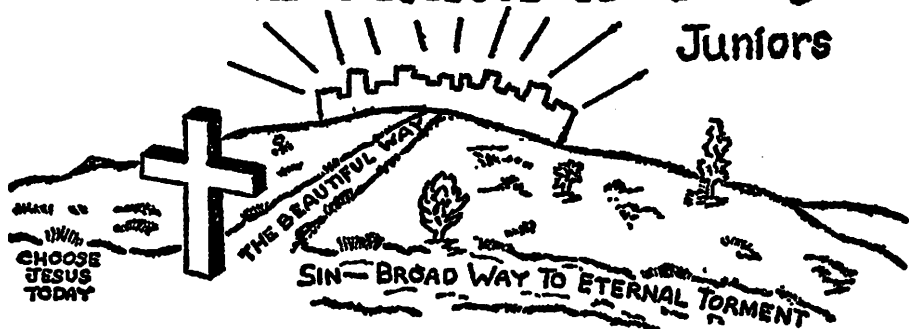


The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 18, No. 3

July, Aug., Sept., 1967

Part One

July 2

Does God Answer Prayer?

Jimmy and Cathy Smith, with their parents, lived in the slum district of Chicago. They were very poor. The father was unemployed and often the family was cold and hungry. The parents had both been reared in good Christian homes and were too proud to beg.

Jimmy was twelve years old and Cathy eight and each had several city blocks to walk to school. Their clothes were so thin and ragged that they were very cold in the winter time. Their Dad walked the streets day after day in search of a job but it was in the days of depression and no jobs were available. Jimmy wanted to help out so he got a job delivering papers in the morning and selling the "Press" on the street corners after school. Many times he felt almost frozen as he had to get up at four o'clock in the morning to get his papers delivered before time for school. Chicago is called the Windy City and it was very cold standing on the street corners day after day to

make a few extra pennies. Some days Jimmy would get on a good corner close to uptown and make good money but other days the bigger boys chased him away and he barely made enough to pay for his papers.

One cold day, as usual, he got up early and left for his paper route. Somehow he felt blue and depressed that morning. His thin coat seemed to be thinner, the papers heavier, and the snow had been unusually heavy that night which made it hard to walk, but he trudged on, block after block. He arrived home later than usual, with scarcely time to eat a bite of breakfast before going to school. As he entered the house, Cathy was crying, and there was no breakfast on the table. Jimmy, at once, sensed that something was wrong. Cathy said that Mama was very sick, they had sent for the doctor but he wouldn't come unless they could pay him and how could they without any money? Whatever could they do? Whom could they turn to? They did not know about Jesus and how He came to heal our bodies and

bear our sins. So they felt that Mama must have a doctor. Jimmy thought of old Mr. Hale, one of his customers, who sometimes gave him a nickel extra when he collected for the paper. Telling Cathy not to worry, he put on his ragged coat and rushed out into the cold again. Mr. Hale did not disappoint him. He not only gave him some money, but also came back to the poor little home with him. This time when they called the doctor he came because they promised to pay him. He said their mother was in a critical condition and must be taken to the hospital at once. But she did not even live until they could get her there. Jimmy and Cathy were left motherless just when they needed a mother most. Mr. Hale made all arrangement for the funeral for their father seemed to be helpless, not knowing what to do nor where to turn. Even though his parents had been Christians, he was never interested in the things of God, so now he couldn't turn to God for help. Here he was, left with two motherless children and no way to make a living for them and then he had the added expense of the funeral to think of.

He began to go out at night to try forget his troubles, leaving the children alone. How lonesome it was at home without Mother! One night their daddy came in late and Jimmy knew he had been drinking for he was cross to them and he had never been that way before. He had turned to drinking to try to drown his troubles but that only made things worse. Drinking only makes troubles.

One morning Jimmy came home from his paper route and found Cathy crying. Their father had come in drunk the night before and was mean that morning. He had whipped Cathy

because she didn't have his breakfast ready. Poor little girl, she did not know he would get up before she left for school as he very seldom did. Jimmy tried to comfort her and together they left for school without any breakfast. It seemed that things got worse at home day after day. Their father stayed out later and later and when he did come home he was mean to them. Sometimes they wished he wouldn't come home at all for many times he took Jimmy's hard-earned money and left them without any food in the house. If the county had not furnished their lunches at school, they would have gone hungry many days that winter. And to make things worse, the bigger boys chased Jimmy away from all the good corners and he scarcely sold any papers during the evenings any more. Sometimes the boys would take from him what little he did make. Jimmy became very resentful. His mother had taught him that it was wrong to fight but he began to think maybe she was wrong. If you wanted to get anything in this world, you had to fight for it. He wasn't as large as some of the boys but they weren't going to push him around, he decided. He had tried being good and where had it got him? From now on he was going to take his own part and he did. It wasn't long until the boys left him alone for he turned out to be a fighter and even some of the big boys were afraid of him.

(Read next week's paper to see what happens to Jimmy and Cathy.)

A MAN TAKES JESUS WITH HIM

In a small town there lived a drunkard. Seldom was he known to be sober. Some Christians began to

pray for him and tried to help him quit his drinking. One day he was gloriously saved and God took away from him the desire for drink. Some time later George, the bartender, met this man and said, "Where have you been? You used to come in to my place whenever you were in my part of town, but now you just walk by."

"I don't walk by," said the new Christian. "We walk by. I have Someone with me who leads me by."

This man had taken Jesus as his friend and companion. Jesus gave him the power to do right. Jesus will help you, too, if you will take him to be your friend.

Dear Boys and Girls:—

Can you tell about a time when you went fishing? Did you ever go with anyone fishing in the ocean? It is quite different from fishing in rivers and ponds. My husband likes to fish. When we lived in California he used to fish on the pier, which is a boardwalk built out from the beach over the water. Other times he would go on a fishing boat out 10 or 12 miles on the ocean and fish. The fish that are caught near the shore are smaller and different from those caught in the deeper waters. One time he caught a 32-pound halibut when he went deep sea fishing. But when a person is beginning to learn to fish, it is better to learn at the pier and then later you will be ready to go out on the fishing boat to the deeper waters for the bigger fish.

Our lessons lately have been about the commandment of Jesus for the disciples to go into all the world and preach the gospel. He told them to preach and work around Jerusalem, then Judea, and Samaria first. We studied how they obeyed his commandment. But now they

were ready to reach others in the world who needed to hear the good news that Jesus saves from sin. These people were Gentiles. They mostly worshipped idols and needed God to save them from sin and superstition.

The church in Antioch of Syria in today's lesson had a real soul-burden. They fasted and prayed about others hearing the gospel message. Do you know what it means to fast? Where in the Bible do we read about fasting? Can you tell about the times when Jesus fasted? The saints at Antioch were blessed as they fasted and prayed. The Holy Ghost made known to them just whom he wanted to go into the regions beyond to break the "bread of life" to souls who were dying without a Saviour. Just as there are many today in the world who need God, we find it was so in that day. Today we need to be concerned that they know about Jesus and His saving power. A church that doesn't have a missionary spirit is a church that is lacking greatly.

After the Holy Spirit made the church know that Barnabas and Paul were to go, they laid their hands on them and prayed God's blessings upon them and sent them away.

In the unprinted part of our lesson we read how Paul preached a sermon in Antioch of Pisidia (14-41) which is another Antioch. At first, some of the Jews accepted the Word of God, but later they were filled with envy as the last part of our lesson teaches. They turned away from it and Paul told them that he would turn to the Gentiles. The Gentiles rejoiced and were happy because they could receive eternal life. God blessed Paul and Barnabas as the Word of God was published throughout all the regions. God has a place for you to help today to get the gospel to others. Pray for the missionaries and ministers. Work for God around your door and

then when you are older you can help in a larger way.

Aunt Marie

Lesson 1, July 2, 1967

THE CHURCH REACHES OUT

Acts 13:1-3, 42-49

Acts 13:1 Now there were in the church that was at Antioch certain prophets and teachers; as Barnabas, and Simeon that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul.

2 As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them.

3 And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid their hands on them, they sent them away.

42 And when the Jews were gone out of the synagogue, the Gentiles besought that these words might be preached to them the next sabbath.

43 Now when the congregation was broken up, many of the Jews and religious proselytes followed Paul and Barnabas: who, speaking to them, persuaded them to continue in the grace of God.

44 And the next sabbath day came almost the whole city together to hear the word of God.

45 But when the Jews saw the multitudes, they were filled with envy, and spake against those things which were spoken by Paul, contradicting and blaspheming.

46 Then Paul and Barnabas waxed bold, and said, It was necessary that the word of God should first have been

spoken to you: but seeing ye put it from you, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, lo, we turn to the Gentiles.

47 For so hath the Lord commanded us, saying, I have set thee to be a light of the Gentiles, that thou shouldest be for salvation unto the ends of the earth.

48 And when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad, and glorified the word of the Lord: and as many as were ordained to eternal life believed.

49 And the word of the Lord was published throughout all the region.

Memory Verse: For so hath the Lord commanded us, saying, I have set thee to be a light of the Gentiles, that thou shouldest be for salvation unto the ends of the earth. Acts 13:47.

Central Thought: God calls only the willing and obedient to do His work.

QUESTIONS:

1. Who said that he would make the disciples "fishers of men"?

2. Where were the disciples first to tell the gospel story and where after that?

3. What was the result of the fasting and praying of the church in Antioch?

4. Should we have a missionary spirit today in our church?

5. How can you help others know about Jesus and his power to save?

6. Who were the trouble makers in our lesson?

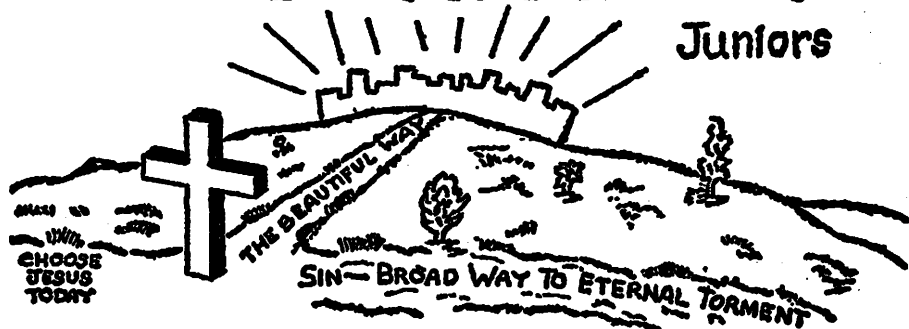
7. Do you know some trouble makers? Why do they cause trouble?

8. Were the Gentiles glad that they would hear more about Jesus?

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 18, No. 3

July, Aug., Sept., 1967

Part Two

July 9

Does God Answer Prayer?

(Continued from last week's paper.)

Mr. Ramon, the pastor of a little Mission near the slums, had taken special notice of Jimmy ever since he had come to the city. He had seen the other boys chase him away and had always admired him because he did not say anything back to them; but all at once he noticed a great change in the boy. Surely something had happened to change him in such a short time. He began to go out of his way to watch him, but of course Jimmy knew nothing about all this. Sometimes Mr. Ramon bought papers he didn't need just to get to talk to Jimmy. He went home one day and told his wife about Jimmy. She felt so bad when she heard that the boy scarcely had enough clothes to keep covered. The Ramons were also poor as the little church couldn't afford to give them much and Mr. Ramon worked as a janitor to make a living for his family. But somehow they must get a warm coat for Jimmy. They went to prayer asking the Lord

to send them one or direct them to where one could be found real cheap. He was older than the Ramon boys so they could not give him one they had outgrown. The very next day the pastor's wife went to a rummage sale and there was just the coat she needed. When she told them why she wanted it, they gave it to her, saying it was their good deed for the day. She was happy for she knew the Lord had answered prayer.

The next morning Mr. Ramon took the coat and went out on the hunt for Jimmy. He knew that the boy had a paper route in that section of the city so he watched for him. Soon he noticed a boy across the street about a block away and he felt sure that was Jimmy. Yes, that was he, all right. He soon caught up with him and gave him the coat. Jimmy didn't seem to be as happy as he thought he should be so he wanted to know what the trouble was. Jimmy didn't want to tell him but after some questioning he finally told how his sister needed a coat even worse than he did. Mr. Ramon told him

that God could provide a coat for her just as easily as He did for him. Of course, Jimmy didn't understand, but he went home happy. He could scarcely wait to tell Cathy that she was going to have a new coat that would keep her warm. But Cathy wanted to know where it was coming from. She knew that they didn't have any money to buy one. Jimmy told her how Mr. Ramon said God could provide one for her. Didn't God get him one? "But how can God get me a coat?" Cathy asked. Jimmy didn't know, but Mr. Ramon ought to know. Their mother had often told them about God, how He hated sin and could see everything they did but she never told them that God could get clothes for them.

Their dad was in a bad mood that night. It seemed he never had a pleasant word for them anymore. Almost everything they did was wrong. How they missed their mother for she was always so good to them. She could seem to make a meal out of scraps. How they wished she had taught them how! Daddy expected them to get his meal but never provided the food.

The very next day Jimmy was about ready to start for home when he saw Mr. Ramon coming down the street toward him with a box under his arm and carrying a sack. Surely it couldn't be a coat for Cathy already! But it was. Mr. Ramon told Jimmy that God works fast when He sees that it is needed so badly. Then Mr. Ramon gave Jimmy the sack, also, to take home. He fairly flew home to show Cathy what he had for her. They were so excited that it was hard to get the box unwrapped. In it they found a beautiful warm coat with a fur collar. Cathy tried

it on and danced around the room for joy. Together they opened the sack and found some food for supper. What a happy evening they had! Daddy didn't come home for supper as usual so they had a good meal all to themselves. They didn't forget him, though, for they fixed a plate and left it on the table.

When Jimmy arose the next morning the plate was still there. He went to his daddy's room but he wasn't there and the bed had not been slept in. He was quite worried for his daddy was always at home when they got up. But his job was waiting and he must go. He hurried along the street watching for his daddy but he wasn't to be seen anywhere. Nor was he at home when Jimmy got back. The children were too worried to eat anything so they left for school without any breakfast.

(What has happened to Jimmy's daddy? Be sure to read next week's paper and find out.)

The Accusing Dish

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins."
1 John 1:9.

When Mrs. Lane went to the pantry on Tuesday morning and found a broken dish, she asked the eldest boy how it happened.

"I don't know," said he. "Why don't you ask Louise? You always blame me."

"All right," said Mother, and when Louise was questioned she opened her large brown eyes and said, "Why, I did not know it was broken."

"You would tell me if you broke it, wouldn't you?" asked Mother.

"Yes, Mamma, I would buy you another one."

"Very well; we will say no more about it," said Mother, and so the day passed.

Next morning the dish was still on the shelf, and when Carl saw it he said:

"I did not break it, and I will not say I broke it."

"Never mind," said Mother, "just leave it there."

Thursday morning, and still the dish was there, and Carl felt worse than ever and denied more stoutly that he knew anything about it.

"Don't speak about it any more," said Mrs. Lane.

Friday morning Carl seemed to be feeling troubled in his mind and Mother said:

"Would you like to speak to me?"

A complete confession followed. The broken dish was removed and Carl was forgiven. The frown was replaced by a smile and peace took the place of condemnation.

"Keep thyself pure." 1 Tim. 5:22.

Mo.—Dear Sister Miles, Greetings of love. I want to thank the Lord for His goodness to me. He has healed me many times. Pray for me that I will always live for Him and do His will.

With love, —Rebecca Sorrell

Dear Boys and Girls:—

It would be good if you had a map to look at and follow the journeys of Paul and Barnabas on their missionary trips. Some Bibles have maps that show Paul's journeys. In those days they did not have cars, trains, and airplanes, as you know. They journeyed mostly by walking and sometimes they rode an animal. How would you like to walk everywhere you went? I am sure we have much to be thankful for today, do we not?

How would you feel if the picture you drew was picked by the teacher as the best one in the class? Or if you made the best grade that had ever been made on a test? How do you feel when you are playing ball with others in your yard or on the school grounds and you are the only one who makes a home run? How do you feel when others praise you or speak highly of you? There are boys and girls who have helped save others' lives. My sister-in-law, when a very young girl, ran into a burning house and brought the baby out to safety. She risked her life in doing it. The house burned to the ground. Down through the years it has been spoken of with honor to her. How are we to feel when we are praised or when we do something by the strength or wisdom that God gives us that is good and noteworthy?

Our lesson tells about Paul and Barnabas being honored by the people. They thought they must be gods because the lame man was healed. They brought the priests of the gods they worshipped who were Jupiter and Mercury, to do sacrifice to them. Those people had a myth about the god Mercury always coming with Jupiter when he made a trip to the earth. They were supposed to appear in the form of men to check the good and evil works of men. (See Homer's Odyssey.) They felt that Paul, who was the speaker, must be Mercury and Barnabas Jupiter.

Can't you just see the oxen plodding along with the garlands, which were probably flowers and leaves, draped over them? Maybe they placed the garlands upon the altar and wanted to put them on Paul and Barnabas. Oh, this was just too much! How did they act under such praise and honor? They refused it. God had healed the lame man and not they. It was God who was to be

praised. They were just men like the people around them only they belonged to God and he had worked through them.

Boys and girls, if you have been able to do anything that brings a word of honor from another, remember it was God who gave you the wisdom, knowledge, strength, and understanding and not you. Let God have the praise and honor, for He is due all of it.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 2, July 9, 1967

PAUL AND BARNABAS AT LYSTRA

Acts 14:8-18

Acts 14:8 And there sat a certain man at Lystra, impotent in his feet, being a cripple from his mother's womb, who never had walked:

9 The same heard Paul speak: who stedfastly beholding him, and perceiving that he had faith to be healed,

10 Said with a loud voice, Stand upright on thy feet. And he leaped and walked.

11 And when the people saw what Paul had done, they lifted up their voices, saying in the speech of Lycaonia, The gods are come down to us in the likeness of men.

12 And they called Barnabas, Jupiter; and Paul, Mercurius, because he was the chief speaker.

13 Then the priest of Jupiter, which was before their city, brought oxen and garlands unto the gates, and would have done sacrifice with the people.

14 Which when the apostles, Barnabas and Paul, heard of, they rent their clothes, and ran in among the people, crying out,

15 And saying, Sirs, why do ye these things? We also are men of like passions with you, and preach unto you that ye should turn from these vanities unto the living God, which made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all things that are therein:

16 Who in times past suffered all nations to walk in their own ways.

17 Nevertheless he left not himself without witness, in that he did good, and gave us rain from heaven, and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness.

18 And with these sayings scarce restrained they the people, that they had not done sacrifice unto them.

Memory Verse: And saying, Sirs, why do ye these things: We also are men of like passions with you, and preach unto you that ye should turn from these vanities unto the living God, which made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all things that are therein: Acts 14:15.

Central Thought: We are to let God have the honor and the dishonor that touches our lives.

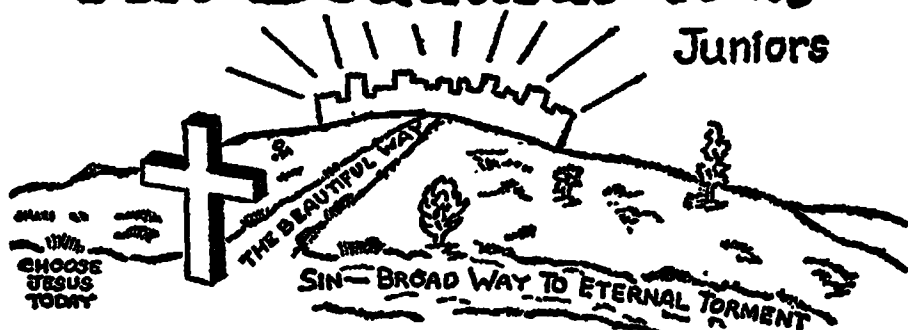
QUESTIONS:—

1. What was the name of the town in our lesson?
2. What was wrong with the man who was listening closely to Paul's sermon?
3. What did Paul say to him?
4. Whom did the people think Paul and Barnabas were?
5. What did they want to do to them?
6. What did Paul tell them?
7. Whom are we to give the honor to when we do something that is worthy of praise?

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Part Three

July 16

Does God Answer Prayer?

(Continued from last week's paper.)

When Cathy and Jimmy got home from school that day their neighbor told them their father was in jail. He had drunk a little too much and got into some kind of trouble. Jimmy didn't go out on the street that evening with his papers. He just could not face the other boys. Mr. Ramon waited on the corner where Jimmy usually stood, for a long time, wanting to talk to the boy. He wondered if the coat fit and if they needed anything else. He was quite concerned when Jimmy didn't show up at all and wondered if he was sick. He walked down the street and asked one of the other "Press" boys where Jimmy lived. He got the address and went to see him at once. The little home was even worse than he had imagined. He found two lonely children alone in the house. Jimmy realized that here was a friend he could tell his troubles to. Mr. Ramon promised to try to get their daddy out and back home as soon as possible.

After he was gone, the children felt better. Just as they got supper ready and on the table their Daddy walked in. For once he was sober and acted like he used to when Mama was with them. What a nice evening they had together! It was almost like old times. Cathy sat on his lap, and putting her arms around his neck, said, "Daddy, I wish you would be like this all the time." The children showed him their new coats and told him how God had answered Mr. Ramon's prayers and given them the coats. Surely if Mr. Ramon would ask God for a job for their daddy He would give it to him.

Early the next morning before the children left for school Mr. Ramon came to see how they were getting along. He invited them all to a revival meeting that was to begin the next night. Of course, the children promised to be there but their daddy wouldn't promise.

The next evening both children were there early, even before the pastor arrived. The little chapel was crowded that night. The singing was very good and when Mr. Ramon got

up in the pulpit the children were so proud that he was their friend. When the altar call was given Jimmy asked Cathy if she would go with him for he knew he hadn't been a good boy and he wanted to be good like Mr. Ramon for he was an idol to the children at this time. After some instructions about how to get saved, they gave their hearts to God. It was so good to feel clean inside, but how they wished their daddy were there, too. The poor motherless children now had someone to go to, with all of their problems. Jimmy said, "Now Cathy, we can pray for our daddy. There isn't anything God can't do, so I know if we pray real hard our daddy will come to church and get saved, too."

