse: And the hand of the Lord was with them: and a great number believed, and turned unto the Lord. Acts 11:21.

Central Thought: We need to be workers for God.

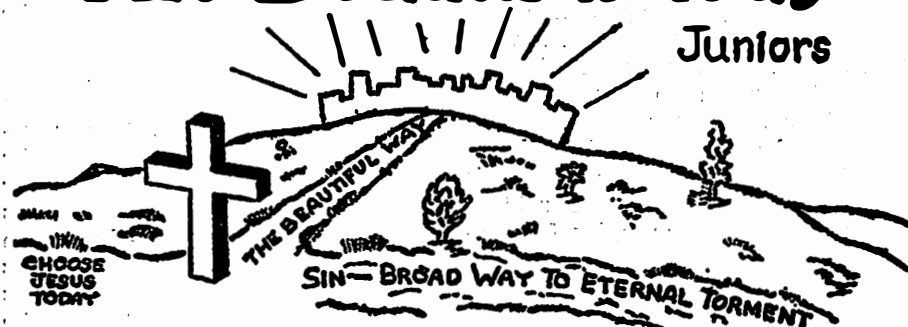
QUESTIONS:

1. When the persecutions arose where did some of the disciples go?
2. What country was Antioch in?
3. Were there any believers in Antioch?
4. When the church at Jerusalem heard about them whom did they send to Antioch?
5. In what condition did Barnabas find the church in Antioch?
6. Whom did Barnabas seek to help him? Why?
7. What were the saints in Antioch called?
8. Who prophesied about a famine?
9. What did the Christians in Antioch do to help those in Jerusalem?

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 18, No. 2

April, May, June 1967

Part Thirteen

June 25

But Prayer Was Made

Down in the jail was Peter kept
And sentenced soon to die—
Between two mighty soldiers slept
Before the day was nigh.

But prayer was made to God for him
At Mary's house, you see;
An angel shone through shadows dim
And set their brother free.

How often when the trials sore
Against the saints arrayed
Has God o'er ruled their angry roar
When pray'r to Him is made.

—Leslie Busbee

Mary Learns A Lesson

Alice received a new dress and shoes for her birthday. Mary saw them and thought they were pretty. She was glad that Alice had received them. It was not long until Mary's birthday. How she wished that she could get some new shoes and a new dress for her birthday! She knew

that her parents didn't have very much money as there was a big family of them, but after hearing her Sunday School teacher tell about how God had answered prayer for her many times, she decided to pray to God to give her a new dress and some new shoes for her birthday.

For almost a month Mary prayed. Her mother heard her prayers and she wanted to get them for her but their weekly check just would not stretch that far. Mary was so sure that she was going to get them that she told others about it and even wrote her cousin about it. She was so excited when her birthday arrived but soon she was disappointed. When she opened her gift it was a pretty hankie and some pencils and paper that she needed at school. She rushed to her room and wept. She thought and thought. Finally she said, half aloud, "Lord, you don't love me like you do Alice and my Sunday School teacher." How awful for Mary to accept such a thought from the devil! The devil was trying to destroy her faith in God. She was so hurt

that she didn't hear the still, sweet voice of God speaking to her. God wanted her to understand that there would be many disappointments in life and she needed to learn how to face them with courage. If she had everything given to her that she wanted or asked for she would be spoiled and selfish. God had a purpose in all of this, but Mary was not listening. Finally the devil said to her, "There is no use praying for anything anymore, you won't get it." Mary agreed with the devil and dried her tears. She left her room with a sad face and a decision that would bring her trouble if she continued in that course.

Mother saw the attitude that Mary had taken and it grieved her heart. She prayed for God, in some way, to help Mary understand. Mary refused to pray in family worship after that. Days went by and Mary didn't have that happy face she once had. She had closed her heart against God and prayer. She was nervous and irritable. Things didn't seem to ever go right anymore. Mother kept praying for her.

One day Mary's school teacher asked the class if someone could bring a bouquet of red roses for the room on the 16th as they were to have some special visitors and she wanted the room to look nice. Mary raised her hand and said that she could get some from her grandmother who had lots of roses. The teacher said that would be fine. After school, different ones told Mary they thought that would be wonderful if her grandmother let them have the flowers. A few days passed and Mary put off asking her grandmother for the roses. She was so sure that her grandmother would

give them to her that she wasn't in any hurry to ask about them. The teacher mentioned it to Mary again and she said she was sure that she would have them there the 16th.

The day before the 16th, Mary thought about the roses. She ran to her grandmother's house. To her surprise, as she neared the house, she didn't see any roses. She asked her grandmother about them and was told that the day before she had given all of them to her friend who was going to use them for her daughter's wedding. They went out into the yard and looked and they found only a few scraggly ones.

Mary almost cried right there but she held her tears until she got home to her bedroom. What would she do? Finally she told her mother all that had happened. Her mother comforted her as best she could. She told her that many, many disappointments come to us in life. She said, "I am sure Grandmother would have been happy for you to have had the roses if you had only spoken sooner." With a sad heart Mary had to tell her teacher about it. The visitors came but there were no flowers.