When Mr. Smith came home a short time after the children had gone to their rooms he heard voices. Upon investigating he found both children on their knees praying for him. He had been to the corner saloon but for some reason he hadn't drunk as much as usual. God was watching over him. Although he had been reared in a Christian home he had begun to doubt that there was a God. But somehow tonight he felt that there surely must be a God for his children were praying so earnestly and hadn't they said that God had given them their new coats? But if God did answer prayer, why didn't he help him find a job? No one wanted to hire a man who is seldom sober. He listened a while then went to bed, not saying anything to them, so they didn't know he was anywhere near.

The next morning he got up before they left for school and they began to tell him all about the services the night before and that they had given their hearts to Jesus. But he did

not want to hear any more about it. If that was all they could talk about, they had better stay away from there. The children didn't answer and that was unusual. They soon put on their new coats and went to school.

After they were away from the house, Jimmy said, "Cathy, we'll just have to pray harder for him. I don't believe this is going to be as easy as praying for coats."

Cathy said, "Why can't God answer this prayer as easily as He did for the coats? Maybe if we ask Brother Ramon to pray, too, it will be answered sooner. Let's ask him and see."

So that evening before the service began both children ran to Brother Ramon with their request. He promised to bring the request before the congregation that night. Never was a prayer more in earnest than that one was that night. Surely God was moved on His throne. After the service that night the children hurried home so they would be in bed when their daddy got there. Not a word did they say about the service the next morning. Their daddy seemed to ignore them entirely. Both children thought surely their daddy would get saved today but he surely didn't act like it this morning.

That evening he didn't come home to supper as usual, so the children left for service without seeing him. Two very discouraged children came into the chapel that night. Bro. Ramon noticed immediately that something was wrong.

(Be sure to read next week's paper to find out if Jimmy and Cathy's daddy gets saved.)

THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE

One day some Turkish soldiers saw some sheep on a hill near Jerusalem. The shepherd was sleeping. The soldiers said, "Let's get the sheep. They will be a fine meal for us."

The shepherd awakened. He saw the sheep being driven off by the soldiers. He stood up and gave his call to his sheep. They heard his voice. They stood still and listened. He called again. The sheep rushed up the hill to their shepherd. The Turkish soldiers couldn't stop them. Then the sheep went away, following their shepherd.

Jesus is our Shepherd. We should always follow Him.

Dear Boys and Girls:

It seems that there are some boys and girls who like to cause trouble. Have you ever been in a group when everything seemed to be going smoothly until a certain one arrived and started causing trouble? Sometimes an older person has to be called to help settle the trouble. The devil doesn't like peace but God has called all of us to peace. Of course, it is not right to make peace by doing wrong because the majority want it that way. It is best to leave that group if they are going to do wrong. It doesn't hurt for you to be last in the game or to be willing for another to be first and in a peaceful way stand for peace. But it is always good for the trouble to be settled.

Paul and Barnabas had returned from their missionary tour and had been with the saints in the city of Antioch for some time. They were teaching them to love the Lord and understand more what God wanted them to do. But some

trouble makers came from Judea. They were wanting the Gentiles who were saved to follow a certain external rite of the Jews or what was required under the law of Moses. They kept teaching this and causing much trouble. Paul and Barnabas taught that they were not living under the law of Moses since Jesus had come and that the Gentiles did not have to keep this rite required under the law of Moses. But the trouble makers still held that the Gentiles could not be saved unless they kept this rite the same as the Jews did. The trouble became so great that the church sent Paul and Barnabas to the apostles in Jerusalem where Peter, John, James and others were teaching, to get the trouble settled. When they arrived, the brethren came together and held a council. They rejoiced when Peter told them how God had saved the Gentiles and given them the Holy Spirit, purifying their hearts by faith. He told the brethren that they should not put this yoke upon them but that through believing on the name of Jesus Christ only would they be saved.

James then suggested that they send a letter from the brethren at Jerusalem to the saints in Antioch. You can read part of this letter in Acts 15:23-29. The council at Jerusalem told them that they need not keep the rite of circumcision but that they were to abstain from meats offered to idols, from blood, and from things strangled, and from fornication. The council chose some men from among themselves, named Judas and Silas, to go with Paul, Barnabas, and Titus and take the letter to them. When the church at Antioch heard the letter read and Judas and Silas spoke words of encouragement to them, they rejoiced and the trouble was settled. God has called us to peace. Be careful that you are not a trouble-maker.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 3, July 16, 1967

THE COUNCIL AT JERUSALEM

Acts 15:1-11

Acts 15.1 And certain men which came down from Judea taught the brethren, and said, Except ye be circumcised after the manner of Moses, ye cannot be saved.

2 When therefore Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and disputation with them, they determined that Paul and Barnabas, and certain other of them, should go up to Jerusalem unto the apostles and elders about this question.

3 And being brought on their way by the church, they passed through Phenice and Samaria, declaring the conversion of the Gentiles: and they caused great joy unto all the brethren.

4 And when they were come to Jerusalem, they were received of the church, and of the apostles and elders, and they declared all things that God had done with them.

5 But there rose up certain of the sect of the Pharisees which believed, saying, That it was needful to circumcise them, and to command them to keep the law of Moses.

6 And the apostles and elders came together for to consider of this matter.

7 And when there had been much disputing, Peter rose up and said unto them, Men and brethren, ye know how that a good while ago God made choice among us, that the Gentiles by my mouth should hear the word of the gospel, and believe.

8 And God, which knoweth the hearts, bare them witness, giving them the Holy Ghost, even as he did unto us;

9 And put no difference between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith.

10 Now therefore why tempt ye God, to put a yoke upon the neck of the disciples, which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear?

11 But we believe that through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved, even as they.

Memory Verse: For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. Romans 1:16.

Central Thought: We need to stand for right and truth with love in our hearts.

QUESTIONS:

1. Who were the men that caused trouble in Antioch?

2. Where did the religious rite come from that they wanted the Gentiles to keep?

3. Why are we not to keep the law of Moses?

4. Who did they decide to get to settle the dispute?

5. Were there some on the council at Jerusalem who wanted to force this rite upon the Gentile converts?

6. What did Peter have to say about it in the meeting?

7. What did he compare this rite to in verse 10?

8. Does the law save? What does?

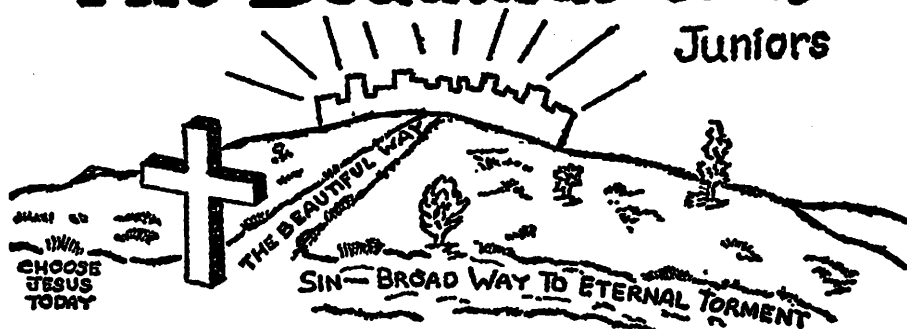
9. How are we to treat trouble-makers today?

10. Are we to agree with everyone we meet in order to keep peace?

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 18, No. 3

July, Aug., Sept., 1967

Part Four

July 23

Does God Answer Prayer?

(Continued from last week's paper.)

When Cathy and Jimmy went to services that night they were very discouraged. Bro. Ramon began to question them and found out that they felt that God had let them down. Their daddy showed no signs of getting saved. Bro. Ramon told them that sometimes it took a while so they must be patient.

"But," said Cathy, "it didn't take that long for God to get our coats."

Bro. Ramon told them that it was easier for God to get coats because the coats didn't have anything to say about it, but their daddy was different. They would have to pray until he was so miserable that he would want God more than anything else in this whole world. Then he explained that there was a devil in the world and he was making it hard for their daddy. God's voice was speaking to him and also the devil's voice was, too. They must be real kind to him and keep on praying and he just knew that their father would be saved soon.

"Yes," said Jimmy, "but you once told us that God works fast when He sees that something is needed real bad."

"Yes, I did tell you that, but this is something a little different. God didn't have to break down someone's stubborn will to get the coats, but this time He does. Your father is stubborn but God will find a way to get to his heart if we keep praying."

That made the children feel much better. They attended every night of the meeting, but they didn't mention it to their daddy even once. But every night they requested prayer for him and they also prayed earnestly at home.

One night their daddy came home much earlier than usual and found the children on their knees praying and crying like their hearts were broken. The father went back out without their having seen him and walked the streets. At first he went toward the corner saloon but for some reason he didn't want to go there. He went down the street to a little park and sat on the bench. What should he do? He just couldn't go back home

and face the children and yet he couldn't sit there and freeze. God was surely talking to him that night. He got up and again walked up and down the street. Again he started to the saloon but a hand seemed to come before him. Try as he would that hand wouldn't let him pass. He became very fearful; surely he was just imagining things. He turned around and started back again but there was that hand again. It was so big this time that he knew that it was no imagination. He was so afraid this time that he ran back home. The children were sitting by the little oil lamp studying their lessons. They didn't seem to be afraid. It must be my nerves, he thought. The children were very kind to him that night. He went to bed and tossed and turned all night. The next morning he looked so terrible that the children were alarmed and wanted to know if he was sick. Well he didn't feel well, but it was because he didn't get much sleep. As the children were on their way to school Jimmy said, "It won't be long now. God is surely talking to Daddy. My, he looked terrible this morning. If we pray a little harder maybe he will get saved today."

On their way home from school they met Bro. Ramon and told him about their dad and how bad he looked. Bro. Ramon was very much encouraged for that was a good sign.

When they got home from school Daddy was already there. He had found a job that very day and would go to work the next morning.

"Praise the Lord," Jimmy said, "one of our prayers has been answered."

"What do you mean, Jimmy?"

"Why, I mean that God has given you a job. Now He will soon answer

the other one. Don't you feel like you would like to be saved?"

Their dad hung his head. Now he knew how that job had come about. Why, he hadn't even needed to ask for it. The man had hunted him up. That was the answer, God had provided him with a job at last. He broke down and began to cry. The children had never seen their daddy cry before.

Now was the time, thought Jimmy, so he told Cathy to stay with Daddy while he ran to get Bro. Ramon. When they got back Daddy was still sobbing as if his heart would break. Bro. Ramon talked to him about his soul and how much he needed God. It wasn't long until their daddy was on his knees with Bro. Ramon's arms around him, crying and praying. The children were so happy that they danced around the room with joy. Their Daddy was getting saved, they just knew he was. Soon their Daddy jumped to his feet with a radiant smile on his face. Both children ran to him and were lifted high in his arms. How wonderful it was to have their daddy back with them. And just think, he had a job now like other men. They could have all they wanted to eat. Daddy would never go to that old saloon again. They could go to church together and sit together like the other families did. What plans! None of them wanted to go to bed after Bro. Ramon left. It wasn't long until the little family moved into a better house and had things more like other people. What man could not do, God did. Jimmy and Cathy knew that God did answer prayer even if it did take some time. God never fails His children who put their trust in Him. Yes, God does answer prayer.

Does Jesus Live Here?

A new minister came to town. He visited the home of Jim and Sara. Jim was not there. When Jim came home, Sara said, "The new minister came today. He asked me if Jesus lives here. I didn't know what to say."

Jim said, "Didn't you tell him we are good people?"

"No, he didn't ask me about that. He just wanted to know if Jesus lives here."

Jim and Sara kept thinking about what the minister asked. They decided that they wanted Jesus to live at their house and then they knew it would be a better place.

Jim and Sara asked Jesus to come into their hearts and forgive their sins. They asked Jesus to live in their home. How happy they were! Jesus helped them every day.

—o—

Dear Boys and Girls: —

We do not want to forget the theme of our lessons. Jesus told the disciples to "go into all the world and preach the gospel." God wanted every boy and girl and every man and woman to know that Jesus died on the cross to save them from their sins. Oh, what a wonderful message that is! When you see someone whose life is filled with sin and misery and you tell that person that Jesus will save him from sin and make him happy, then he repents and believes the good news, it does you so much good to see how his life changes. We want everyone to hear that Jesus saves, don't we?

Paul and Barnabas went on one missionary trip and now Paul told Barnabas that he believed they should go again and see how the churches were doing

where they had been before. He felt that they needed some encouragement. Barnabas thought that would be a good thing to do so suggested that they take with them his relative whose name was John Mark. John Mark had gone with them on a trip before but in the early part of that trip he had left them and returned home or to Jerusalem. We do not know the reason but he was a young man and perhaps he got homesick or the hardships were more than he could endure. (Acts 13:13) Paul did not think they should take John Mark with them on this second trip but Barnabas held out that they should. It seems that they could not come to an agreement so Barnabas took Mark and went to Cyprus to work among the churches in his native land. Paul then chose Silas and they left on the second trip. Later it seems that Luke must have joined them. He wrote today's account and also the book of Luke and the rest of the book of Acts.

It seems that John Mark did not let this affect his desire to live for God for later Paul speaks of him and his good works. Barnabas and Paul were still good friends as Paul mentions him later in his epistles. It may have been that God wanted two missionary trips in different directions so he didn't let the brethren come to an agreement on their ideas. God knows what is best and sometimes we do not understand all his ways.

Paul and Silas started out. They came to the region of Galatia and the Holy Ghost forbade them to preach there in Asia. They started to Bithynia from Mysia and the Holy Spirit would not let them feel good about going there. Finally God let Paul know they were to go to Macedonia after seeing a man in a vision asking for them to come.

Boys and girls, we should go where God wants us to go and conduct our lives by God's direction. Our ways are

not God's ways so we need to find out how God wants things done.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 4, July 23, 1967

THE GOSPEL GOES TO EUROPE

Acts 15:36-41; 16:6-12a

Acts 15:36 And some days after Paul said unto Barnabas, Let us go again and visit our brethren in every city where we have preached the word of God, and see how they do.

37 And Barnabas determined to take with them John, whose surname was Mark.

38 But Paul thought not good to take him with them, who departed from them from Pamphylia, and went not with them to the work.

39 And the contention was so sharp between them, that they departed asunder one from the other: and so Barnabas took Mark, and sailed unto Cyprus;

40 And Paul chose Silas, and departed, being recommended by the brethren unto the grace of God.

41 And he went through Syria and Cilicia, confirming the churches.

Acts 16:6 Now when they had gone throughout Phrygia and the regions of Galatia, and were forbidden of the Holy Ghost to preach the word in Asia,

7 After they were come to Mysia, they assayed to go into Bithynia; but the Spirit suffered them not.

8 And they passed by Mysia and came down to Troas.

9 And a vision appeared to Paul in the night. There stood a man of Macedonia, and prayed him, saying, Come over into Macedonia, and help us.

10 And after he had seen the vision,

immediately we endeavoured to go into Macedonia, assuredly gathering that the Lord had called us to preach the gospel unto them.

11 Therefore loosing from Troas, we came with a straight course to Samothracia, and the next day to Neapolis:

12a And from thence to Philippi, which is the chief city of that part of Macedonia, and a colony:

Memory Verse: And after he had seen the vision, immediately we endeavoured to go into Macedonia, assuredly gathering that the Lord had called us to preach the gospel unto them. Acts 16:10.

Central Thought: We need to let the Holy Spirit make our plans for us.

QUESTIONS:

1. Why did Paul want to visit the brethren in other cities?

2. Whom did Barnabas want to take with them?

3. Why did Paul refuse to take Barnabas's relative with them?

4. Where did Barnabas go with his partner?

5. Whom did Paul chose to take with him?

6. Why did they not preach in the region of Galatia?

7. Why did they not go to Bithynia?

8. Why did they go to Macedonia?

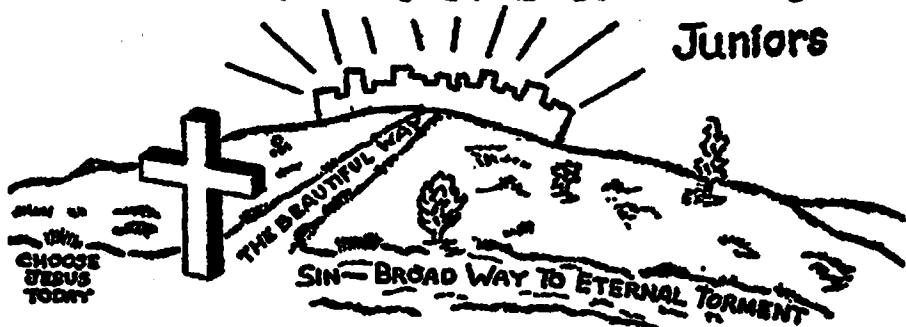
9. Should we be careful to let the Lord make our plans?

10. Why were the disciples preaching in other countries?

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Part Five

July 30

The Shepherd and His Family

School would be out in just two more days. Carla and Juan were counting the hours until they would be free to roam the great outdoors. They lived in a mountainous part of the country where their father herded sheep for a neighboring rancher. Just a few short months ago they had moved here from a large city many miles away where their father had worked in the mills. Owing to ill health, he had decided to leave for the wide open spaces where he might regain his health. Carla and Juan, as most teen agers do, were looking forward to the summer vacation with high hopes. The weather was too cold when they moved to do much exploring, only near their little cabin. Their younger brother Mike was forever teasing them to take him up on the mountains where their father kept the sheep. Juan had explained over and over that they could not go until after their school was closed and now in two more days

they would be free to go.

This morning as Carla and Juan walked slowly over the rough ground to meet the school bus, they made all sorts of plans for the summer months. Wouldn't their friends in the city envy them if they could see them now! Why, in the city one scarcely ever saw the moon and stars, even. Never did you dream there would be trees, mountains, rivers, and such wonderful pure air as there was out here in this country! And such exciting places just waiting to be explored! They had almost three miles to walk to the highway to get the school bus but neither one noticed the distance for there was so much to see and talk about. Their mother was a real saint and taught her children the best she knew. As far as they knew, their father had never been saved. He was a good father, however, who loved his little family. Mother always had worship with the children but as yet neither had given his heart to the Lord. It grieved her for there was no church near enough to go to that she knew of. That was the only

thing she really missed since leaving the city.

When the children arrived at school on this particular morning there was much excitement on the playground. Two ranchers had been raided during the night and one rancher was badly injured. Evidently the sheep had been loaded into a large truck for the tracks were plainly visible in the soft earth. One of the neighbors had trailed them as far as the highway but lost them due to the traffic. Juan immediately thought of his own father all alone on the mountain. Would they dare to come that far from the road? He knew his father wouldn't give up the sheep without a fight. Juan could scarcely keep his mind on his lessons all day. On the way home that evening he talked to Carla about it but she wasn't too concerned. Their mountain was a long ways from the highway. How could they get a big truck back there through those narrow paths? Surely someone would find them before they could load the sheep and get away. Juan wasn't too sure that they wouldn't find a way for the price of sheep was especially good right now. Those raiders would never stop if there was a chance at all. Besides, the sheep his father herded were known to be the best flock in the entire community.

Mother was busy getting a garden plot out back of the cabin ready to plant when the children got home. Juan and Carla took care of the milk cows, then went to help their mother get supper ready for father usually came in at six o'clock sharp and was always hungry. They wanted everything ready when he came.

Supper was ready, but where was father? He was always here by this time. Surely he wasn't trying to bring

the sheep into the shelter back of the cabin by himself. Juan always went out after supper to help him bring the sheep in. They liked to graze in a little valley a short distance down the trail before being penned in for the night. Little Mike was fed and was soon asleep on the rug by the fireplace but father wasn't in sight yet. Juan felt he ought to tell his mother about the raids but Carla didn't want to worry her. Seven o'clock came and everything was very quiet, not a sound anywhere. Mother went to the other room and kneeling by the bed called on God for help.

"Heavenly Father, you know where Big Juan is and why he is late. Oh, God, we need your help. Please take care of him. I am your child but he isn't saved. Speak to his heart another time, dear Lord, give him another chance. And dear Lord, help our children to see their need of a Saviour. They are lost, too. I am putting all in your hands. Don't let the enemy discourage me in any way. Keep us safe from all harm. Amen."

(What has happened to Father? Be sure to read next week's paper to find out.)

When To Say No

Though "No" is a very little word, it is not always easy to say it; and not doing so often causes trouble.

When we are asked to stay away from school, and spend in idleness or mischief the time which ought to be spent in study, we should at once say, "No."

When we are urged to loiter on our way to school, and thus be late, and interrupt our teacher and the school, we should say, "No." When some schoolmate wishes us to whisper or

play in the schoolroom, we should say, "No."

When we are tempted to use angry or wicked words, we should remember that the eye of God is always upon us, and should say, "No."

When we have done anything wrong and are tempted to conceal it by falsehood, we should say, "No, we cannot tell a lie; it is wicked and cowardly."

If we are asked to do anything which we know to be wrong, we should not fear to say, "No."

If we thus learn to say, "No" we shall avoid much trouble, and be safe always. —Selected

GOD'S DELAYS

God's delays are not denials,

You will find Him true—
Working through life's darkest trials
What is best for you.

Dear Boys and Girls:—

You are precious in the sight of the Lord. Jesus proved his love for you when he died on the cross. Never feel that you do not have a friend. Jesus is your friend. When we live for God and give ourselves to Him, then we belong to Him. He can do as He pleases with those who belong to him. Don't you do as you please with what is yours? If you want to take your hands and scrub them with water, you do that. If you want to use them to do some kind deed, you do that. Well, when we belong to God he can use us to do kind deeds and he can use us to do things that might bring hardships upon us. "For we are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's." (1 Cor. 6:20)

Paul and Silas had given themselves to God. They did not belong to themselves. They went where God told them to go as we learned in last Sunday's lesson. God used them for one purpose and that was to help souls know about Jesus and how to get to heaven. Sometimes people would believe this message by just being told. Others would not believe it unless they saw someone who believed it so strongly that they were willing to suffer rather than give it up. Paul and Silas were so convinced that Jesus would save from sin and when they died, if they lived faithful to Him, he would take them to heaven, that they would suffer at the hands of wicked men rather than turn Jesus down and lose their home in heaven. In our lesson today we read how they suffered for God's sake. They loved the souls of men and were convinced that God would take care of them and give them help to bear up under suffering. They boldly obeyed God and let him work through them. If a person, through his suffering, can help just one soul get to heaven and miss an eternity of torment in hell, it is worth it.

If Paul and Silas had not been willing to suffer for God they would not have received such a wonderful deliverance from jail. As they sang praises to God in the night for the privilege of suffering for Him, God sent an earthquake and opened the jail. The jailer saw it all and he cried out, "What must I do to be saved?" They said to him, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house." The jailer believed and that same night he was baptized. He took Paul and Silas to his house and gave them something to eat. Wasn't that wonderful? There are a lot of adventures in serving God. Boys and girls, don't be afraid to suffer a little for Jesus. If you will suffer

with love in your heart for God, right through the suffering you will receive a great blessing. Aunt Marie

Lesson 5, July 30, 1967

PAUL AND SILAS SUFFER FOR GOD

Acts 16:12b-23

Acts 16:12b And we were in that city abiding certain days.

13 And on the sabbath we went out of the city by a river side, where prayer was wont to be made; and we sat down, and spake unto the women which resorted thither.

14 And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, which worshipped God, heard us: whose heart the Lord opened, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul.

15 And when she was baptized, and her household, she besought us, saying, If ye have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house, and abide there. And she constrained us.

16 And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed with a spirit of divination met us, which brought her masters much gain by soothsaying:

17 The same followed Paul and us, and cried, saying, These men are the servants of the most high God, which shew unto us the way of salvation.

18 And this did she many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit, I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her. And he came out the same hour.

19 And when her masters saw that the hope of their gains were gone, they

caught Paul and Silas, and drew them into the marketplace unto the rulers,

20 And brought them to the magistrates, saying, These men, being Jews, do exceedingly trouble our city,

21 And teach customs, which are not lawful for us to receive, neither to observe, being Romans.

22 And the multitude rose up together against them: and the magistrates rent off their clothes, and commanded to beat them.

23 And when they had laid many stripes upon them, they cast them into prison, charging the jailer to keep them safely:

Memory Verse: Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house. Acts 16:31.

Central Thought: Don't be afraid to suffer for Jesus. You will receive a blessing.

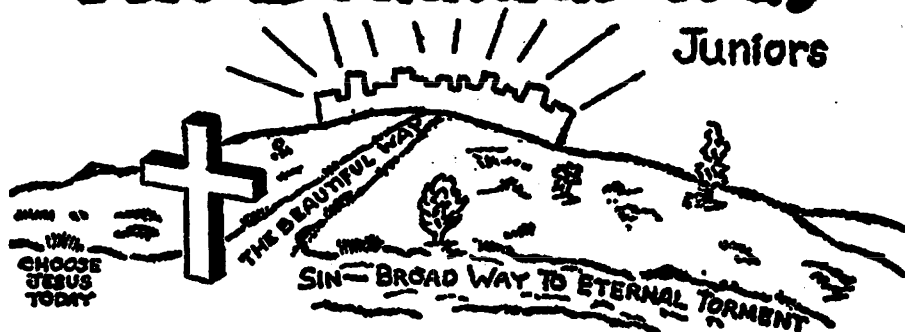
QUESTIONS:

1. In our lesson, where was the place where "prayer was wont to be made?"
2. What woman, with others, listened to Paul and Silas preach?
3. Who wanted Paul and Silas to stay at her house?
4. What did the devil say, through the damsel, about Paul and Silas?
5. How did Paul take it?
6. Did the damsel's masters rejoice that she had been delivered?
7. What did the multitude do? What were the results?
8. Why were Paul and Silas willing to suffer?
9. Will we be blessed if we suffer for Jesus' sake?

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Part Six

Aug. 6

The Shepherd and His Family

(Continued from last week's paper.)

Carla and Juan went to the front of the cabin trying to see if there was any movement on the mountain path where their father had to come. Everything was hushed, even the night birds and animals were quiet for once. Something must be going to happen. All at once Juan noticed a faint little light somewhere. First it moved, then seemed to vanish.

"Mother," said Juan, "I have something to tell you, but don't get too frightened." Then he told her about the raids on the neighboring ranches and of his own fears, also about the light he had seen.

"Mother, may Carla and I go up the path toward the pasture where Father keeps the sheep? Maybe Father is injured. Surely he wouldn't stay away unless something was wrong. It is really dark, now. Please, Mother, may we? We'll be careful and if we hear or see anything we'll come back as quickly as we can."

Mother looked at them, then up toward heaven and Juan could see her lips moving in silent prayer. Then she looked at him and Carla.

"Somehow, Juan, I believe God wants me to let you go, but please be very careful."

Juan and Carla ran to get heavy wraps for the night air was getting quite cold. Bundled up, they ran for the path. They knew it even in the dark, but Juan wished they had brought a flashlight. They might pass their father and never see him. The moon would soon be up high enough to see by but it was dark now.

Carla had never been very brave and now she began to be afraid. What her mother had said about them being lost worried her.

"Juan," Carla turned to him in the dark. "What if someone is up there and they should catch us? We are not saved, Juan, we would be lost for sure. Do you think God would hear us if we prayed now?" And Carla began to cry.

"Carla, why do you talk like that? You will have me scared, too. We have never prayed, only at night or

when we have worship. I don't know if He would listen to us or not," and Juan sounded like he was getting a little worried, too. Carla thought for a minute, then said, "Juan, God must be talking to me now for I feel so lost and alone. Remember the lies we told Mother that day we were late for school? And I have been so hateful and mean when Mother asked me to mind Mike for her. I know that I am a terrible sinner, Juan, I am lost. What shall I do? Will you pray with me?"

By this time Carla was sobbing as if her heart would break. Juan became really concerned for his sister. Wasn't she his best pal? If she was lost, so was he. All at once he realized that he was a sinner, too, and if they should die out here they would both be lost forever. If Mother were only here, she would know what to do. By this time Carla was crying out loud. "Juan, please, will you pray with me? I want to get saved now, and live like Mother. Let us kneel down right here," and Carla pulled Juan down beside her. There in the dark they cried out to God for the forgiveness of their sins. Their father and the sheep were forgotten as they sobbed and called upon God. And God who is always waiting for His children to come home did not disappoint them. In 1 John He says, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." In just a few minutes they arose with shining faces, happy in the knowledge of sins forgiven. Then they knelt and asked God to take care of their father and help them to find him and the sheep. Hand in hand they went on up the path looking and listening. Before long they came to a small

stream where the sheep often drank on their way home. Just beyond this stream they saw two small lambs standing near the path acting as if they were lost. "Father must be close by for these lambs are very young," said Juan. "They couldn't have traveled far by themselves." Hearing a noise back of some bushes, they went to see what it was. By this time the moon was up high enough for them to see faintly. There lay their father, moaning. Both children knelt by his side trying to examine him and find out where he was hurt. In a moment he began to rally some and tried to answer them but was unable to keep his thoughts together.

"What happened, Father? Where are the sheep?" Juan asked.

Finally his father looked up and said, "What time is it?"

"Almost eight o'clock, now," Juan said.

"Juan, I remember now. There is no time to lose. Will you go over the mountain to Mr. Jacobs? Tell him to get help and stop a big truck when it comes to the highway. They have taken all of the sheep but a few little lambs and they have only been gone a few minutes for I looked at my watch. They were chasing me when I fell. They will have to travel slowly with such a heavy load and it is a long ways around the mountain by the road. You take the short-cut, and you should beat them by several minutes."

Juan took off on a run. He had only been on that path once before but felt the Lord would help him.

"Carla, you run back to the cabin and tell Mother to get someone to help me. I'm sure my leg is broken, and I have injuries to my head. I

fell in a hole and the thieves ran back to get the truck and got away. I tried to fight them off, but there were too many for me. Run, Carla, don't be afraid. I'll be all right until you get help."

Carla sped down the path as if on wings. It was all downhill so she could go fast. When she was within calling distance of the cabin she could see Mother in the doorway waiting and watching. Mother called the nearest neighbors to go after the injured man.

(Be sure to read next week's paper to find out what has happened.)

"He was called Jesus of Nazareth, . . . who went about doing good."

Here in the United States we are a favored people. Do you take time to thank God for our blessings? In some parts of the world the people do not have enough food, clothing, or the comforts of life.

Dear Boys and Girls:—

Have you ordered the book, "Bible Chain of Truth"? I want each of you to save your money so you can have one of these books. We are selling them at a low price so you can have one of your very own. It has a lot of Bible truth in it that you will want to know. You will want to read it again as you grow older and have more questions about what the Bible teaches on different subjects. There are some things you won't understand now, but as you grow older you will understand more and more. But you will still learn a lot from reading the book now. It was written for you and others. Make a Bible chain with Dale and Darlene who are the children in this book.

One day as Paul was standing on Mars' hill in the city of Athens among

the idols of those people, he saw an altar with some writing on it. It said, "To the Unknown God." That made Paul feel good to think that perhaps he could get the people to listen to him as he told them of their unknown God. He told them he knew this God who was unknown to them. They were ready to listen.

"I know about the God that you ignorantly worship," Paul said. "God made the world and everything in it. God is the Lord of heaven and earth. He is so big and great that you could not build a temple or place big enough for all of Him to dwell in. You cannot shut him up in one place, neither is he worshipped with men's hands. You did not give anything to Him but He has given all things to you. He is the One who gave you life, breath, and all things. God has made of one blood all nations of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and he has permitted certain families and nations to dwell in certain places. Although God is great and fills the whole earth (Jer. 23:24), yet if you will seek after him you can find him because he is not far from any of us. God is the source of our happiness. God has given us our very existence. God gives you your life. You couldn't even move if God didn't give you strength. God has made us and given us this body. God is real. We are God's offspring. Now, since we are the offspring of God we should not think that the Godhead is like gold, silver, stones, or anything man can make. There is a day coming when God will judge all of you by Jesus Christ whom he raised from the dead."

That was a great sermon preached by Paul. He preached a great truth. Boys and girls, God is alive. He lives and we must never think any other thought about God. Don't believe those who do not know God and would tell you that

He is dead. We see the things he made about us but through Jesus Christ we see him by reading those writings in the Bible about him. Jesus is "the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person" (Heb. 1:3). —Aunt Marie

Lesson 6, August 6, 1967

THE ONE TRUE GOD

Acts 17:22-31

Acts 17:22 Then Paul stood in the midst of Mars' Hill, and said, Ye men of Athens, I perceive that in all things ye are too superstitious,

23 For as I passed by, and beheld your devotions, I found an altar with this inscription, TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship, him declare I unto you.

24 God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands;

25 Neither is worshipped with man's hands, as though he needed anything, seeing he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things;

26 And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation;

27 That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us;

28 For in him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also his offspring.

29 Forasmuch then as we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Godhead is like unto gold, or silver, or stone, graven by art and man's device.

30 And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men everywhere to repent:

31 Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.

Memory Verse: God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands; Acts 17:24.

Central Thought: The thing that we love more than God is our idol and God is unknown to us as being real in our heart and life.

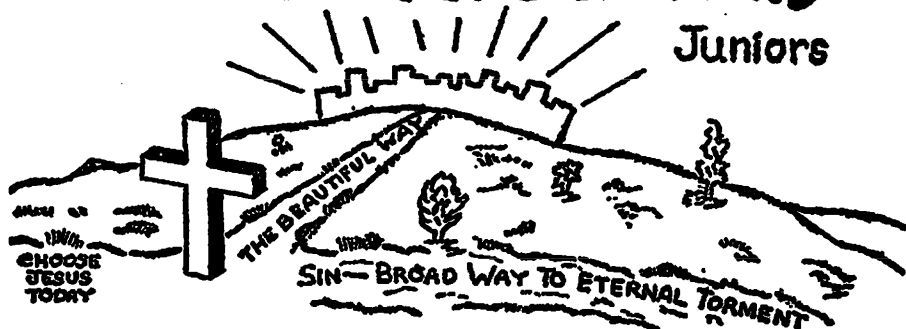
QUESTIONS:

1. What altar of the people of Athens did Paul especially notice?
2. Can you name some idols that people have in the world today?
3. How has God become unknown to many people today?
4. Is God worshipped with "men's hands"?
5. Through whose blood are we all made brothers?
6. Who helps us to live, breathe, and move?
7. What is the Godhead?
8. Through whom will God judge the world?

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 18, No. 3

July, Aug., Sept., 1967

Part Seven

Aug. 13

The Shepherd and His Family

(Continued from last week's paper.)

In the meantime Juan was speeding over the almost overgrown trail to Mr. Jacobs'. Once or twice he was sure he had lost the trail, but soon found it again. He could hear the truck as it labored to go over the rough mountain path scarcely wide enough for a wagon. He ran as he'd never run before, unmindful of the deep scratches he was getting from the briars along the way. His breath came in great gasps. The Jacobs family was almost ready for bed when he arrived but as soon as Juan had stated his errand they called the neighbors for help. There was only one trail the truck could take to get to the road, and it came out on the highway a short distance north of the Jacobs' farm. Logs were hurriedly loaded on a small truck and taken to this trail. The men rolled them off and stacked them across the end of the trail where the truck would have to stop and remove the logs before

it could go on. The sheriff had been called and came just as the last log was put in place. Then every man hid in the dense brush and waited. In a very short time the big truck could be heard coming slowly, without lights. As soon as it stopped to have the logs removed, the sheriff called for them to halt. Three men were in the truck and all were soon under arrest. Juan was taken home by a neighbor, while some of the others drove the truck load of sheep home and penned them up.

When they arrived, the neighbors were just ready to leave. "Father," cried Juan as he rushed into the cabin. "The sheep are all safe and the men have been taken to jail. And, Father, we must thank God for helping us catch those men and for bringing you safely home and for saving Carla and me. Mother, did Carla tell you we are both saved now?" "Yes, Son," said Mother as she caught him in her arms and held him tight. "Carla told me and it made me very happy even though I was worried about your father. Now, Juan, you and Carla

run on to bed. You have had enough excitement for one evening."

"Juan," called Father from the bedroom, "don't go to bed until you pray for me. Mother, bring Carla, too, and let us pray together. After all God has done for me tonight I can do no less than give my heart and life to Him. I've been putting it off for a long time. God has been talking to me but I was too stubborn to listen. My family are all saved and I am still out in the cold. Please pray with me that God will forgive me, too." They all knelt around his bed, pleading and calling on God to save him and give him the peace they were enjoying now.

A short time later a happy family retired for the night, secure in the fact that all were saved and ready to meet the Lord any time He should call for them. God, in His loving mercy, reached down and healed their father in such a short time that it was unbelievable. The neighborhood was stirred for miles around. Their father was soon back on the mountain herding the sheep. He could be heard singing the praises of God as he worked.

—Iva Brenner

Be Honest

James was a good worker in the store. He ran errands for Mr. Hedge and swept out the place. He would stack the canned goods neatly on the shelves. One day Mr. Hedge told James to help himself to the candy on the shelf. James did that and he thanked Mr. Hedge. He didn't very often take candy but as time went on he took more and more candy. He knew that Mr. Hedge didn't mind if he did it once in a while but he began to be careful that Mr. Hedge was not

looking and nearly every time he went by the candy he would take a helping of it.

There was a meeting at the chapel and James saw that he needed to be saved. He wanted to be ready when Jesus called for him. He went to the altar and got saved. He asked Jesus to forgive him of his sins and he was happy that night when he lay down upon his bed. He knew that if Jesus called for him during his sleep that he would be ready to go. That was such a good feeling. He surely loved Jesus.

The preacher had said that if a person had done wrong by taking things that didn't belong to him, it should be made right. James thought about all that candy he had been taking. He knew he had not done right by taking so much of it. He felt sorry about it and he asked Jesus to help him make it right. The devil also talked to James. He told him that Mr. Hedge would not let him work in the store any more. James prayed and was willing to give up the job if necessary in order to make his wrongs right.

When James went to work one day he told Mr. Hedge that he wanted to talk to him. Mr. Hedge looked at James and saw tears in his eyes. He took him by the arm and said, "Let us go back in the feed room." When they got there James just let the tears fall. Then he asked him to forgive him for taking so much candy. He confessed to being saved and that Jesus had forgiven his sins. He offered him some money to pay for the candy. Mr. Hedge was surprised. He was not a saved man and he himself sometimes did wrong things. It brought to his mind those things and he stood there, trembling. Mr. Hedge

knew he needed Jesus, also. Finally with tears in his eyes he told James to forget about paying. James insisted that he take the money but Mr. Hedge would not take it. He put his arms around James' shoulder and told him that he would let him work extra hours to pay for the candy. James felt good about that. Mr. Hedge was nicer than he had ever been before to James. He knew he had an honest boy working for him.

Boys and girls, it pays to be honest. God will bless us if we will give our hearts to him and do that which is right. It will also help others to want to do right. —Marie Miles

The Robin and the Sparrow

Said the Robin to the Sparrow,
"I should really like to know
Why these anxious human beings
Rush about and worry so?"

Said the Sparrow to the Robin,
"Friend, I think that it must be,
That they have no heavenly Father
Such as cares for you and me."

Dear Boys and Girls:—

I trust that you have been able to follow the journeyings of Paul and Silas on a map. It would make it easier for you to know just where they had been and where they were going.

In the first verse of our lesson it tells us that "after this" which means that after Paul left Athens, he went to Corinth. At Corinth he spent over a year teaching God's Word to the Jews. Paul wanted his people to accept Jesus as their Saviour. Even if they mistreated him he continued in every city to teach them as long as they would let him. Finally, after some trouble there, he

sailed to Antioch of Syria. He took with him Priscilla and Aquila.

Aquila had lived in Rome and was a native of Pontus. When Paul lived in Corinth he lived with Aquila and Priscilla because they were tent makers and so was he.

Paul left Aquila and Priscilla at Ephesus after he had reasoned there with the Jews that Jesus was the Christ. They still did not want to accept Jesus even though he had risen from the dead and ascended to heaven. Those who believed wanted Paul to stay longer at Ephesus but he wanted to go to Jerusalem and be there for the feast. He promised them that he would return later which he did. He landed at Caesarea and then went on to Antioch. He then visited the churches in Galatia and Phrygia. He wanted to encourage all he met to be faithful to the Lord. What a wonderful mission he had from God! We each one should be a faithful servant of God and be able to encourage others to love Him.

During this time Aquila and Priscilla were working for God in Ephesus. A man came there whose name was Apollos. He was a well-educated Jew and knew the Scriptures. He only knew of the teachings of John's baptism. We don't know how much he knew about Jesus but it seemed very little. Probably he knew nothing of the Holy Spirit and His work. But Apollos loved God and loved his ways. He was very eager to help others love God, also. When Aquila and Priscilla heard him they took him aside and told him about the Scriptures being fulfilled and instructed him about Jesus' baptism and the coming of the Holy Ghost. He accepted it and rejoiced in it. Later he left and Aquila and Priscilla wrote the brethren in Achaia to receive him. He boldly declared that Jesus was truly the Christ.

Boys and girls, there must be a will-

ingness in our hearts also to listen to God-sent ministers who explain to us the Scriptures. You should have an open heart to all that God teaches. Love the Bible and desire to know more about God. Be willing to live up to what you are taught and God will bless you.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 7, August 13, 1967

PARTNERS IN THE GOSPEL

Acts 18:18-28

Acts 18:18 And Paul after this tarried there yet a good while, and then took his leave of the brethren, and sailed thence into Syria, and with him Priscilla and Aquila; having shorn his head in Cenchrea: for he had a vow.

19 And he came to Ephesus, and left them there: but he himself entered into the synagogue, and reasoned with the Jews.

20 When they desired him to tarry longer time with them, he consented not;

21 But bade them farewell, saying, I must by all means keep this feast that cometh in Jerusalem: but I will return again unto you, if God will. And he sailed from Ephesus.

22 And when he had landed at Caesarea, and gone up, and saluted the church, he went down to Antioch.

23 And after he had spent some time there, he departed, and went over all the country of Galatia and Phrygia in order, strengthening all the disciples.

24 And a certain Jew named Apollos, born at Alexandria, an eloquent man, and mighty in the scriptures, came to Ephesus.

25 This man was instructed in the

way of the Lord; and being fervent in the spirit, he spake and taught diligently the things of the Lord, knowing only the baptism of John.

26 And he began to speak boldly in the synagogue: whom when Aquila and Priscilla had heard, they took him unto them, and expounded unto him the way of God more perfectly.

27 And when he was disposed to pass into Achaia, the brethren wrote, exhorting the disciples to receive him: who, when he was come, helped them much which had believed through grace:

28 For he mightily convinced the Jews, and that publicly, shewing by the scriptures that Jesus was Christ.

Memory Verse: I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase. So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase. 1 Cor. 3:6, 7.

Central Thought: We should be willing to learn more about God.

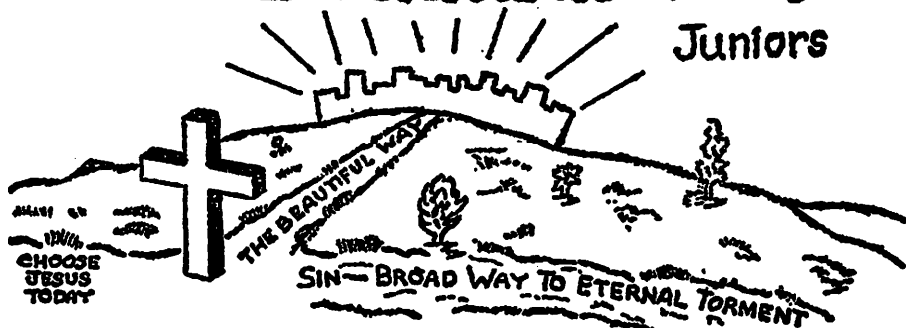
QUESTIONS:

1. Whom did Paul take with him when he sailed to Ephesus?
2. Did Paul preach at Ephesus?
3. Why did Paul want to go to Jerusalem?
4. What two places did Paul stop at to strengthen the brethren?
5. What was Apollos like? Did he love God?
6. What baptism did he know about?
7. What did Aquila and Priscilla teach him?
8. Did he accept what they told him?
9. How did he preach later?

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Part Eight

Aug. 20

Settled at the Altar

Loud, angry words were coming from their parents' room again tonight as usual. Nancy and Carl put their fingers in their ears, trying to shut out the sound. It was almost ten o'clock on a Tuesday night. Both children had been sent to bed early, but it was impossible to go to sleep with all that noise going on. Nancy finally got out of bed and went across the hall to Carl's room.