Mary came home from school still feeling disappointed. Her mother talked to her about it. She said, "I suppose you won't be talking to your grandmother anymore."

"Why, Mother," Mary said in protest, "why would you say a thing like that? She couldn't help it."

"She caused you such a great disappointment and you didn't get what you wanted," Mother said.

"Well, it is all right," Mary replied. "Grandmother is the sweetest person in the world and I love her even if I was disappointed."

"God didn't answer your prayer and give you a dress and shoes and you were so disappointed that you quit talking to Him and I supposed you would treat your grandmother the same way."

Mary sat there and thought for a long time. She was deeply sorry and now she understood. She fell on her knees and asked her mother to pray for her. She had been wrong and she wanted God to forgive her. She understood from that day that God knows best about answering prayers.

—M. Miles

Dear Boys and Girls:—

I trust that each of you realizes the true value of prayer. We should pray about everything then trust God's wisdom to answer in his own way. God is so wise that many times we do not understand his wisdom nor his ways but we still must trust him because he does all things well. Our lesson is about Peter being let out of the prison by an angel, yet James, who also was a disciple, was beheaded. Why was Peter rescued and James and Stephen killed? No one knows the answers but God; yet one thing is sure, it was done right. We know that through the death of Stephen God was able to talk to Paul. When he was saved he was sent to preach among the Gentiles. Today his messages are a blessing to us. Now, God in his wisdom knew what was best to do about this. Many times our prayers are answered like we want them, but many times God says NO. Be assured in your heart that he knows best and hold your faith in him and keep right on praying.

While Peter was in prison the church prayed without ceasing. I believe they had faith in God or they would not have

stayed up all night praying. They were surprised in the way that God answered their prayers. They knew that Herod Agrippa I, a grandson of Herod the Great who sought to kill the baby Jesus and a nephew of Herod Antipas who beheaded John the Baptist, was cruel. Herod Agrippa I saw that persecuting and killing the Christians pleased the Jews so after having James, a disciple, killed, he put Peter in prison and intended to have him killed. He assigned "four quaternion" of soldiers to keep him. That would be 16 soldiers. He also was chained to two soldiers. But that didn't make any difference to God. Peter knew this and went to sleep; in fact, he was sleeping so soundly that when the angel woke him he walked through the gates, which normally took 20 men to open, and out on the street before he fully realized that he was free. Could you have that much trust in God? The Lord wants us to trust him and be willing for him to have his way in our lives. It is a wonderful privilege to know a God of love and power who will help us in this life.

God opened the prison gates but later Peter found the gates to Mary's house closed against him. God does not do needless miracles. God opens many gates in life for us that are beyond our power to open. Thank the Lord for his great love.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 13, June 25, 1967

PETER IMPRISONED AND FREED

Acts 12:5-17

Acts 12:5 Peter therefore was kept in prison; but prayer was made without ceasing of the church unto God for him.

6 And when Herod would have brought him forth, the same night Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound

with two chains; and the keepers before the door kept the prison.

7 And, behold, the angel of the Lord came upon him, and a light shined in the prison: and he smote Peter on the side, and raised him up, saying, Arise up quickly. And his chains fell off from his hands.

8 And the angel said unto him, Gird thyself, and bind on thy sandals. And so he did. And he saith unto him, Cast thy garment about thee, and follow me.

9 And he went out, and followed him; and wist not that it was true which was done by the angel; but thought he saw a vision.

10 When they were past the first and the second ward, they came unto the iron gate that leadeth unto the city; which opened to them of his own accord: and they went out, and passed on through one street; and forthwith the angel departed from him.

11 And when Peter was come to himself, he said, Now I know of a surety, that the Lord hath sent his angel, and hath delivered me out of the hand of Herod, and from all the expectation of the people of the Jews.

12 And when he had considered the thing, he came to the house of Mary the mother of John, whose surname was Mark; where many were gathered together praying.

13 And as Peter knocked at the door of the gate, a damsel came to hearken, named Rhoda.

14 And when she knew Peter's voice, she opened not the gate for gladness, but ran in, and told how Peter stood before the gate.

15 And they said unto her, Thou art mad. But she constantly affirmed that

it was even so. Then said they, It is his angel.

16 But Peter continued knocking: and when they had opened the door, and saw him, they were astonished.

17 But he, beckoning unto them with the hand to hold their peace, declared unto them how the Lord had brought him out of the prison. And he said, Go shew these things unto James, and to the brethren. And he departed, and went into another place.

Memory Verse: If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified. 1 Peter 4:14.

Central Thought: Keep praying and trusting even if God says "NO." God knows when to answer our prayers for our good and the good of others.

QUESTIONS:

1. Was this the same Herod who tried to kill the baby Jesus?
2. What did the church do while Peter was in prison?
3. Was Peter worried and unable to sleep? Why not?
4. How many soldiers watched Peter?
5. Through how many wards and gates did the angel lead Peter?
6. Where did Peter go when he was on the street?
7. Did those who were praying expect their prayers to be answered so quickly?
8. What part did Rhoda have in helping Peter?
9. Does it pay to keep praying, even if our prayers are not answered as we expected?

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