"Carl, why do Mommy and Daddy have to fight every night? Why can't they be like Beth's Mommy and Daddy? They always talk nice to each other." Nancy wiped the tears from her eyes with the back of her hand. Carl sat up in bed and thought for a minute. "Maybe Beth's Mommy and Daddy are good while you are there, but I suspect they fight, too, after you leave."

"No, they don't," said Nancy, "Beth said they never fuss at all, and I believe her 'cause she goes to Sunday School and she never fibs to me."

"What difference does that make?"

retorted Carl. "Jimmy and Joe go to Sunday School but they are always picking a fight with someone. I don't see where they are any better than we are."

"Yes, I know they fight," said Nancy, "but they are not 'saved', or whatever it is you call it. I think they just go because they have to. I wish we could go to Sunday School. Beth says her Mommy and Daddy are saved. I wish our Mommy and Daddy would get saved, too, if it would keep them from fighting. I wish we didn't have to listen to them fuss every night. It makes me afraid and I can't go to sleep. Doesn't it scare you, too, Carl? What if Daddy really leaves like he says he is going to? What would we do?" And Nancy began to cry in earnest. Carl tried awkwardly to comfort her. "Aw, Sis, quit worrying; he hasn't left yet, and I guess he won't. Go back to bed and cover up your head like I do and you won't hear them," and Carl proceeded to do just that.

Nancy turned toward the door, then stopped, and said, "Sometimes I

feel like running away. I guess they would be sorry then. Beth said she was going to pray that we could go to Sunday School next Sunday. She said her Mommy and Daddy went to the altar and got saved. Wish I could go to the altar and pray for our Mommy and Daddy. Maybe I will, but I might have to miss school. Beth said the altar is up in front of the church close to where the preacher is."

Carl scarcely heard all she said for he was almost asleep before she left the room. Nancy went back to bed but she still couldn't go to sleep. Her parents had quieted down at last but Nancy knew the same thing would happen again tomorrow night. At last she got out of bed again and went to look out of the window. The moon was shining brightly and she could almost see the steeple of the church above the houses, although it was several blocks away.

Mary and Tom Dawson hadn't always quarreled, but each year they seemed to be getting farther apart. Tom left for work early and seldom got home in time for supper anymore. When they were together they never could agree on anything. One word led to another and almost before they realized it they were shouting at each other, never realizing what they were doing to their children, as well as to each other. Many days the children never saw their father at all for they were in bed when he got home, but his voice would be heard.

Wednesday morning Mary went to Nancy's room to awaken her and the room was empty. She hurried across the hall to Carl's room, thinking she might have become fearful in the night and gone into his room. "Where is Nancy?" she asked as she stood in the doorway and saw that her little

daughter was not there. Carl yawned and turned over. "Guess she is still in bed, Mom, I haven't seen her."

"No, Carl, she isn't in her room unless she is hiding, for I looked there first. I thought surely she must have come in here. Where can she be?" Mother went back to look again but there was no sign of Nancy. All at once Carl remembered something she had said last night. "Mom, maybe she has run away. She said last night that she felt like it."

"Oh, no! my baby surely wouldn't do that! Why should she? Carl, you don't know something you are not telling me, do you?" and Mom began to cry.

Nancy's bed was empty and she could not be found in the house. Mom asked Carl where Nancy was. He told her how fearful Nancy had been the night before and how she said she might go, but she would have to miss school. She was afraid Daddy might leave home. She said she wanted to go to church and Sunday School. He also told what Nancy said about Beth's parents never quarreling.

"Nancy said all of that?" cried her mother. Carl nodded, feeling sorry for his mother. Mommy, Nancy must have left real early while it was still dark. I wish Daddy were at home, maybe he could find her." His mother went to the phone and called him at once. Carl heard her telling him to come home and perhaps he had better call the police.

"Carl, you hurry and get dressed and go to all the neighbors. See if they have seen her this morning. I want my baby back. What have I done to my children?" Mother went to her room to get ready to go out, with tears streaming down her cheeks.

Carl went from house to house but

no one had seen her since yesterday. When he got back, his dad was there.

"Tom," Mommy was saying, "What are we going to do? I am so terribly worried. Carl told me how fearful Nancy was last night. I never realized what I was doing to our children. Tom, I've been wrong all along. Everything is my fault. Can you forgive me?"

"Mary, we are both to blame. Let us find our baby and then we'll talk things over."

(Where is Nancy? Find out in next week's paper.)

Remember that we are made in God's image. We have feelings. God has feelings also and suffers when we turn against him.

Dear Boys and Girls:—

Did you ever hear someone say of another who played a game well that he cheated when he really did not? That person knew the other one had not cheated, but he was jealous and didn't want to let the others who were playing know that. So he brought up something else just so they could talk about the other person and try to hurt him. Is it right to do this?

In our lesson Demetrius knew that it might not work so well for him to make a direct attack on Paul whose preaching about the true God had caused some of the silver shrine-makers to lose some of their business. He decided he would cover up his real purpose in being against Paul and get the people stirred up by praising their idol called Diana. After Demetrius and his fellow shrine-makers talked it over and acknowledged that Paul had persuaded and turned away many people from idol worship and that their business was in danger,

they started out and cried in the street, "Great is Diana of the Ephesians." Others joined them and a great mob-spirit gripped the city. Some cried one thing and some another. It was a big confusion and for two hours the shouts and cries of the mob in the theatre continued. The angry mob took Gaius and Aristarchus into the theatre, also. Paul wanted to go in, but the disciples would not let him. None of them had done anything unlawful.

Finally the townclerk got the mob to listen to him. He told them that all men knew that the Ephesians worshipped Diana. Her image, which was in the great and beautiful temple, had fallen down to them from Jupiter, he said. Then the townclerk said that these men whom they rashly brought in the theatre had not been robbers of churches, nor yet blasphemers of their goddess, Diana. They did not have anything against them that was true. He said that if Demetrius and his craftsmen had something against them, the law was open and they should make their plea before the deputies. The town of Ephesus might be called in question for their uproar that day, he told them. He then dismissed the assembly.

Demetrius might have persuaded some of the followers of Diana not to turn away by his uproar, but Paul was able to gain enough believers to establish a Church of God in Ephesus. It continued to grow. Paul wrote the book in the New Testament called Ephesians, to the church. We find many good instructions in it for us yet today. So it was not a lost cause for which Paul and the brethren who were with him stood.

When we stand for right, even though we might have evil things said about us, it won't be lost. God will take care of us and the truth. Don't be afraid to stand for the truth. —Aunt Marie.

Lesson 8, August 20, 1967

PAUL AT EPHESUS

Acts 19:23-28, 35-39

Acts 19:23 And the same time there arose no small stir about that way.

24 For a certain man named Demetrius, a silversmith, which made silver shrines for Diana, brought no small gain unto the craftsmen;

25 Whom he called together with the workmen of like occupation, and said, Sirs, ye know that by the same craft we have our wealth.

26 Moreover ye see and hear, that not alone at Ephesus, but almost throughout all Asia, this Paul hath persuaded and turned away much people, saying that they be no gods, which are made with hands:

27 So that not only this our craft is in danger to be set at nought; but also that the temple of the great goddess Diana should be despised and her magnificence should be destroyed, whom all Asia and the world worshippeth.

28 And when they heard these sayings, they were full of wrath and cried out, saying, Great is Diana of the Ephesians.

35 And when the townclerk had appeased the people, he said, Ye men of Ephesus, what man is there that knoweth not how that the city of the Ephesians is a worshipper of the great goddess Diana, and of the image which fell down from Jupiter:

36 Seeing then that these things cannot be spoken against, ye ought to be quiet, and to do nothing rashly.

37 For ye have brought hither these men, which are neither robbers of

churches, nor yet blasphemers of your goddess.

38 Wherefore if Demetrius, and the craftsmen which are with him, have a matter against any man, the law is open, and there are deputies: let them implead one another.

39 But if ye enquire any thing concerning others matters, it shall be determined in a lawful assembly.

Memory Verse: No man 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. Matt. 6:24.

Central Thought: People who are in error do not like to hear the truth and will resist it.

QUESTIONS:

1. Read Acts 19:17-20 preceding our lesson and find out what has happened in Ephesus.

2. Why did this cause a stir in Ephesus?

3. What did the silver shrine-makers decide to do about the many people who were turning away from idol worship?

4. Whom did they take into the theatre with them?

5. How long did they shout, cry, and cause confusion in the city?

6. How did the townclerk control the people and stop the confusion?

7. Was there a church of God established in Ephesus?

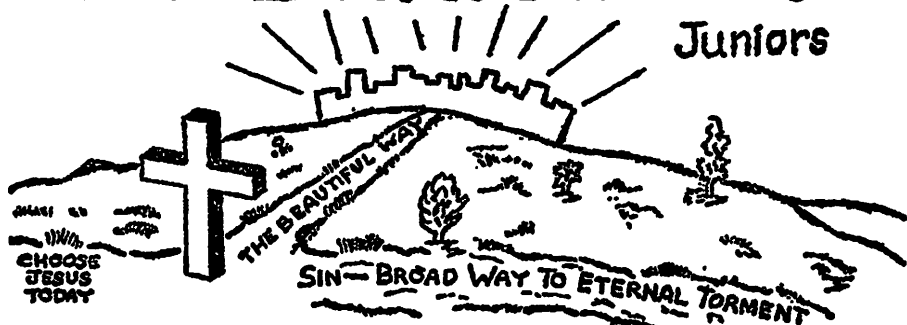
8. Why does the truth disturb error?

9. Should we avoid trouble by agreeing with wrong?

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Part Nine

Aug. 27

Settled at the Altar

(Continued from last week's paper.)

That evening the three were together in the kitchen. None of them wanted a bite to eat. No trace of Nancy had been found though they had searched all day. The police were still out hunting. They had gone over the entire town and the country round about. Several thought she might have been kidnapped, but her window was locked from the inside. Tom Dawson walked the floor and Mary sat crying. Some of the neighbors had just left, so they were now alone.

"If there were only something we could do," said Tom. "I can't bear to think of our darling out alone somewhere. Surely she hasn't been kidnapped. Where can we go that we haven't already been?"

Carl suddenly remembered something Nancy had said the night before about going to church. She was wishing she could go to the altar and pray for her mommy and daddy. Could she have gone there?

"Daddy, I would like to go to the

church. Nancy said last night that she wanted to go there and pray for you and Mom. I just now remembered about it. Do you think she might have gone there?" and Carl looked anxiously at his parents.

"Oh, surely not," replied Dad. "If she did, surely she wouldn't stay this long. Besides, I expect the church is kept locked up."

"Maybe so, Dad, but I would like to go and see, anyway. Can't I, Dad?" Carl was about ready to cry. "Can't I please?"

"Carl, you know that the preacher has likely been there and I suspect the police searched there the first thing. Nancy has been gone since last night or early this morning. Where could she be all this time?"

"Dad, please, may I go see? I won't stay long," said Carl, wiping his eyes.

"If you feel it is that important, we shall all go," said his dad. "It will give us something to do instead of just waiting. This waiting is about to get me down."

Carl and his parents decided to

search in the church for Nancy. It wasn't far from where they lived, so they walked. The church was dark when they arrived, but there was a light in the pastor's study. They knocked on the door. The pastor was on his knees, praying for the safe return of the lost child. Opening the door, he found the family of the child standing there. They asked if they could look in the chapel for their little girl. The pastor told them the janitor had been in there cleaning and found no one, and besides, the police had been there earlier in the morning, looking for Nancy, but had not found her. However, the pastor said they were welcome to look, again.

"Whatever caused her to run away? Was she having trouble at school? I can't imagine a little girl leaving home unless there is a reason," said the kindly man.

Tom and Mary looked at each other, then both began talking, blaming themselves for their little daughter's unhappiness. They told him about their home life and how they hadn't been to church services for nearly twelve years, not since they were married. Carl ran ahead into the darkened church building and began to look around for his sister. Somehow he had a strange feeling that she was in there someplace. The light from the study made it light enough for him to find his way around. At the front of the chapel was a beautiful picture of John the Baptist, baptizing Jesus. The light behind it made it really stand out in the dark room. As he went closer to get a better view, he almost stumbled over something in the aisle by the altar. Looking down, there was Nancy curled up on the soft carpet asleep. Carl turned to call his parents who were still by

the door and he was so excited he couldn't make a sound. He ran to them and pointed to the altar, but they thought he wanted them to look at the beautiful picture. They started to him just as the preacher turned the light on. Tom ran and gathered his little daughter in his arms. Her eyes were red and swollen from crying but there was a smile on her lips.

"Why did you do it, honey?" asked Tom. "Mom and I have been nearly out of our minds. If Carl hadn't insisted we come here, we wouldn't have found you tonight. Where have you been all day?"

"Daddy, I was praying for you and Mommy. And, Daddy, you know what, Jesus saved me while I was praying. I have waited a long time for you to come."

"But darling, how did you know we were coming? We didn't even know where you were. You didn't tell us you were leaving."

"Daddy, Beth said we could pray and ask Jesus anything and He would answer us. You and Mommy won't go to Sunday School, so I had to come here. I was afraid Mommy wouldn't let me, so I slipped out and came here while it was still dark. I asked Jesus to bring you here, too."

"But Nancy, where were you when the police were here, looking for you? They have hunted all over this town and were here in the chapel. Where were you all this time?"

"Well, Daddy, I left home when I heard your alarm go off. I was already dressed and I slipped out while you were dressing. The door was locked when I got here so I hid in those bushes over there in front. I must have gone to sleep 'cause I didn't see the police. I lay there for a long time, and, Daddy, I got awfully hun-

gry. I was afraid to come out because there were a lot of people passing and I didn't want them to see me. I wanted to go to the altar and pray. Daddy, I was afraid you might leave us, and we wouldn't have any daddy. Then I would be like a little girl in my room at school. She doesn't have any daddy. After a long time I saw a man come up the steps and open the door. He didn't shut it, so I waited until I couldn't hear him anymore, then I slipped out and went in, too. He almost found me once, so I had to hide until he left. When he left, I came up here to see the picture and to pray at the altar. I didn't mean to go to sleep. I was so tired and it was so still in here."

(Be sure to read next week's paper

HOW DOES YOUR HAT LOOK?

Steve wanted to behave in church, but Teresa made it hard for him. Teresa sat quietly and listened to the preaching and singing but she was wearing a hat with a face on it, and pigtailed hanging from it. She was sitting right in front of Steve. It made him want to pull the pigtailed and touch the face. That day Steve almost forgot he was in church till he saw his Sunday school teacher looking at him. So, girls, if that's the only kind of a hat you have, don't wear it.

Dear Boys and Girls:—

It means something to be ready to die. You can say that you don't want to die, but dear ones, each of us will die some day. That is a fact and you hear of people dying nearly every day. One little girl asked her mother at what ages people died. Her mother gave her a

ball of string and told her to go to the graveyard and measure the graves. She told her to put a knot in her string to indicate the size of each grave. When she came home, the string had many knots in it, with all different lengths measured off. Her mother told her that people die at all ages. But, boys and girls, we should always be ready to die.

I am sure that you want to be ready to die because you do not know when your time will come. Sometimes people die in their sleep, and many more die on the highways in accidents. But if you are ready to die, you need not be afraid of death.

Did you ever see the picture of Jesus standing at a door and knocking? That door represents the door to your heart. The Bible says, "Behold I stand at the door, and knock: if any man [or child] hear my voice, and open the door. I will come unto him, and will sup with him, and he with me. To him that overcome [the devil] will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I overcome [the devil] and am set down with my Father [God] in his throne." Rev. 3:20, 21. Jesus is standing now at the door of your heart and is knocking. He can't come into your heart unless you open the door and let him, for the handle to your heart's door is on the inside. Only you can open it. And of course, Jesus won't come into a heart that is full of sin. You must be willing to quit sinning and turn away from it. You must be willing to be truthful and not tell lies any more. You must overcome the devil. You must be sorry that you did anything that is wrong and be willing to quit. When you are sorry and hear Jesus knocking at your door, open the door and fall at his feet and tell him how sorry you are and ask him to forgive you. He will take you in his arms and come right into your heart and love you and

you will love him. Jesus will stay with you as long as you love him enough to think about him and do the right. Jesus wants to live with you but he will leave if you do wrong and not love him. A person who visits in your home would leave if you ignored her, wouldn't she? Love Jesus and obey him and then you will be ready to die and go to heaven and sit with him in his throne. Oh, how wonderful heaven is! We all desire to go there when we die, don't we?

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 9, August 27, 1967

PAUL IS READY TO DIE

Acts 21:7-14

Acts 21:7 And when we had finished our course from Tyre, we came to Ptolemais and saluted the brethren, and abode with them one day.

8 And the next day we that were of Paul's company departed, and came unto Caesarea: and we entered into the house of Philip the evangelist, which was one of the seven: and abode with him.

9 And the same man had four daughters, virgins, which did prophesy.

10 And as we tarried there many days, there came down from Judea a certain prophet, named Agabus.

11 And when he was come unto us, he took Paul's girdle, and bound his own hands and feet, and said, Thus saith the Holy Ghost, So shall the Jews at Jerusalem bind the man that owneth this girdle, and shall deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles.

12 And when we heard these things, both we, and they of that place, besought him not to go up to Jerusalem.

13 Then Paul answered, What mean ye to weep and to break mine heart? for I am ready not to be bound only, but also to die in Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus.

14 And when he would not be persuaded, we ceased, saying, The will of the Lord be done.

Memory Verse: Then Paul answered, What mean ye to weep and to break mine heart? for I am ready not to be bound only, but also to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus. Acts 21:13.

Central Thought: We have to get ready to die, while we are yet alive, if we want to go to heaven.

QUESTIONS:

1. What house did Paul go to in Caesarea?

2. What did the man's four daughters do?

3. Does prophesy mean the same as preach?

4. Did Peter say on the day of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit was poured out that the women would preach? (Acts 2:17, 18.)

5. What was the prophet's name who took Paul's girdle? (A gridle is a sash or belt used to draw the loose outer garments together at the waist.)

6. What did he tell Paul?

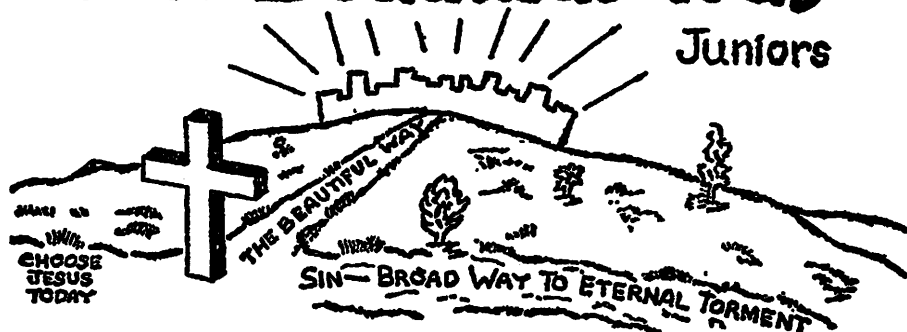
7. How can we be ready to die, even as Paul said he was?

8. What did the saints finally tell Paul when he insisted on going to Jerusalem?

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 18, No. 3

July, Aug., Sept., 1967

Part Ten

Sept. 3

Settled at the Altar

(Continued from last week's paper.)

By this time Mommy was down at the altar weeping out to God all her unhappiness and asking Him to forgive her many sins. In a few minutes Daddy was on his knees at Mommy's side, crying for God to save him. Carl didn't understand what it was all about. Why were Mom and Dad acting like that? Were they getting saved like Beth's Mom and Dad? If they were, it must be all right for they were in each other's arms laughing and crying while Nancy danced around them for joy. The police were soon called and informed that the runaway girl had been found, safe. The little family went home to a late supper really happy for the first time in several years. Tom and Nancy couldn't scold Nancy for running away, otherwise they might never have found God. Sometimes it takes a real calamity to awaken sinners to their need of a Saviour. It wasn't long until Carl sought and found the Lord. Every Sunday they could be

found in the house of God. Many times God has to allow sickness or even death to awaken the lost to their need of salvation. A family that prays together always stays together.

—Iva Brenner

The Lost Lamb

John and Mary lived in a tent in a little valley between two very high hills. They had a baby brother only a few months old. John was nine and Mary was seven. They didn't have beds to sleep in nor a table and chairs as children of today do. There was no radio; not even a stove in the tent. Mother cooked in a big kettle over an open fire outside the tent. They had to sleep on the ground. Mother made them soft beds out of dry grass and covered it with the skins of wild animals their daddy had caught. They spent most of their time running up and down the hills and playing in the great outdoors while Mother worked hard, trying to make them as comfortable as possible. Their father was a shepherd. He took care of Mr.

Rogers' sheep and in turn was paid a small salary and given enough ground to raise a small garden. Every morning their daddy left the tent before daylight and sometimes didn't get home until after dark. Mr. Rogers had told him that he would have to pay for any sheep that got lost or killed by wild animals if he failed to take proper care of them. So their daddy watched them very carefully. John and Mary had asked to go with him many times but he always said no, for he was afraid they might get lost or hurt. He felt they were too little. But one day they begged so hard that he said they might go the next day if they promised to mind and to stay close to him for he didn't have time to run after them. Mother fixed a lunch for them as, of course, they promised to mind him.

Early the next morning they followed Daddy and the sheep up the hill. The sun was making the sky red in the east as they climbed the hill. As they went along, the children noticed a pretty little creek down in the next valley, and John wondered if they might stop and play for a while.

Daddy said, "Yes, you may, if you will not go far for I am going to let the sheep rest and graze here awhile. They like to get a drink out of the creek."

The children ran as fast as they could to see which one could get his shoes off first and wade in the clear water. My, how good it felt to their tired little feet! Splash! went the water as it came to their knees. Daddy sat on a rock and watched them play as the sheep grazed here and there in the pretty green grass. What a good time they had and both were sorry when Daddy said they must get their shoes on and be on their way.

They weren't ready to leave, but must mind Daddy. They began to round up the sheep. When they were all together, one little lamb was missing. They looked behind every bush, in every hole, and down along the creek, but found no sign of the lamb. What could have happened to it? It was one of the best lambs and Daddy would lose a whole week's pay if they didn't find it. They hunted until finally Daddy said they must go on. Surely some wild beast had found it. Mary and John felt so bad about the poor little lamb.

The pretty flowers were nodding all along the way but they were not seen by the children for their minds were back with the lost lamb. When they arrived over in the next valley, Daddy said, "While the sheep are eating, we had better eat our lunch, too." The children scarcely realized what they were eating, for their minds were still on the lamb. They wondered if it was hurt or if it had just strayed away. After lunch Daddy lay down to rest while the sheep ate, so the children wandered away, for they had forgotten their promise to stay near by. They went back up the hill where they had lost the lamb, thinking they might find it up there someplace. They went from hill to hill, always watching and listening for the call of a lamb. All at once John noticed that the sun wasn't shining so brightly as it had been and the shadows were longer.

"Mary, we must hurry back or Daddy will be worried. I forgot we were supposed to stay there with him."

They turned and went down the hill as fast as their legs would take them. They ran a long time, it seemed, and still there was no sign of the sheep

nor their father. They looked all around to see how far they had to go yet for Mary was getting tired, but every hill looked the same to them. They called but there was no answer. Mary wanted her daddy. John realized they were lost!

(Be sure to read next week's paper to find out what happens to John, Mary, and the little lamb.)

THE BEAUTIFUL LIFE

A young Chinese said to a Christian friend, "I am searching for the beautiful life. I have been living in the home of a minister. He is the pastor of a small church. He has the beautiful life. He never thinks of himself. He always thinks of others. He is always busy, helping others. Where can I find his beautiful life? I want to have it, too."

The friend said, "Why, you can find it in Jesus. Receive Jesus as your Saviour. He will help you to live the beautiful life. The minister believes on Jesus. He loves and serves Jesus. That is why he has the beautiful life."

Dear Boys and Girls:—

Did you ever have someone accuse you of doing a certain thing which you did not do? In other words, have you ever been accused falsely? Perhaps your playmate said you broke the limb off a fruit tree when she did it herself. There have been times when someone would tell a lie on a boy or girl and it seemed so true that he (or she) was unjustly punished for it. Sometimes the courts of our land will condemn an innocent party for a crime just because the evidence points that way. These are some of the things that have to be endured.

In our lesson we find that Paul had been falsely accused before the court. Felix is the judge, and the high priest, Ananias, and other Jewish leaders are the ones who have brought the false claims against Paul because they wanted to have him killed. They did not want to hear of the name of Jesus. The Jewish leaders had hired a lawyer named Tertullus. He said that Paul was "a petulant fellow," a leader of the Nazarenes, and a profaner of the temple. (Acts 24:1-6) Felix then called on Paul to explain the accusations that had been brought against him.

Our lesson shows clearly that Paul was not guilty as charged. He had arrived in Jerusalem and was taken into custody by the Romans to save him from the Jews and was in prison for two or three days and in Caesarea for five days. So he was only free and on his own in Jerusalem for about a week. Paul felt that his movements in that short time could easily be traced. (Acts 21:27.) He had not committed any crimes, but had only come up to the temple to worship God. He had not disputed with any man nor caused any trouble. Felix knew this to be true. He felt that he was innocent of the things of which he was being accused. He did confess that he accepted Jesus as the Savior, and he worshipped God in the way that Christ had taught; yet that he believed in the law and prophets of old even as did those who were accusing him. He still worshipped the same God they professed to worship. We notice that Paul was not ashamed of Christ nor the ways He taught. He was ready to let them know where he stood. He also said he believed in the resurrection. In the group which was accusing him some did believe and others did not. When he said he believed in the resurrection this caused his accusers to get into an argument

which took their attention away from him.

Boys and girls, you are each one on trial every day. If you are falsely accused, be sure that you are suffering for Christ's sake and not something you have done wrong. Don't be ashamed to suffer for Jesus.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 10, September 3, 1967

PAUL WITNESSES BEFORE RULERS

Acts 24:10-21

Acts 21:10 Then Paul, after that the governor had beckoned unto him to speak answered, Forasmuch as I know that thou hast been of many years a judge unto this nation, I do the more cheerfully answer for myself:

11 Because that thou mayest understand, that there are yet but twelve days since I went up to Jerusalem for to worship.

12 And they neither found me in the temple disputing with any man, neither raising up the people, neither in the synagogues, nor in the city:

13 Neither can they prove the things whereof they now accuse me.

14 But this I confess unto thee, that after the way which they call heresy, so worship I the God of my fathers, believing all things which are written in the law and in the prophets:

15 And I have hope toward God, which they themselves also allow, that there shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust.

16 And herein do I exercise myself, to have always a conscience void of offence toward God, and toward men.

17 Now after many years I came to

bring alms to my nation, and offerings.

18 Whereupon certain Jews from Asia found me purified in the temple, neither with multitude, nor with tumult.

19 Who ought to have been here before thee, and objected, if they had ought against me.

20 Or else let these same here say, if they have found any evil doing in me, while I stood before the council,

21 Except it be for this one voice, that I cried among them, Touching the resurrection of the dead I am called in question by you this day.

Memory Verse: And herein do I exercise myself, to have always a conscience void of offence toward God, and toward men. Acts 24:16.

Central Thought: Christ is on trial in your life every day. Can others see Him or do they see you in your deeds and actions?

QUESTIONS:

1. What happened between last Sunday's lesson and today's?

2. How long had Paul been in Jerusalem when he was in court before Felix?

3. Was he accused falsely? Have you ever been accused falsely?

4. How did you act when someone told falsehoods about you?

5. Why did Paul go to Jerusalem?

6. Had Paul caused any trouble by disputing with any man?

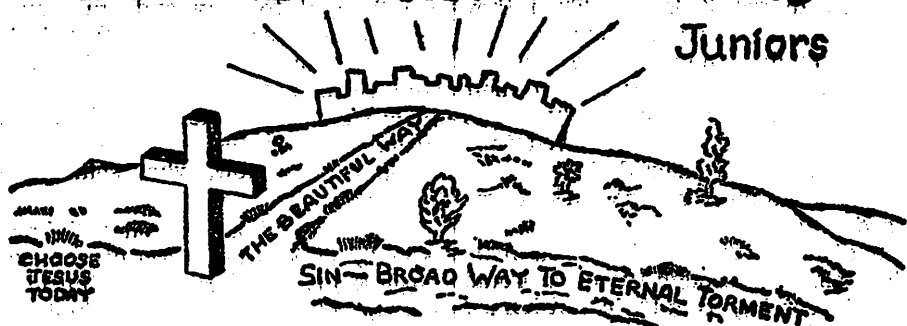
7. What does it mean to "always have a conscience void of offense toward God and toward men"?

8. What question did Paul mention that caused his accusers to disagree among themselves?

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



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Part Eleven

Sept. 10

The Lost Lamb

(Continued from last week's paper.)

John realized that he and Mary were lost so he tried to act brave. Finally it started getting dark and Mary began to cry. Then John remembered the story his mother had read to them the night before. It was about the Good Shepherd who had found the lost sheep. John said to Mary, "Don't cry anymore. Let's kneel down right here and pray. Jesus can help us find the lamb, and our daddy, too."

So they knelt down and asked Jesus to help them find their daddy and the lamb. "Please, Jesus, we are lost, and we don't know which way to go."

When they got up, John stood there a while listening and looking back down in the valley. Mary said, "Come on, John, let's go; it's getting dark."

But John had heard something. He walked on a few steps, then stopped and listened again. "Don't you hear that noise, Mary? It is coming closer. Sounds just like a wolf. Do you think it could be? Daddy says there

are wolves in the hills and sometimes they kill the sheep."

Mary was really afraid now. "Maybe a wolf killed our little lamb. I hear the noise now," said Mary as they stood there, shivering. "John, what shall we do? They are coming closer. Hear them?"

"Mary, all we can do is pray again," so down on their knees they went and this time they were really in earnest for the wolves were pretty close. Almost as soon as they said, "Amen," the noise stopped but they could see the wolves now going down the hill the other way. There seemed to be several of them. John exclaimed, "Mary, what do you know about that! God has answered that prayer already. He has made the wolves go away. I know He will answer the other prayer, too."

They started down the hill on the opposite side and they walked quite a distance when both children heard the bleating of a lamb. They stopped and listened to see where the sound was coming from. It didn't sound too far away so they ran as fast as

they could to where it seemed to be. Caught in a bramble bush, they found the lost lamb. John worked and worked to get it loose. Then they ran on with the lamb following close behind them. They thanked Jesus as they ran for answering two of their prayers. Now there was only one to be answered and they believed they would soon find their daddy.

By this time it was so dark it was hard to see the path. Away off in the distance they could see a little light shining through the dark. Could that be coming from their tent-home? But no, it wasn't, for they heard Daddy calling them and both answered him at the same time. Daddy was carrying a lantern and they surely were glad to see him. He picked them both up in his arms and was so happy to find them safe. He thanked the Lord for protecting them. They were not far from home now. Mother was standing in the door waiting. She had been worried when Daddy came in with the sheep and reported the children lost. Before he went back out, they had knelt and asked the Lord to protect their little ones and guide him to them. Mother had supper all ready and two little hungry children were happy to be home again where they were safe. After supper Daddy took them on his knees and said, "You children were very naughty today. Didn't I tell you to stay close to me?"

Of course, they remembered, but they had forgotten in their concern for the lost lamb.

"John, you both disobeyed me, so what do you think I should do about it?" Both children hung their heads in shame. Finally little Mary said, "Jesus brought us home. We prayed and He sent the wolves away and

helped us find the lost lamb. Jesus heard our prayers, Daddy."

"Yes," said Daddy, "I am so glad you thought to pray and am happy that Jesus answered; but that isn't answering my question. You children did disobey me, you know. You know we have a rule that when you disobey your mother or me you must be punished. Now, what shall I do to you?"

John said, "I guess you will have to whip us, Daddy. I am bigger and I was the cause of Mary getting lost, so I should get the hardest whipping."

Daddy decided that they both were guilty so he whipped them both. Then he sat down and talked to them and told them how Daddy loved them and how Jesus loved them even more. Jesus was grieved because they had disobeyed. Jesus wanted them to be good children and obey their mother and father. They both were sorry and were soon on their knees at Daddy's side asking Jesus to forgive them. John and Mary never forgot that experience.

The Good Shepherd is out seeking His sheep today. If you are a lost lamb, come and be found.

—Iva Brenner

Grandmother

When I was just a child
To Grandmother's house we'd go,
She always wanted me on her knee
No matter how big I'd grow.

While others enjoyed the meal
Into my room she'd steal,
Supposing that I slept,
I'll never forget how she prayed and wept.

Though she stood for God alone—
She prayed we'd never roam
Too far from God and home,
That His blood only could atone.

Fair memories linger yet
Of walks we enjoyed together
Over field and wood,
Singing the very best she could.

As I older grew
I kept up with the fashions,
I thought I knew
Grandmother was just old-fashioned!

Through her prayers and godly life,
We were saved from sin and strife.
We hope to join her singing
Where the joy bells are ringing.

This world would be more blest
If grandmothers would stand the test
In Titus two and three
And an example be for you and me!
—A. Cook

Sin is worse than having one's
hands slapped. Sin will take one
to hell. Hate sin as you would a
poisonous snake. Avoid it and keep
it out of your life.

Dear Boys and Girls:—

Well, you are back in school now,
with summer vacation over. In school
you meet many different boys and girls
from different backgrounds. I am sure
that you feel pressure from some of
them to do and act as they do. I do
trust that you will be wise and not feel
that you must be like all the other boys
and girls. I heard one girl exclaim,
"I felt stupid today at school because I

was the only one who wore long sleeves."
She felt embarrassed because she did
not dress like the others did. Boys and
girls, others do not always want to live
so that they please God, nor to obey the
Bible. You should not follow them nor
feel bad because you are not like them.
You belong to the King and are in the
royal family of God. You are going to
make heaven your home and you should
live by the Bible which is the map that
tells you which way to go to get to
heaven. You are not going on that road
that leads down to hell, nor is the devil
your master. You just be nice and kind
to everyone, regardless of the remarks
made. Don't let it trouble you nor make
you feel embarrassed. You should not
want to wear your dresses as short as
others. It is a shame and God is dis-
pleased with the short dresses. Girls
who love and please God are to have
their bodies covered. Don't be ashamed
of Jesus nor his way. Be willing to suf-
fer a little for Jesus' sake. You have
not suffered as Paul did, who was put
in prison, have you?

Felix gave Paul some liberties after
the trial in last Sunday's lesson. He
did not pass judgment upon him. He
was expecting Paul, or his friends, to
pay to get him set free. Later Felix
was replaced by another governor called
Festus. He kept Paul bound to please
the Jews, but later the Jews pressed
him to have another trial. He heard the
case and suggested that another trial be
held in Jerusalem. But Paul knew some
men waited there to kill him so he ap-
pealed to Caesar. Thus he had to be
taken to Rome. While he waited, Festus
wanted King Agrippa to hear his case
and Agrippa wanted to see Paul. So
Paul was called to speak before the king.

Paul told about his conversion and how
he had at one time been a persecutor of
the Christians. He told of preaching in

many places that all "should repent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance." He spoke of the sufferings of Jesus and his call to preach to the Gentiles. All of this was too much for Festus and he cried out that Paul was mad, that much learning had affected him. Paul did not let Festus turn him from his purpose in trying to convert the king. The king was touched and was almost persuaded to be a Christian. If we will stand up for God's ways, it will help others to know about God and perhaps they will be saved. Don't be ashamed of Jesus.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 11, September 10, 1967

PAUL WITNESSES TO THE KING

Acts 26:24-32

Acts 26:24 And as he thus spake for himself, Festus said with a loud voice, Paul; thou art beside thyself; much learning doth make thee mad.

25 But he said, I am not mad, most noble Festus; but speak forth the words of truth and soberness.

26 For the king knoweth of these things, before whom also I speak freely: for I am persuaded that none of these things are hidden from him: for this thing was not done in a corner.

27 King Agrippa, believest thou the prophets? I know that thou believest.

28 Then Agrippa said unto Paul, Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian.

29 And Paul said, I would to God, that not only thou, but also all that hear me this day, were both almost, and altogether such as I am, except these bonds.

30 And when he had thus spoken, the king rose up, and the governor, and Bernice, and they that sat with them.

31 And when they were gone aside, they talked between themselves, saying, This man doeth nothing worthy of death or of bonds.

32 Then said Agrippa unto Festus, This man might have been set at liberty, if he had not appealed unto Caesar.

Memory Verse: And Paul said, I would to God, that not only thou, but also all that hear me this day, were both almost, and altogether such as I am, except these bonds. Acts 26:29.

Central Thought: If we will not be ashamed of Jesus we can help others to be saved.

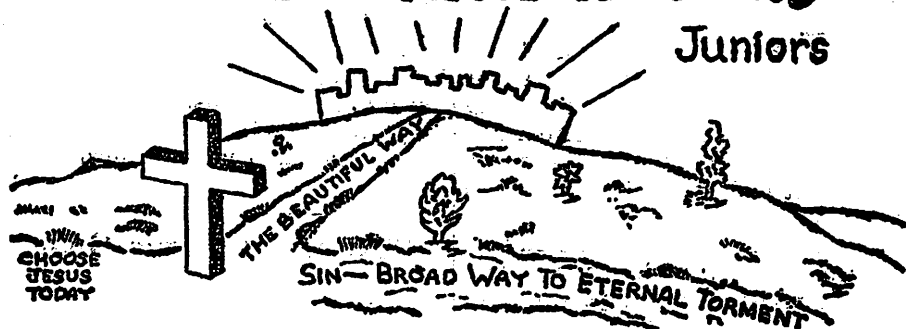
QUESTIONS:

1. Who succeeded Felix as governor?
2. Why did Felix hold back judgment on Paul?
3. Whom did Paul witness before in our lesson today?
4. Tell about his sermon that day. (See Acts 26:1-23.)
5. Did Paul want to persuade King Agrippa to be saved?
6. What did the king say that made Paul know that God had dealt with his soul?
7. What was King Agrippa's sister's name?
8. Can we help others to know what is right according to the Bible if we don't live it ourselves?
9. Name some of the ways we can live by the Bible teachings in our dress and our actions.

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



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July, Aug., Sept., 1967

Part Twelve

Sept. 17

"I Don't Care"

Boys and girls, I wish to tell you
Of a foe you entertain:
I have seen him with you often,
And the fact has caused me pain;
For he only seeks the ruin
Of your lives so young and fair—
He's a foe, cool, sly, and cunning,
And his name is, "I don't care."

Have you ever thought, dear children,
That "I don't care" is a thief,
Taking from you time and order,
Candor, friends, and all, save grief?
Don't you notice the bold falsehoods
That he daily tells to you,
And that make you say, "I don't
care,"

When at heart you really do?

He, at first will only cause you
To forget yourself, and dare
To answer parents, friends, and
strangers,

With the rude words, "I don't care."
But be warned! He'll plant within you
The true spirit of his name;
Then he'll disappear like magic,
Leaving you to bear the shame.

Break the habit, children, break it,
Do not use the common phrase;
Smaller things than this have started
Many a life in reckless ways.
Guard your words, your thoughts,
your actions,
To yourself be true; and dare
Not let the good of life slip by you
With a reckless, "I don't care."

—Floy Schoonmaker Armstrong

o

Mexico Missionaries

Bro. Tomas Mendosa and family, Shirley Stice, Virginia Wittenborn, Carrie Sheppard and I took a new road last week and went to a place where we had never been before. The only road was terrible and very dangerous. We went around a very sharp hairpin curve that went up a grade. It had washed out and as we went around, the left back wheel of the pick-up fell in and nearly turned us over. After working for nearly two hours on it, we got it out. We had several other happenings about that bad, plus getting stuck in the sand many times. The country was

high and dry and very pretty but very back-woodsy for it seemed to be untraveled. But indeed the Lord's great hand of love and protection was about us.

That night at dusk we couldn't get the truck over a grade no matter how hard we tried so we just quit trying and built us a fire and fried some potatoes and had some tortillas and water that had gas in it. How good it tasted! While the potatoes were frying we all sat around the fire on the ground and sang hymns in Spanish and reviewed our experiences of the day and spoke of God's wonderful love. Then we went to bed. Some of us slept in the seats of the pick-up and some in the back of the pick-up. Shirley and Sister Virginia and I made our beds in the sand by the fire. As the fire went down, the stars seemed so many and oh, so beautiful! The air was crisp but not too cold and smelled clean and pure. We played the harmonica and in the night the sound seemed to reach far as we were high up in the mountains. I trust that we can be the same as instruments so very small yet by the Holy Spirit able to reach far into the hearts and lives of men and women with the story of our Redeemer.

The next day we reached our destination which was a very beautiful and prosperous valley with orchards, vineyards, places where crops were sown and gardens. We visited only one home but there they seemed very receptive to the gospel and asked if we would come back again and perhaps have services. How our hearts filled with joy as in our minds we saw another open field for services. There are no churches nor services of any kind evidently, and no school. We

hope sometime someone can go back for we counted nineteen houses with people in them and some vacant ones. There also is a place near us some 30 miles from here that has no church services but has an empty church house ready for use. Surely there is much to do. We must be faithful and obey, whether it be little or much, far or near, that we are called to do.

—Edith Cole

The Knock at the Door

There was a knock at the door. Harry went to answer it. At the door stood a visitor from the near-by church. She gave Harry a calendar, saying, "Here is something for you."

Harry thanked the lady for the calendar. When she left he carried it to his mother. Mother hung the calendar up in the kitchen.

On the calendar was a picture of the Lord Jesus knocking at the door. Harry liked the picture. He stood looking at it for a few moments. Mother was busy getting dinner and did not notice Harry. Then Harry asked, "Mother, who is the Man knocking at the door?" Mother said, "I don't know."

Soon Father came home from work. He went into the kitchen to wash his hands. Harry followed him. Harry said, "Dad, who is the Man in the picture? Why is He knocking at the door?"

Father said, "Harry, that Man is the Lord Jesus Christ. He is knocking at the door because He wants to get in."

Harry asked, "Father, why don't they let Him in?"

Dinner was ready just then. Mother called Father and Harry to the table. Father managed not to answer Har-

ry's question. A little later that evening, however, Harry again asked, "Father, why don't they let the Lord Jesus Christ in?"

Father answered, "I don't know." Father did know, however. He knew that people were sometimes busy and did not take time to let Jesus in. That was the case with him.

That night Father could not forget Harry's question: "Why don't they let Him in?" Finally he got on his knees and began to pray. He said, "Lord Jesus, I know you are knocking at the door of my heart. Please forgive me for keeping you waiting outside for so many years. Lord Jesus, the door of my heart is now open to You. Won't you please come in?"

That night the Lord Jesus came into Father's heart! He forgave Father's sins. It was not long before Mother and Harry opened their hearts to Jesus. Then the whole family was saved!

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

A recent young convert was asked if he had done anything for Christ since he had believed.

"Oh, I am a learner," he replied.

"Well, when you light a candle, do you do it to make the candle more comfortable, or to give light?" his friend asked.

"To give light, of course."

"Do you expect it to give light after it is half burned, or when you first light it?"

"As soon as I light it."

"Very well; go and do likewise. Begin at once."

Shortly afterward there were fifty more Christians in that town as a result of the young man's testimony.

Paul was happier working for Jesus than he had ever been in his life. He went first to one place and then to another telling the wonderful story of how he became a friend of Jesus.

Dear Boys and Girls:—

I am sure there are boys and girls that you talk to who do not believe in God. We are living in an age of disbelief. So many are turning away from God. Even some of those who are leaders in the churches of the world are saying that God is dead. It is sad to think that anyone would say that, but I suspect they do not conduct their lives so that God can do anything real special for them, therefore they think He must be dead. But we can look around us and see the trees and all the things that God has made and we believe in Him. You never saw George Washington nor Abraham Lincoln but you believe they lived and did the things that are told about them. Well, you never saw God, but we know He lives and that He is still doing many wonderful things. We know He is alive because of the personal contact we have with Him.

Notice in our lesson that Paul said, "I believe God." Paul always believed God. He believed the Lord spoke to him on the road to Damascus. He believed the words spoken through Moses and the prophets, although he had never seen Moses nor the old prophets. He accepted Jesus as His Saviour. When he did, he became a changed man. He lived a different life. He loved those whom he had once hated. He no longer wanted to kill others. Only God can make such a change in a person's life. God is real and God is wonderful! Whether or not we believe God doesn't change Him. God is what he is and we will have

to stand before Him one of these days in the Judgment and give an account of our lives before Him. We ought to live very carefully and love Him.

It would be good if you would read from your Bibles the account of Paul's journey to Rome. It is real interesting. Start with Acts 27:1 and read through the 44th verse. Don't read any further as next Sunday's lesson is in the last chapter of Acts. —Aunt Marie

Lesson 12, September 17, 1967

JOURNEY TO ROME

Acts 27:21-26, 33-38

Acts 27:21 But after long abstinence Paul stood forth in the midst of them, and said, Sirs, ye should have hearkened unto me, and not have loosed from Crete, and to have gained this harm and loss.

22 And now I exhort you to be of good cheer: for there shall be no loss of any man's life among you, but of the ship.

23 For there stood by me this night the angel of God, whose I am, and whom I serve,

24 Saying, Fear not, Paul; thou must be brought before Caesar: and, lo, God hath given thee all them that sail with thee.

25 Wherefore, sirs, be of good cheer: for I believe God, that it shall be as it was told me.

26 Howbeit we must be cast upon a certain island.

33 And while the day was coming on, Paul besought them all to take meat, saying, This day is the fourteenth day that ye have tarried and continued fasting, having taken nothing.

34 Wherefore I pray you to take some meat: for this is for your health; for there shall not an hair fall from the head of any of you.

35 And when he had thus spoken, he took bread, and gave thanks to God in presence of them all: and when he had broken it, he began to eat.

36 Then were they all of good cheer, and they also took some meat.

37 And we were in all in the ship two hundred threescore and sixteen souls.

38 And when they had eaten enough, they lightened the ship, and cast out the wheat into the sea.

Memory Verse: Wherefore, sirs, be of good cheer: for I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me. Acts 27:25.

Central Thought: We should be like Paul—believe God.

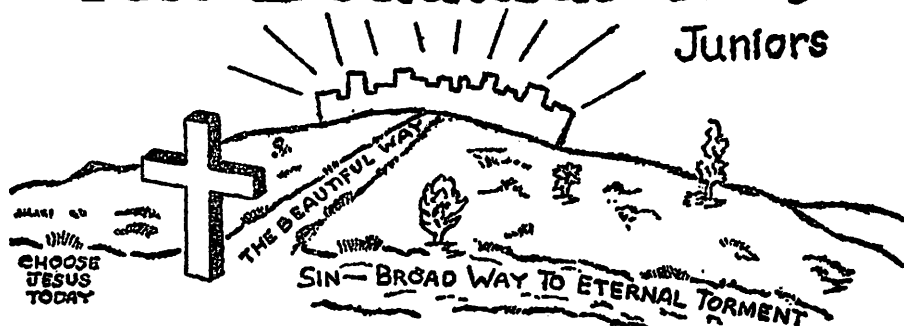
QUESTIONS:

1. Why did Paul go to Rome?
2. What are some of the things Paul did which prove to us that he believed God?
3. If we believe in God, how will it change our lives?
4. Did Paul think that they would have trouble on their voyage?
5. How did they lighten the ship?
6. How many were saved from the wrecked ship?
7. Will God take care of us even as He did Paul?

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 18, No. 3

July, Aug., Sept., 1967

Part Thirteen

Sept. 24

A Parable on Faith

Faith can be likened unto a business man who sent forth his servants and told them to tell the people of a certain town that he was going to give a hundred dollar bill to the one who would walk into his office first before nine o'clock in the morning on a certain day.

This word from the servants caused a big stir in the town. It was discussed pro and con. Do you believe he will do what he says, was asked by many of their neighbors and friends. Others inquired of their friends as to the wisdom of even going to town. Very many laughed at the idea and others were sure there was a catch to it and passed the invitation by with a smile and a nod of the head.

The day arrived. Only a few gathered at the door of the office. Some sat in their cars and watched. Others lingered across the street. The door of the office looked as usual with the sign on the door, "Open, Walk In." No one seemed to be in a hurry to go in. They discussed the announce-

ment and hesitated. They had never known of the man telling a lie but they came to the conclusion that it surely could not be so. Finally, one said, "Why don't you go in and see if he will give it to you?" After much persuasion one ventured in, rather timidly. He was met by one of the business man's servants and asked if he needed help. The man stated his business in slow, stuttering words. He was asked, "Do you believe that as soon as you step into the man's office that he will immediately hand you the hundred dollar bill?"

"Well, I don't know if he will or not."

"You are dismissed," said the servant.

When this man came out of the office he was met by the small group. He told his experience and they said, "I was sure it was a fake." So the small crowd went away.

Later others came but when they heard the story they were discouraged.

It was a few minutes before nine o'clock and the little group was start-

ing to leave, when someone came walking briskly up the street. When she came to the office door she was asked by others if she was going in. She said, "Surely, I want to get that hundred dollar bill." She was told about the one experience. This did not discourage her. She said, "But I believe that he is a man of his word. I believe that he will do just exactly what he says." She went in and the servant asked her if she believed she would receive the hundred dollar bill when she stepped into the man's office. She said in a firm voice "Yes, I do." She was admitted to the office. The man promptly handed her the hundred dollar bill, saying, "My child, I am glad you have faith in me."

When she came out of the office a great number of people crowded around her. She showed them the money. They all seemed surprised. She was questioned as to why she believed the man would do as he had said. She told them that she was his daughter and that she knew her father kept his word. She was acquainted with him. She knew that he had never failed to do as he had said he would do.

Boys and girls, this is like our heavenly Father. We know that He always tells the truth. We can't be discouraged by what others think of Him or say about Him. We can't let doubts or fears make us disbelieve in Him. We can't waver or stutter about our belief in him. We want to boldly come to him and believe that God is and that he is a rewarder of those who diligently seek him. When we pass the examination of not being doubtful, we can receive from God the blessing. —Sister Marie Miles

Charlie Finds Fault

"I'm not going to eat." As Charlie yelled these words he looked very ugly. Before him was a nice plateful of good food; but this time Papa had served Charlie's younger brother, Ted, first.

Mamma knew her boy well, indeed, and she knew what was the cause of his outburst.

She said, "In feeling and talking that way, Charlie, you break more than one of God's laws. It is very wrong for you to be selfish, and when food is given you, you should be thankful. Jesus always gave thanks when He took food."

At this Charlie flung himself back against his chair, and Mamma looked as if she felt bad. Papa didn't seem to notice at all, but he said:

"I saw a little boy this morning, gnawing the meat off a bone he had found in the garbage can back of the sandwich man's shop. I asked him why he did not eat at home, instead of hunting scraps out of a garbage can like a dog. He said he did not have any home."

"Where does he live?" asked Charlie, sitting up and taking interest.

"He said that Mr. Hast who keeps the second-hand store, lets him sleep in the store."

"All alone!" exclaimed Charlie, with wide eyes.

"Yes, and on the floor, or counter, or anything softer that he can find," replied the father.

"I wish he would come and sleep in my bed with me," said Charlie.

"And eat at the table with you, too?" asked Papa.

"Yes; and it would be lots better than gnawing bones out of the sand-

wich man's garbage cans."

"What do you think he would say about the way you acted just now when I gave you that nice plate of food, Charlie?" Papa asked.

"He wouldn't know what to say. He'd think I was a fool," Charlie said, as he hung his head in shame.

"And what do you suppose God thinks of you?"

Charlie thought a while but could not find an answer.

"Let me tell you what God says to you about this matter," said his father, and then he quoted this verse, "Be content with such things as ye have."

Since that time Charlie has never grumbled about his food.

"I Am The Door"

In a town in north Scotland some boys were in the habit of meeting together for prayer. A girl passing by heard them singing. She stopped to listen and, thinking it was just an ordinary prayer meeting, she tried to get in. Putting up her hand she pulled the latch, but the door would not open; it was fastened inside. The thought came to her, "What if this were the door of heaven, and me outside?"

She went home, but she could not sleep.

Day after day she became more troubled at the thought of being shut out of heaven.

One day she was reading the 10th chapter of John, and came to the words, "I am the door." She paused, and read the verse again and again.

Jesus is the Door to heaven. That girl entered in—and you may, too, by accepting the Lord Jesus as your Saviour.

Dear Boys and Girls:—

Did you know that feeling sorry for yourself will make you miserable? Self pity is an awful thing. We need to accept things as they come. If you stand for something that is right and others make fun of you or make sneering remarks, you should not feel sorry for yourself. Just face them with kindness and ignore their remarks. You know that you are right and that God is pleased and that is all that matters.

Paul did not feel sorry for himself and sit in prison and mourn. He was always doing all he could for the Lord. He preached to others and talked to everyone who came to see him. That is God's way to help others know about Him. He wanted to let the world know that Jesus died on the cross, arose again and is alive in heaven waiting to forgive everyone who will come to him with godly sorrow and repent of his sins. We should be busy for the Lord.

When Paul arrived in Rome he was permitted to live by himself and only had a soldier with him. Three days after he arrived he called the Jews to come and he talked to them and they wanted to hear him again. So another day was set and he talked to them again. For many years the Jews had expected the Messiah to come and Paul declared to them that Jesus was that One. He explained to them from morning to night from the Old Testament how it said that Jesus was to come and what was to happen when he did. Paul explained to them that the things that happened to Jesus and that he did had been foretold by the prophets. He was the One they had been looking for. Some believed and some did not. Today some will believe and be saved and some will not. We must be sure that we believe and are saved.

Paul spent two years in his own hired

house with this soldier and preached Christ to those at Rome. Surely this was God's way to get the gospel to Rome where so many people from different parts of the world came and went. We might not understand why some things happen, but later we do understand.

Read the 28th chapter of Acts in class.

Boys and girls, love the Lord and do not be afraid to hold up His name. By your life for God, you might be able to help others love Him, too.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 13, September 24, 1967

PAUL IN ROME

Acts 28:23-31

Acts 28:23 And when they had appointed him a day, there came many to him into his lodging; to whom he expounded and testified the kingdom of God, persuading them concerning Jesus, both out of the law of Moses, and out of the prophets, from morning till evening.

24 And some believed the things which were spoken, and some believed not.

25 And when they agreed not among themselves, they departed, after that Paul had spoken one word, Well spake the Holy Ghost by Esaias the prophet unto our fathers,

26 Saying, Go unto this people, and say, Hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and not perceive:

27 For the heart of this people is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes have they

closed; lest they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their hearts, and should be converted and I should heal them.

28 Be it known therefore unto you, that the salvation of God is sent unto the Gentiles, and that they will hear it.

29 And when he had said these words, the Jews departed, and had great reasoning among themselves.

30 And Paul dwelt two whole years in his own hired house, and received all that came in unto him,

31 Preaching the kingdom of God, and teaching those things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ, with all confidence no man forbidding him.

Memory Verse: I am debtor both to the Greeks, and to the Barbarians; both to the wise, and to the unwise. So, as much as in me is, I am ready to preach the gospel to you that are at Rome also. Romans 1:14, 15.

Central Thought: Paul was busy witnessing for God wherever he went.

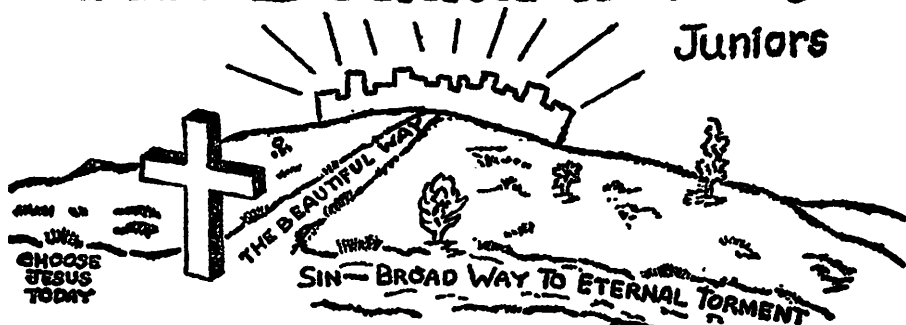
QUESTIONS:

1. What happened to Paul on the island called Melita?
2. Where did Paul dwell in Rome and who was with him?
3. Did others come to see Paul?
4. What was the message Paul had for them?
5. How did Paul prove that Jesus was the Messiah?
6. Should we feel sorry for ourselves when we are in trouble? Why not?
8. How did Paul react to being kept a prisoner?
9. Were there any who believed what Paul preached?

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 18, No. 4

Oct., Nov., Dec., 1967

Part One

Oct. 1

WAS THAT SOMEBODY YOU?

Somebody gave a life to God,
Went at His call to realms abroad,
Lived to seek, to save the lost,
Working for souls at any cost.

Somebody made a sacrifice,
Yielded some gift beyond all price,
Somebody won God's hundredfold,
Richer than gems or crown of gold.

Dishonesty Brings Trouble

Ellen looked at the apple tree and said, "We ought to make lots of money on these apples. Look at all the apples on it, Randy, It is just loaded."

"It surely is nice of Grandfather to let us have all the apples on this tree to sell. I hope we make lots of money, too. I want to buy a new sled for winter," Randy said as he sat down on the ground and looked up into the tree. "What are you going to do with your money, Ellen?"

"Oh, I don't know—perhaps I'll buy a new coat for winter," Ellen

said as she thought about her old coat and remembered hearing Mother say she didn't know if they could afford a new one for her or not.

"Well I'm not going to buy a coat, I want something that I can have fun with," said Randy, with enthusiasm.

About that time the wind blew and an apple came tumbling down from the tree. Both ran to pick it up. Their grandfather told them not to pick any yet as they were not ready to be picked, but he said they could pick up all that dropped off.

"We will soon have a half bushel of dropped apples to sell, won't we? Why couldn't we shake the tree a little and perhaps more would fall?"

"No! Grandfather said to just pick up the ones that fell," Ellen said firmly.

"Well, if we shake the tree, and some fell, that would be fallen ones, too, wouldn't it?" Randy contended.

"That's not what Grandfather had in mind, Randy. Now don't you go to trying tricks that are not quite right like Harold does. I don't like all the ideas that Harold has. We

must be honest. Remember our memory verse, 'Providing for honest things, not only in the sight of the Lord, but also in the sight of men.' (2 Cor. 8:21) Grandfather might not see us, but the Lord would. That would not be honest in the sight of the Lord."

"All right, little preacher," Randy said with a toss of his head. "You would make the best preacher. Why do you always bring up something like that? You must think that I am dishonest."

Ellen did not answer her brother for a while but she felt bad to think that he had changed so much since he had been running around with the new boy in the neighborhood. She felt sorry for Harold because his mother and father often stayed out late at night and he was left alone with his little brother and sister to care for. Many times he would slip out and go somewhere after the smaller children were asleep. He was careful to get home before his parents did. They did not know the many things he did and the company he kept. Ellen was sure that they were unaware of the great need of staying at home with their children and teaching them about the Lord.

She was glad that her own mother and father took time to teach their children about the Lord. Randy had always seemed to be tender and to love the Lord, but since he had been with Harold so often he had begun to change. She knew that her parents had noticed the changes taking place and were much concerned about it. Ellen was, too.

"You really aren't dishonest, Randy," Ellen said seriously as they walked up the lane to the farm house. "But you have begun to change since

you have been with Harold so much."

"Change? I don't know where you get that," Randy protested. "Of course, I have learned some things I never knew before. Harold has been around and he knows about more things than I do. I can't even leave the house after dark. I don't know why the folks are so strict. Harold gets to do about anything he wants to do. I think he is great."

One night Randy decided to sneak out of the house and meet Harold who had told him about some of the things the gang was going to do and had asked Randy to join them. This is what Randy did.

"Come on, Randy, why are you lagging behind?" Harold said as the four boys started out up the lonely road toward Mr. Brown's watermelon patch. Randy took a few quick steps and caught up with them. He felt real uncomfortable. He had been shocked at the daring things the boys had talked about doing that night. More than once he wished he were back in his bed but he didn't want to be called a coward so he went along with them. He also remembered the prayer Ellen had prayed for him in family worship before the family retired for the night. She had prayed that Randy would not go the way Harold was going. And too, his father and mother had seemed especially burdened for him that night and prayed longer than usual. His mother had prayed that he would grow up to be honest and upright. What would she think if she knew he was not in bed but was on his way to Mr. Brown's watermelon patch to steal some melons? At this he gasped and again Harold caught the sound. "Now, Randy, don't take all of this too hard. I know it is your

first experience but just wait and see, all will work out fine. No one will know anything about this. And what is so wrong about taking a few little watermelons?"

The boys heard a shot as each one had pulled a watermelon and started for the road. They ran but it was too late. They had been caught. Mr. Brown and his son took the boys home to face their parents and Randy was a miserable boy as he looked into his father's face. He was too ashamed to lift his eyes and look at his mother and Ellen.

After Mr. Brown left, Randy was soon on his knees asking God to forgive him for what he had done wrong. He asked his mother and father to forgive him, too. He was really sorry that he had done wrong, not just sorry that he had been caught. He made up his mind to do what was right and follow the Lord's ways and thus stay out of trouble. He didn't like that heavy load of condemnation resting on his heart anymore. From then on he was not afraid to tell Harold that he did not want to go with him anymore. —M. Miles

—o—

Dear Boys and Girls:

Are you keeping saved? If you are not saved, we want you to be saved. Did you know that this world will not be here forever? One of these days Jesus will burst through the clouds at the sound of the trumpet. Time will be no more. The building you are in right now and all the buildings in the world will be burned up. Everything will melt with fervent heat. The Bible tells us this. You can read about it in 2 Peter 3:10-14. Peter knew Jesus and Jesus told him many, many things that were going to come to pass. Boys and girls,

where are you going to be if you are here on this earth when this happens? Heaven is only for those who are saved from sin and belong to Jesus. There is no other place for those who are not saved but go to hell with the devil and all who are evil. You don't like to be with murderers, drunkards, and wicked people, do you? Well, all this kind of people will be in hell. If I were you I would be wise and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins and then live every day to please Him. Jesus wants to save you. Jesus is just longing for you to live for Him. Find a place to kneel and pray to Jesus. Ask Him today to save you. He will do it just as soon as you ask him and are really sorry that you have sinned. You must be sorry enough to quit sinning and do right. He will write your name in the Book of Life and when the Judgment is set, your name will be called from that great book and you will live in perfect bliss and happiness in eternity which never ends.

Our lessons for this quarter will be about the prophets whom God sent to the people with a message from Him. They were messengers from God. Even today we have preachers and others who warn the people that if they do not repent they will be punished because God has spoken to us through His Bible. People today are sinful and rebellious just as the people who lived in the days of the prophets over 2,700 years ago. They had the same devil to fight and he tried to get them to do wrong as he does today. In that day many did wrong as they do today and needed warnings from God.

Verse five tells about cheating by changing the scales that they used to weigh out things to sell. Do we find such practices today? Verse six speaks of buying the poor for silver or money.

Today, sometimes, people will take advantage of others because they are forced to sell their lands. In 2 Kings, the fourth chapter you can read about the poor widow whose husband died and her creditors were going to take her two sons as slaves and how the Lord helped them out of their trouble.

God warned the people in the days of Amos that he was going to punish them and because they would not do right they would not know what was right and would be lost.

Bring a plumbline or plummet to class next Sunday. To make one, all you need is a piece of string and a weight.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 1, October 1, 1967

THE TIMES OF THE PROPHETS

2 Kings 14:23-25; Amos 8:4-7, 11

2 Kings 14:23 In the fifteenth year of Amaziah the son of Joash king of Judah Jeroboam the son of Joash king of Israel began to reign in Samaria, and reigned forty and one years.

24 And he did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord: he departed not from all the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel to sin.

25 He restored the coast of Israel from the entering of Hamath unto the sea of the plain, according to the word of the Lord God of Israel, which he spake by the hand of his servant Jonah, the son of Amittai, the prophet, which was of Gathhepher.

Amos 8:4 Hear this, O ye that swallow up the needy, even to make the poor of the land to fail,

5 Saying, When will the new moon be gone, that we may sell corn? and the

sabbath, that we may set forth wheat, making the ephah small, and the shekel great, falsifying the balances by deceit?

6 That we may buy the poor for silver, and the needy for a pair of shoes; yea, and sell the refuse of the wheat?

7 The Lord hath sworn by the excellency of Jacob, Surely I will never forget any of their works.

11 Behold, the days come, saith the Lord God, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the Lord:

Memory Verse: Surely the Lord God will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants, the prophets. Amos 3:7.

Central Thought: God gives every one a chance to hear what He wants them to do.

QUESTIONS:

1. What kind of king was Jeroboam? What did he cause the people to do?

2. Whom did God send to warn the people of their wickedness?

3. What did the prophet say to the business men of that day?

4. What does it mean to "swallow up the needy"?

5. How can merchants "falsify the balances"?

6. What did God mean when He said to the wicked people, "I will never forget any of their works"?

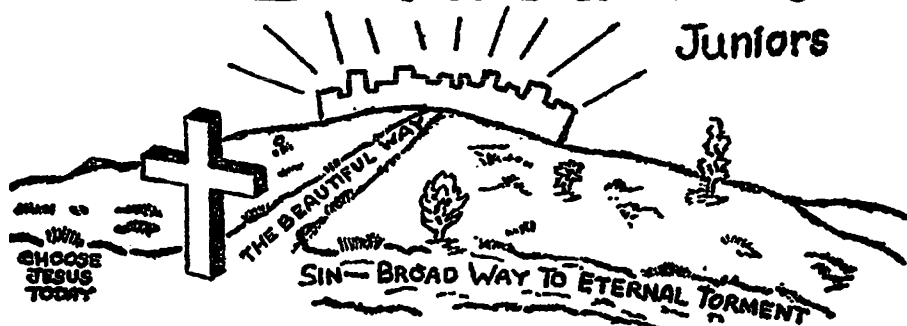
7. What does it mean to have a "famine of hearing the words of the Lord"?

The Bible is the book, the one book, the book of books.

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 18, No. 4

Oct., Nov., Dec., 1967

Part Two

Oct. 8

WORDS

Keep a watch on your words, my children,
For words are wonderful things.
They are as sweet as the bees' fresh honey,
But like bees, they can have terrible stings.

They brighten like the bright sunshine,
Lighten a lonely life—
But they will cut in strife and anger
Yes, cut like a two-edged knife.

Keep them back if they are cold and cruel,
Under bar and lock and seal—
For the wounds they make, my children
Are always slow to heal.

May God guide your words forever,
From the time of your earliest youth
May the words you daily utter
Be words of beautiful truth.

—Verda Copher

In Memory of An Outstanding Young Man

In this day and age in which we are living, we see many young boys and girls dissatisfied, restless, and ungrateful and disobedient to their parents. We can't help but admire the grace of God in those who choose the right way to live.

When Dennis Ray became the adopted son of Rufus and Bessie Beisly, he was only nine years of age. A quiet little fellow was he. He was happy to become a part of their home. They gave him love and devotion and instructed him in the requirements of God. They gave him duties to do in the home and he was glad he could have a part in these duties. He fulfilled his place without murmuring or complaining. He would rise early in the morning, before his parents, and go out to do the feeding and milking, then come in to a good breakfast his mother had prepared for the family before he went to school. Often during the summer when all work was done, or in the evening, he would go

fishing or hunting on the farm. It was during the hay season while he was helping his father while he was quite young that the Lord dealt with his soul, and he saw his lost condition. He cried unto the Lord for mercy, kneeling by the bails of hay. It was there in the hayfield that the Lord spoke peace to his soul. Surely the Lord blessed him that day as he manifested a good spirit throughout the rest of his life.

His mother told us how they miss him, and said one often sees parents spoil an only child, but this was a case where the child spoiled his parents by being so attentive to them. His father had only to mention something that needed to be done and Dennis was soon about getting it done without further being told.

One of the neighbors questioned why this affliction of cancer should befall a considerate young man like him. She has several sons of her own and she had taken note of how Dennis would take off his boots before entering her home. He had been taught this courtesy at home. Other boys and girls would do well to be more thoughtful of the mother who has many cares in keeping the house neat and clean.

A neighbor man told Dennis' father of watching Dennis on the street with other boys from school who were smoking and carrying on with foolishness, but he never saw Dennis with a cigarette or acting disrespectfully. His father asked him if the boys had tried to get him to smoke and he said, yes, but he didn't yield to their temptations. He was encouraged by his parents never to yield to the allurements of the world.

We were in their home Thanksgiving Day, 1966, and Dennis' Uncle

Ralph had taken his binoculars with the intention of going with Rufus and Dennis to look for deer, which they did. Dennis desired to have a pair of binoculars for his own. Even though by now he was eighteen years old and had his own money, he still sought the wisdom of his parents in money matters. He asked them if he should buy the binoculars. Due to other obligations, they advised him to wait and I was amazed at his submissiveness. He never again mentioned it or argued or pled for his own way at all. He could have said, I have my own money and can do as I please (which he did.) It was just a settled matter on the advice of his parents.

In his long seige of illness he manifested a good spirit. He didn't want anyone to spend any extra labor on him. He was quiet, patient, and long-suffering. So outstanding was his life that it will be long remembered by those who knew him.

We feel it good to insert his own testimony which was found in one of his notebooks among his possessions one day. He wrote: "God loves all colors. He loves his children, too. I got saved out in the hayfield one day. I am so glad that I did. God loves me and everybody else. God loves all nationalities. I am a child of God. He is the way, the true way. All colors are the same. I love God with all my heart."

It was amazing how the Lord gave this young man the spirit to discern between the true way and false ways. He was settled in the truth.

May the Lord bless our precious children and young people to choose always the right and stand by it. Then should the sun of life go down in their youth as it did for Dennis, they,

too, will leave a beautiful testimony behind them.

—Ralph and Inez Beisly

THE EAGLE

When the baby eaglets get big enough to learn to fly, the mother eagle tears up their nest and they sit on the edge. She flies down below them, calling for them to follow her. She then flies close to the eaglet and he topples off the nest. I am sure he feels that he is in great trouble. But this is the thing that is best. He can't always sit in his nest and expect to be fed. Finally he learns to fly and do his own hunting by following the example of his mother and father eagle. They train him for six months before they leave him to himself.

Boys and girls, God is good to us. Sometimes trouble comes to us to teach us to be strong and to help us understand right from wrong. Try to get good out of every situation.

Dear Boys and Girls:

Did you ever see a plummet or a plumbline? It is a string or line with a plumb bob, which is a heavy piece of metal used as a weight to pull the string straight downward and is used to see if things are straight. It can also be used to determine how deep water is or to see if a wall is standing straight. In other words, it is a test to see if all is correct, or on an even line. You can make one by tying a piece of metal on the end of a string.

The prophet Amos was sent to Israel and Judah to bring a message to them from God. Amos was just a herdsman but he was a man of God. No doubt

while caring for his flocks God had talked to him about the evils that were in the land. God told him to go and prophesy to them. He obeyed.

God had given him a vision of the Lord standing upon a wall and he was measuring that wall with a plumbline. God asked Amos what he saw. God made him know that he was measuring the lives of the Israelites and those in Judah. God had shown mercy to them when they had turned from him and done evil, but a day was coming when he would send judgment upon them. He wanted Amos to warn them that perchance some of them would repent and turn from their evil ways.

Boys and girls, today God has a standard for us to live by. It is a straight way and the Bible is our plumbline. We must build our life by God's Word. The plummet stops at gravity's dead center and the taut line is absolutely straight. We cannot write our own rules of right living. It must be God's rules. In building a house the foundation must be plumbed. If it is out of line, the farther up it goes, the more out of line it gets. The foundation must be straight so we can start out right.

Boys and girls, you cannot build a straight life unless you let Jesus come into your heart. That should be the beginning of your building, the foundation. Then you have Him to help you build your life straight. Seek Jesus with all of your heart and be found of Him. Then begin to build your life. When Jesus comes along and tests your building with a plumbline, which is the Word of God, He will find it correct and straight.

What would a person build on a foundation that is built by the devil? Hatred, lying, quarreling, disobedience, jealousy, etc. But if Jesus has built your foundation, it is straight. When God measures

your life by his plumbline he will find it lined up with divine love, truthfulness, obedience, forgiveness, kindness, peace, etc. Boys and girls, it would be a wise thing in life to live by God's Word.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 2, October 8, 1967

AMOS SPEAKS FOR GOD

Amos 1:1; 7:7-15

Amos 1:1 The words of Amos, who was among the herdmen of Tekoa, which he saw concerning Israel in the days of Uzziah king of Judah, and in the days of Jeroboam the son of Joash king of Israel, two years before the earthquake.

Amos 7:7 Thus he shewed me; and, behold, the Lord stood upon a wall made by a plumbline, with a plumbline in his hand.

8 And the Lord said unto me, Amos, what seest thou? And I said, A plumbline. Then said the Lord, Behold, I will set a plumbline in the midst of my people Israel: I will not again pass by them any more:

9 And the high places of Isaac shall be desolate, and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste; and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword.

10 Then Amaziah the priest of Beth-el sent to Jeroboam king of Israel, saying, Amos hath conspired against thee in the midst of the house of Israel: the land is not able to bear all his words.

11 For thus Amos saith, Jeroboam shall die by the sword, and Israel shall surely be led away captive out of their own land.

12 Also Amaziah said unto Amos, O thou seer, go, flee thee away into the

land of Judah, and there eat bread, and prophesy there:

13 But prophesy not again any more at Bethel: for it is the king's chapel, and it is the king's court.

14 Then answered Amos, and said to Amaziah, I was no prophet, neither was I a prophet's son; but I was an herdman, and a gatherer of sycamore fruit:

15 And the Lord took me as I followed the flock, and the Lord said unto me, Go, prophesy unto my people Israel.

Memory Verse: The lion hath roared, who will not fear? the Lord God hath spoken, who can but prophesy? Amos 3:8.

Central Thought: God's Bible is the plumbline and our lives the wall. How does it measure by God's plumbline?

QUESTIONS:

1. What did Amos do for a living? Where did he live?

2. How many years before the earthquake did this take place?

3. Who were the kings of Judah and Israel, God's chosen people who had separated into two nations because of sin?

4. Where was the Lord standing and what did He have in His hand in the vision Amos saw?

5. Where did the Lord say he set what was in His hand?

6. Did the people measure to God's Word?

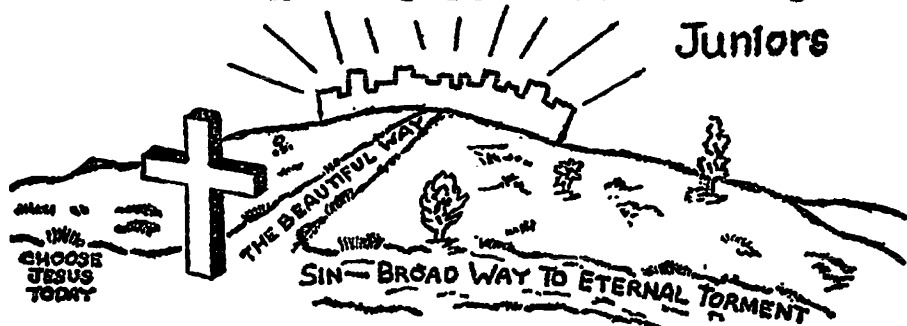
7. What are we measured by today?

8. Name some of the things that would measure crooked. Straight.

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 18, No. 4

Oct., Nov., Dec., 1967

Part Three

Oct. 15

A Prince Is Punished

(2 Samuel 15-19)

A very handsome prince named Absalom lived in the palace in Jerusalem. When he grew to manhood he often thought about the time when his father would die. He wanted to become the king. Perhaps he did not know that God had already chosen Solomon, his younger brother, to become the new king.

Absalom grew tired of waiting for his father to die. He planned to steal the kingdom away from him while he was yet alive. He began to act very friendly toward the people. He would treat them very kindly and listen closely to their problems. No doubt he told them of the many things he would do for them if he were only their king. They were attracted to him and thought he would make a great king.

King David, his father, was very busy with his many duties as king. He did not know that his son was stealing the hearts of the people. He was pleased when Absalom asked his

permission to go to Hebron to worship the Lord. He did not know that Absalom planned that very day to take the kingdom. He did not intend to worship the Lord but to be made king and then he would return to Jerusalem and take the throne.

King David was very surprised when a messenger hurried to him with the news that Absalom had been crowned king at Hebron. He knew what would happen if he found him there when he returned, so with his faithful followers he hurried to leave the city at once. This was indeed a sad hour for poor David. From his birth, he had loved his son and now his own child had risen up against him, ready to take his life. David remembered how he had one time sinned against God and the prophet told him that he would have trouble in his household. Now it had come. He covered his head and felt very humble. He and his faithful friends wept with him as they left the city. David knew that one cannot do wrong and get by for sin will be punished.

One of David's followers who was a very wise man hurried to join the

king and his fleeing company. But King David told Hushai to go back and stay in Jerusalem and help Absalom. He told him that he could learn of Absalom's plans that way and let him (David) know. Hushai thought that this would be a good plan so he returned.

When Absalom and his friends came to the palace at Jerusalem they saw at once that David and his faithful friends had run away. They were surprised to see Hushai still there. Hushai told Absalom that he would help him as he had helped David in days past. Because Hushai was a very wise man Absalom was glad to keep him in his court.

Now Absalom and his friends at once planned to send an army to capture David and kill him. They wanted all of David's followers to become servants of the new king. But as Hushai listened he said, "Your plan is not good. David is a mighty soldier and his servants know how to fight bravely. They will defeat your few men. First you must gather a large army together and then go out after the old king." Hushai spoke this because he wished to give David more time to get far away to a safe hiding-place. Absalom thought this a good plan.

Now Hushai sent the sons of the priests with a message to David telling him to flee across the Jordan River at once. The sons of the priests started to go to David with Hushai's message when a young man saw them. He hurried to tell the new king. Absalom sent some soldiers to catch them but they hid in a well until the soldiers had gone back to the city. Then they ran on to tell David the words of Hushai. King David took

his servants and fled across the Jordan River.

Absalom gathered together a large army and he thought his friends would fight harder if he went with them. So he led them out of Jerusalem, riding on a mule as was the custom of kings in that day. A great host of men followed, all armed and ready to fight against David and his men.

King David's friends would not let him go out to battle but he told them to be kind to his son Absalom if they should find him in the woods. Even though he was an ungrateful son, David still loved him and with anxious heart waited for the results of the meeting in the woods.

Many of Absalom's soldiers were killed and others scattered by the servants of King David in the thick woods. As Absalom was riding through the woods trying to escape from David's servants, his mule ran under the boughs of a great oak tree and Absalom was caught by his head in the thick boughs. His mule ran away, leaving him hanging there alone. Joab, David's chief captain, and others killed Absalom as he hung there.

When David heard about his son's death he did not rejoice because of the victory but covered his face and wept aloud. No one felt like rejoicing over the victory.

Boys and girls, you can't do wrong and get by. Absalom was punished because of his wicked plans. —M. M.

THE SECOND SPACEMAN

The second spaceman lived nearly 3000 years ago. He was a prophet. Yuri Gagarin and John Glenn prob-

ably would have laughed at this space man's queer flying togs—a suit of skin and a leather girdle! There wasn't any space ship for him, either. How did he make the trip? "And Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven" 2 Kings 2:11.

If we repent of our sins and sincerely turn to the Lord and ask him with godly sorrow he will forgive us of our sins.

Dear Boys and Girls:

You cannot do wrong and get by. Men and women cannot do wrong and get by; neither can nations do wrong and get by with God. Sin will be punished. Why were forty-two children torn by bears? Read 2 Kings 2:23, 24. What happened to a young man named Absalom who tried to take his father's throne from him? Read 2 Sam. 18:9. What happened to Lot's wife when she turned and looked back at Sodom when God told her not to? Read Gen. 19:26. What happened to Sodom and Gomorrah because they had great wickedness in their city? Read Gen. 19:12, 24. Remember God is the Lord of history. Sin will be punished.

Our lesson points out to us that God's wrath will not be held back forever. Three transgressions were to bring forth punishments and four were more than enough. In other words, God is merciful for a long time but there is a time when punishment will come. Damascus, Syria, Judah, and Israel committed a series of sins, each sin greater than the one before it.

The prophet Amos speaks in our lesson of three nations that are to be punished. First he tells of the wickedness of Damascus, Syria, a neighbor nation of Israel. They invaded the Gileadites'

country, which was a part of Israel east of Jordan, and treated them cruelly. They crushed them under iron threshing-machines. (2 Kings 13:7.) How terrible a sight for God to look down upon. Surely their sin would be punished. Our first verse says because of this "I [God] will not turn away the punishment thereof." When a nation sows, it must reap, just as a person reaps what he sows. God promised to send a fire and destroy the royal palaces. Money and riches cannot buy out God. God will punish wickedness. The "bar" or gates of the city were to be broken. Disgrace and ruin came to this nation. This came to pass when the king of Assyria took Damascus and carried away the people into captivity. Read 2 Kings 16:9.

Now Judah also had done wrong. Damascus, Syria was judged for injuries done to man but Judah and Israel are judged for insults to God. Notice that they "despised the law of the Lord, and have not kept his commandments." They also worshipped idols as did their fathers. Boys and girls, it is a terrible sin not to live up to God's laws when you know what they are. You can't say that God will take care of me because my father or mother lives right because you will have to give an account for yourself. Notice the last verse in our lesson where it is mentioned about the goodness of God to Israel. They had been brought up out of Egypt by the hand of God and He had done many wonderful miracles in their sight. Can you name some of the miracles he performed for them? God did punish Israel and Judah but he didn't "utterly destroy the house of Jacob" because through him Jesus was to come to the world.

God punishes nations today when they turn away from God. It is a fearful thing to sin because we can't do wrong and get by.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 3, October 15, 1967

THE LORD OF HISTORY

Amos 1:3-5; 2:4-8; 9:7, 8

Amos 1:3 Thus saith the Lord; For three transgressions of Damascus, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because they have threshed Gilead with threshing instruments of iron:

4 But I will send a fire into the house of Hazael, which shall devour the palaces of Benhadad.

5 I will break also the bar of Damascus, and cut off the inhabitant from the plain of Aven, and him that holdeth the sceptre from the house of Eden: and the people of Syria shall go into captivity unto Kir, saith the Lord.

Amos 2:4 Thus saith the Lord; For three transgressions of Judah, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because they have despised the law of the Lord, and have not kept his commandments, and their lies caused them to err, after the which their fathers have walked:

5 But I will send a fire upon Judah, and it shall devour the palaces of Jerusalem.

6 Thus saith the Lord; For three transgressions of Israel, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because they sold the righteous for silver, and the poor for a pair of shoes;

7 That pant after the dust of the earth on the head of the poor, and turn aside the way of the meek: and a man and his father will go in unto the same maid, to profane my holy name:

8 And they lay themselves down upon clothes laid to pledge by every altar,

and they drink the wine of the condemned in the house of their God.

Amos 9:7 Are ye not as children of the Ethiopians unto me, O children of Israel? saith the Lord. Have not I brought up Israel out of the land of Egypt? and the Philistines from Caph-tor, and the Syrians from Kir?

8 Behold, the eyes of the Lord God are upon the sinful kingdom, and I will destroy it from off the face of the earth; saving that I will not utterly destroy the house of Jacob, saith the Lord.

Memory Verse: God reigneth over the heathen: God sitteth upon the throne of his holiness. Psalm 47:8.

Central Thought: Through Christ we can help others to live right, thereby helping God accomplish his purposes but we must remember that God will write the last pages of history.

QUESTIONS:

1. What children were punished because they did wrong?

2. Tell about a man and woman who did wrong and were punished.

3. What cities were destroyed because of sin?

4. What three nations are discussed in our lesson?

5. What do the words "for three" and "for four" in our lesson mean?

6. What terrible sin did Damascus, Syria commit?

7. What was their punishment? (See 2 Kings 16:9.)

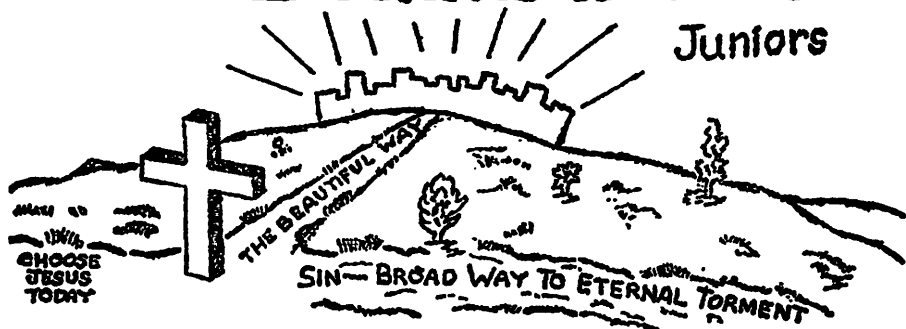
8. How did Judah and Israel treat God?

9. Read all about the punishment of Judah in 2 Kings 25:7-10.

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Part Four

Oct. 22

Hate Evil, Love Good*

"Oh, here is Lonnie's ball," Bill said out loud as he reached down and picked up the ball that was half hidden in the grass. He threw it up and caught it. He felt it and threw it up again. "That is a dandy ball," thought Bill. "I wish I had a ball like that." He looked around him and no one was in sight. He put the ball in his pocket. He went home. There he put the ball in the chest drawer that he always kept locked. He had other things in there that he didn't want anyone to know about.

Bill had been taught by his parents to be honest and to live for God but he had been running around with a couple of boys who did not know much about God and the right way to live. At first he thought it was terrible the way they did. He told them he wouldn't steal or lie and they called him names. At first it did not bother him to be made fun of but he began to think that these fellows

were getting by with all their mischief and having a lot of fun. Besides they had more to play with than he did. They kept telling him that he could have more things, too, if he would just take them. Then one day Robert said to Bill, "Why, there are lots of things at the store. We never take the last thing they have. They are rich and we are poor and deserve to have some of the things they have. Why don't you get your share? See this knife I picked up at the dime store? It is a dandy and your little old knife is not much good. If you were not such a chicken you could have a nice knife like I do." Bill began to think that perhaps Robert was right after all. He seemed like such a likeable fellow and it didn't bother him to take things. He had always been afraid that something terrible would happen if he stole anything but Robert seemed to be getting by with it.

These were thoughts brought to Bill by Satan and he should have resisted them. Instead he began to believe them and decided he would take something, too. The first time

*parable

he tried it, his conscience bothered him terribly and he was ashamed to be around his parents for fear they could see in his face that he was a thief. Since no one found out about it, Bill went deeper and deeper into sin. How awful it was for Bill to listen to the devil talk to him and get him to do such terrible things. He was like some people that the prophet Isaiah talked about in the Bible. He said that some people "call evil good, and good evil." (Isa. 5:20.)

One day Bill decided he needed a new bicycle. His was getting worn out. But if he stole a bicycle his folks would be sure to find it out for he couldn't hide it in his secret drawer. So the devil suggested that he steal some money. "Why not take some of the money that your Aunt Clara has in her purse? Didn't you see her open it and there was a twenty dollar bill and a ten? You could take it just before she leaves and she would not be here to find out you took it. She is leaving in the morning and has her ticket. She probably won't open her purse any more." That was the devil talking to Bill. Ordinarily Bill would have been afraid to do such a terrible thing but he was getting farther and farther in the clutches of the devil and believing him more and more. How terrible for such a young boy to get started down the wrong road and ruin his life!

Everything apparently went off smoothly as Aunt Clara was on the train and the \$30.00 was in Bill's pocket. And now the devil told Bill another lie which he believed. He told him to pretend that he had worked for Farmer Brown and been paid the money at different times. And then he did mow a lawn so he told

his mother he had been given extra money for that. And he said he had been saving his money for a long time.

"Now, Bill, your tales don't fit together," Father said when Bill tried to explain his brand new bicycle. He questioned him real closely. "I think I will just go see Farmer Brown and ask him how much he paid you."

"Why are you going to do that?" Bill asked with a startled look. He knew that he had not worked at all for Mr. Brown.

"I am sorry, Bill, but for some time I have been grieved because of the things I have seen you doing. And those boys you insist on playing with are not a good influence. I know they have been in trouble and since you stick so close to them you probably don't think what they do is so bad. This is a wrong attitude for anyone to take. We must do as the Bible tells us. We must 'hate evil and love good.' "

"We aren't to hate anybody," Bill said. "Just because they got into trouble does that mean I must hate them?"

"No, we are not to hate anybody but we are to hate the evil things and sins that the person does. Jesus loved the sinner but he will punish them if they do not repent of their sins. He loved them but not their sins. He will not dwell in their hearts when sin is there, yet he loves them. You can't keep company with evil people and feel that their sins are all right. You must love them but not their ways."

You see, the devil lied to Bill for the boys had been caught up with and punished. And now he was being caught up with, too. He didn't get by as the devil said he would. Aunt

Clara had written to his parents telling them about her missing money.

When Bill was able to see how the devil had tricked him and led him down the wrong road away from Jesus he was so sorry for his sins. "Oh, Jesus, won't you forgive me?" prayed Bill with bitter tears. After Daddy and Mother prayed with him, Jesus did forgive him and how glad he was to have a clear conscience again. He set right to work to make right all his wrongs and repay all that he had stolen. What a load was lifted from his soul! From that day on Bill endeavored to make straight paths for his feet so he would not have anything to straighten up. You can't do wrong and get by.

—M. Miles

Read John 3:16. It is the gospel story in a nutshell.

Dear Boys and Girls:

Did you know that you cannot live alone in this world? Your life is touching others and also you will have to give an account to God how you live. Therefore, you should have the right kind of relations with God and others. There is a relationship between you and your parents, your brothers and sisters and the children at school, also your teacher. You want these contacts to be righteous and good. There can be bad relationships but God is demanding and expecting right deeds from you. But of course you can disregard God's demands but you will be punished for doing so. If your relationship with God is right, then it will be right with others.

Our lesson is a sermon that the prophet Amos is preaching to the people in his day. He is telling them what God had told him that He sees. Let us make

a list of the sins that are pointed out. The people were living wickedly and causing others to live the same. They were forgetting God and they were going to have to give an account to Him. Their sins were many and great.

1. They afflicted the just. 2. They took bribes. 3. They did not give justice in the "gate" or court. 4. They sprawled out on beds of ivory and enjoyed the wealth they took from the poor. (verse 4) 5. They lived in luxury by eating the lambs and calves. 6. They sang wicked songs while they reveled in sin. 7. They drank wine in bowls. Do you see any of these wicked things being done around us today? Boys and girls, these things will lead souls to hell. Those who do these wicked sins not only go there themselves, but they lead others there, also. Not many persons want to drink strong drinks alone, but they want others to drink with them. How terrible it is to drink strong drinks and harm your body and then cause others to do things that they would not otherwise do! If you never drink the first drink, you will never become a drunkard.

Can you reread the above list and tell if there are any things listed that our nation is guilty of today? Do you know of someone who is living in this manner? We need some prophets like Amos today to cry out against sin and its end which is hell. Amos pronounced a "woe" upon those who were at "ease" or who carelessly neglected their souls. Jesus tells about a man who did that. Read Luke 12:16-20.

The prophet Amos said for them to "seek good, and not evil, that ye may live and so the Lord, the God of hosts, shall be with you. Hate the evil and love the good." Boys and girls, won't you take that for your standard? If you think that the evil things around

you are not very bad, it will soon cause you to think it would be all right for you to do them. You will then be punished like the people in the days of Amos were. Amos told them they were going to be taken captive and punished.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 4, October 22, 1967

GOD DEMANDS RIGHT LIVING

Amos 5:12-15; 6:1, 4-8

Amos 5:12 For I know your manifold transgressions, and your mighty sins: they afflict the just, they take a bribe, and they turn aside the poor in the gate from their right.

13 Therefore the prudent shall keep silence in that time; for it is an evil time.

14 Seek good, and not evil, that ye may live: and so the Lord, the God of hosts, shall be with you, as ye have spoken.

15 Hate the evil, and love the good, and establish judgment in the gate: it may be that the Lord God of hosts will be gracious unto the remnant of Joseph.

Amos 6:1 Woe to them that are at ease in Zion, and trust in the mountain of Samaria, which are named chief of the nations, to whom the house of Israel came!

4 That lie upon beds of ivory, and stretch themselves upon their couches, and eat the lambs out of the flock, and the calves out of the midst of the stall;

5 That chant to the sound of the viol, and invent to themselves instruments of musick, like David;

6 That drink wine in bowls, and anoint themselves with the chief oint-

ments: but they are not grieved for the affliction of Joseph.

7 Therefore now shall they go captive with the first that go captive, and the banquet of them that stretched themselves shall be removed.

8 The Lord God hath sworn by himself, saith the Lord the God of hosts, I abhor the excellency of Jacob, and hate his palaces: therefore will I deliver up the city with all that is therein.

Memory Verse: Seek good, and not evil, that ye may live: and so the Lord, the God of hosts, shall be with you, as ye have spoken. Amos 5:14.

Central Thought: Only a right relationship with God will help us to be a blessing to others in this world.

QUESTIONS:

1. What kind of a relationship are we to have with God and others?

2. Name two of the sins that were being committed in the day of Amos.

3. Can you name some of the sins committed in that day that are also done today?

4. What effects does strong drink have on the body?

5. What did Jesus tell about a man who was "at ease" and neglected his soul?

6. Fill in the following words spoken by Amos: "Hate the _____ and love the _____."

7. How can we love a person, yet hate the evil or sins he commits?

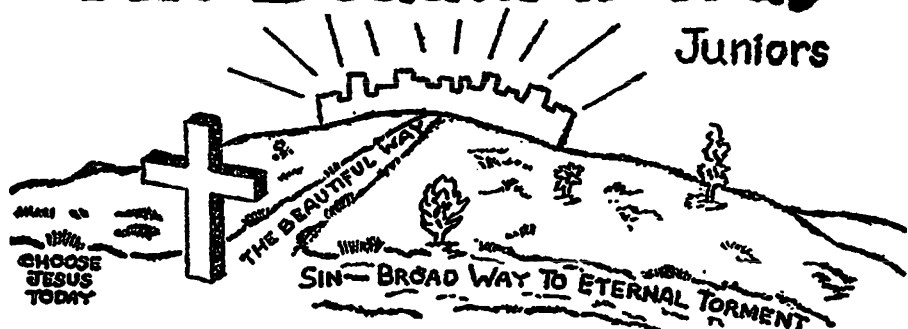
8. How did Jesus prove that he loved sinners?

9. Will we treat others right if we let Jesus be the master of our soul and body?

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Juniors



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Part Five

Oct. 29

A Prayer

Please be with us in thy love and power;
Give us a spiritual understanding
Of thy Word, Lord, in this hour.
Blessed Jesus, precious Savior,

Open our hearts to receive thy Word,
Lord,

Open our spiritual eyes to see thy love.
And our souls with divine love.
Fill our hearts with love and kindness,

Make us ever ready to help one another;
Make us able to do thy blessed will.
Keep us free from sin, Lord,
And in the center of thy will.

Give us perfect love like Jesus,
Love for our fallen man,
Love to win them to the Savior,
Who died for all mankind.

Gracious Father, give us love for sinners,
Love to win the souls Christ died to save,
Love to labor for the Master,
Now while it is called today.

—Dolly Williams.

The Lesson

"Come on, Ellis and Willie, let's go dig caves in the sand hills down by Red River," said fourteen-year-old Lester in his manly voice.

"May I go? Please, let me go," begged Jesse, overhearing the conversation.

"No," insisted the older brothers. "You're too little! You would just be in the way."

The picture of their leaving flashed through Mother's mind as she thought of her big boys. Willie, the eldest, now eighteen, and Ellis, age sixteen, were as kind and thoughtful as young people could be. Lester, though only fourteen, was almost six feet tall and already a handsome youth.

As Mother sat there thinking, she glanced out the window and could see Ellis running furiously toward the house. She ran toward the crude, wooden front door and had almost reached it when in burst Ellis, red-faced and gasping for breath.

"Mother!" he stammered, his eyes pleading and voice trembling, "It's

Lester. The sand caved in on him. Willie is there digging. Get tools and help!" He collapsed on a cane-bottom chair for a moment, only to jump up again as his father, William, came running from the barn. In a few quick words his father had the story. His big frame moved quickly. Though he seldom showed outward affection for his children, each one was dearer to him than his own life. In an unbelievably short time he, Ellis, and a few neighbors were quickly heading toward the sand hills.

Mother watched them go, her heart pounding. It all seemed like a dreadful dream. She glanced at the younger children, who were strangely quiet.

"Everything will be all right," she said softly, trying not to show her anxiety. She sat silently in the wooden rocking chair, trying to pray for Lester, for the rescuers, for help. Somehow her prayers were hindered with the thought that this was Sunday morning. If only we had gone to meeting this would not have happened, she kept repeating to herself. She remembered when they had been faithful to the services and faithful in having family prayer together. Early in their marriage she and William had been saved and they loved God and His people. But in recent years they had become careless and let the cares of life crowd in. It is no easy task to care for and clothe six active children. Somehow with all the work there was to do, family worship had been neglected.

"But, O God," she promised, "help us now and we will try to do better."

It seemed she sat there for hours staring out the window in the direction of the sand hills and Red River. At last her straining eyes discovered a small band of men coming. Bitter

tears sprang suddenly to her eyes as she saw a long form carried by four men. She could tell all hope was gone by the slow, silent way in which they were walking.

The next day a group of friends and relatives gathered around the grave. William stood beside his wife. He began to pray, silently, but very fervently. The past few hours he had thought much, but said little. He felt no bitterness in his heart nor did he blame God. No, he felt rather to be blamed himself. As he prayed he asked God to forgive Him for failing Him and his family. He promised Him that he would faithfully teach his children about Him and His way and set the right example before them. As he prayed, he was reminded of the scripture, "And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: and thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house . . . and when thou risest up." (Deut. 6:6, 7).

William did as he had promised God he would do. Never again did the children decide for themselves what they would do on Sunday morning. They knew they would be in church. Before retiring at night, William and Evisa prayed and read the Bible with the children. Once when William retired early from weariness, Evisa reminded him of the tragedy and he quickly dressed for family prayer.

And time has proven a lesson well learned and an example well set.—Sel

The Danger of a Lie

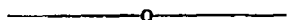
There is nothing more dangerous to character than a lie. One is able to track down a bear, and hunt a

tiger, and slay a lion; but a lie evades the greatest skill of the huntsman. We need God's unfailing help when a dangerous lie is let loose in the world by an unthinking person with an unscrupulous tongue.

A good record may be yours and a blameless reputation, but let the hungry wolf of a lie get on your track and nothing short of a miracle will save your good name from its terrible fangs.

Some may think that a lie can be lived down, but this is not true, this is an evil day we live in, and it is so easy for people's tongues to turn readily to evil reports, like hounds that hear the call of the wild and scent the fresh game in the dew, so do people's thoughts run forward to join the chase that has for game a person's honor and good name.

A lie is a dangerous thing and one that can wreck a life, young or old.



Dear Boys and Girls:

Do you know why we meet together in the chapel to worship God? Did you know that Jesus said, "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." Matt. 18:20. When several righteous people are met together Jesus is there. So when we worship we come right into the presence of Jesus to express our devotion, awe, honor, and to render service to God who is holy, just, and good. He holds our very life in his hands and will send judgment against those who continually sin and presume upon the mercies of God. God is a God of love, yet he is a God of justice. We must be sincere in our worship to God.

Our lesson is about the popular religion of that day which the people kept

but they did not worship God from the heart. Bethel was the most splendid religious center in Israel. But when the people came there to offer their sacrifices they transgressed. They offered the sacrifice of thanksgiving with leaven in it which was a direct disobedience to the law of God for true worship of that day. God said he hated their feast days and that he would not accept their worship because it was not from the heart. The last part of the lesson tells how they lived daily, yet they wanted to worship God as an outward show. Jesus spoke of those people and said, "But in vain they do worship me. This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me." Matt. 15:8, 9.

God looks at the heart. Man looks on the outward appearance. eW read in 1 Sam. 16:1-13 about Samuel when he went to the house of Jesse. Saul, the king, had disobeyed God and Samuel was grieved. God told Samuel that he would give the people another king.

The people were surprised to see Samuel coming to Bethlehem, the home town of Jesse. They prepared a feast and did as Samuel the prophet told them. When the time came the seven sons of Jesse passed before Samuel. When the eldest son passed before Samuel he was sure he was the one. He was tall and handsome and Samuel was pleased with his appearance. But God said, "This is not the man. You are judging by the outward appearance; I am looking at the heart." Each one passed before him but God did not choose any of them. Samuel asked Jesse if he had any more sons. Jesse replied, "I have one more, but I did not bring him to the feast. He is my youngest son and is in the field caring for the sheep." When Dav-

id arrived God told Samuel to anoint him king. Boys and girls, God looks on the heart. When we worship God it must be from the heart. Our lives must be right each day and then on Sunday we can come to the house of God and offer our praises and thanksgiving and listen to God's word with a pure heart, ready to obey God. That is true worship, and not popular religion.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 5, October 29, 1967

POPULAR RELIGION AND TRUE WORSHIP

Amos 4:4, 5; 5:21-24; 8:4-7

Amos 4:4 Come to Bethel, and transgress; at Gilgal multiply transgression; and bring your sacrifices every morning and your tithes after three years.

5 And offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving with leaven, and proclaim and publish the free offerings: for this liketh you, O ye children of Israel, saith the Lord God.

5:21 I hate, I despise your feast days, and I will not smell in your solemn assemblies.

22 Though ye offer me burnt offerings and your meat offerings, I will not accept them: neither will I regard the peace offerings of your fat beasts.

23 Take thou away from me the noise of thy songs; for I will not hear the melody of thy viols.

24 But let judgment run down as waters, and righteousness as a mighty stream.

Amos 8:4 Hear this, O ye that swallow up the needy, even to make the poor of the land to fail.

5 Saying, When will the new moon be gone, that we may sell corn? and the sabbath, that we may set forth wheat, making the ephah small, and the shekel great, and falsifying the balances by deceit?

6 That we may buy the poor for silver, and the needy for a pair of shoes; yea, and sell the refuse of the wheat?

7 The Lord hath sworn by the excellency of Jacob, Surely I will never forget any of their works.

Memory Verse: But the Lord said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart. 1 Sam. 16:7.

Central Thought: When we worship God, He looks at our hearts and sees our daily life.

QUESTIONS:

1. Why did not God accept the offerings, tithes, and sacrifices in the days of Amos the prophet?

2. What did God mean in verse 21 of our lesson?

3. What did Jesus mean when he said, "They honoreth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me"? (Matt. 15:8.)

4. What does the word "worship" mean?

5. Tell about the popular religion of today?

6. Read the memory verse and explain it.

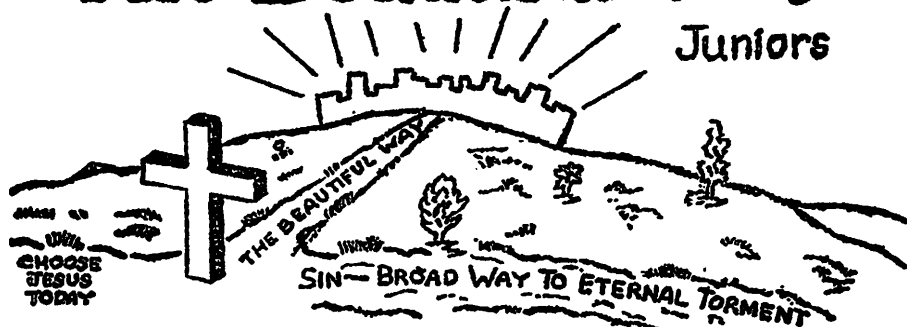
7. Which of Jesse's sons did Samuel think would make a good king? Why?

8. Which one did God choose as king? Why did he choose this one?

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 18, No. 4

Oct., Nov., Dec., 1967

Part Six

Nov. 5

BE GOOD

"Be good," says Daddy oft' to me,

"Be good," says Mother, too;

"Be good," says Granny, "when you play,

And when you've work to do."

"Be good," I tell my naughty self,

That's what I'd like to be—

But "being good" seems like a job
That's much too hard for me.

But since, one day, I met the Lord—

Yes, boys can meet Him, too—

My life has been completely changed,

My old heart's been made new.

No longer must I try alone

To do the things I should:

Now Jesus keeps me all the while,

In Him I can "be good."

Does It Seem Dark?

The minister was telling about a small boy whose duty every night was to set the empty milk bottles outside the kitchen door. One night when he opened the door, the outside was very dark. Rushing back to his

father the boy said, "It's too dark to go alone," whereupon the father gladly accompanied him in the pursuance of his nightly duty.

It is too dark to go alone and day by day the darkness deepens. So many are losing the way. There is no light to guide, no hand to grasp, no bank upon which to stand for so many. Dark days do come and sometimes the gloom is most depressing. But we have a Father who is in the darkness with us. We need not fear so long as He holds our hand.

Is the darkness too dense for you? You have not felt His presence! Are your feet fumbling through the mire of the lowlands? You have not found the solid rock, Jesus Christ, upon which you may tread securely! Have you wandered away from the light? Turn to Him Who says, "I am the light of the world!"

Are you seeking security? He is our security. We are safe when we are with Him. An author has expressed these thoughts distinctly when he wrote: "I'd rather walk alone in the dark with Him than walk in the light alone."

Keep close to Him. He will not fail you! —Selected

"It's God's Worry Now"

"I surely would like to have a fork off that peach tree," Wayne's uncle said as he looked at the tree. "Boys, did you know that some people can hold a green peach fork up and walk around and when they come to where there is water under the ground it will turn downward?"

"How does it work?" asked Willie.

"No one knows exactly, but some think it has to do with the electricity in the body that causes it," Uncle Frank explained. "I can do it and have found water for others by using a peach fork. When a well was drilled there would be water there."

"I'll climb up and get you a peach fork if you want me to," said Wayne.

"All right, that will be fine," answered Uncle Frank.

Wayne climbed up in the tree and as he was cutting off the fork, the limb on which he was standing broke. He fell on a chain-link fence beneath the tree. The barbs dug deep into Wayne's leg. It was a bad looking cut. His mother and uncle helped him into the house and they cleaned and dressed his wounds.

Later when Wayne's father came home, Wayne wanted him to pray for him. His father looked at the cut places and then re-dressed them. They had prayer and asked God to take care of everything for them. After prayer, Wayne's mother told him not to be afraid any more for it would be all right. Wayne looked at his mother and said, "It's not my worry, it's God's worry, now."

When we pray we can know in our hearts that God will take care of that which we have brought to him. We should always have real faith in God. There is no room for worry if we will trust God. —M. Miles

A Strong Family

"You just ought to feel my muscle, Papa," said Johnny. "Don't you think it's big and hard?"

The blue sweater and the flannel shirt were pushed up into wrinkles at the shoulder, and a very soft and pink arm presented itself proudly for inspection.

"Pretty good for nine years," said Papa, smiling.

"I hope some day to see you as strong as a family I know."

"What's their name?" asked John forgetting his muscle at the first hint of a story.

"Their name is Never," answered Father, with a queer little wrinkle at each eye-corner, as if a tiny little smile was curled up there.

"Never! What a funny name!" exclaimed Johnny. "What are their other names?"

"Oh, there are a lot of them. There is Mr. Never-drink; he has such clear eyes, and such a steady step, you'd know him anywhere; a strong fellow is Mr. Never-drink, always ready to lift his end of the log.

"Another is Mr. Never-swear; you will know him by the company he keeps; and I suppose he grows strong by not wasting his breath.

"Then there's Mr. Never-lie, whom everybody trusts; and Mr. Never-be unkind, whom everybody loves; and Mr. Never-forget, who loses nothing; and Mr. Never-be-idle, who does the

world's work; and Mr. Never-be-dis-couraged—"

Papa stopped and laughed aloud, for Johnny was in the midst of a big yawn.

"You don't seem to care much about my strong people, Johnny," he said.

"I like stories about real people," replied Johnny.

"All right. Once there was a little boy who wanted to be very strong; oh, as strong as Samson! So he went to the strongest man on N street, and asked him how to get strong and hardy.

"By not touching strong drink," said the strong man on N Street.

"He asked another strong man the same question. 'Never swear,' said the man. 'It takes you into low company where God and men are dishonored.'

"Another said, 'Never lie. A single lie takes away a man's courage—' "

"Who was the little boy that talked to all those strong people, Papa?" interrupted Johnny suddenly.

"He was the little boy that I want my own boy to be," answered the father. "I want him to make friends with the Nevers' because they are the friends of God. And their family motto is this, 'Thus saith the Lord, Thou shalt not.' "

Dear Boys and Girls:

Did you ever see a giant? Goliath, the giant that David faced was over eleven feet tall. That was a great big giant to face but David trusted in the Lord to help him. He was not afraid. He had God on his side. King Saul wanted David to put on his own armor and helmet but David told him that he had not proved it so he could

not use it. David had proved God many times and he knew that He had never failed him. He believed that God would help him kill the giant and thus save the people of God from being made slaves to the Philistines.

Boys and girls, you face many giants every day. There is that big giant we call "Selfishness." He will come right into your life and cause you to bow to him. He is right there when Mother asks you to help straighten up the house because she is tired and weary. He wants you to think only of yourself. You don't want to do that. Then the big giant's sister called "Laziness" comes tripping in and tries to sit on your lap. But you must be like David. Arise in the name of the Lord and overpower both of them. Go right at the job with determination because you will not bow down to those big giants.

Giant Selfishness might try to get you to keep the best apple for yourself or take more candy than you should and then someone else will have to do with less. In many ways this giant tries to run over you. Do like David and overpower him in the name of the Lord. You want others who are selfish to know that God will help a person to do right.

Now there are many giants you face daily in your life. Giant "Fight Back" works hard to get you to obey him. Then there is that giant, "Fuss," and giant "Want Your Own Way" that tries to get you to let them live with you. They have awful names and I would not want to keep company with them, would you?

Of course you would never do what the giant "Lies" and giant "Thief" tell you to do. They are terrible characters. They will ruin your life if you listen to them. Live closely to God so

you can have His help to overcome all of those giants.

Boys and girls, be sure that you have given your heart to Jesus. He wants to be your Saviour. Kneel down and confess your sins to Jesus with godly sorrow. Ask him to forgive you and believe in your heart that He does. Then live a different life. Be careful and watch and pray. Jesus will help you to be a sweet person that will bring happiness to others. —Aunt Marie

Lesson 6, November 5, 1967

DAVID KILLS THE GIANT

1 Sam. 17:4, 36, 37, 40, 45, 46, 50, 51

1 Sam. 17:4 And there went out a champion out of the camp of the Philistines, named Goliath of Gath, whose height was six cubits and a span.

36 Thy servant slew both the lion and the bear: and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be as one of them, seeing he hath defied the armies of the living God.

37 David said moreover, The Lord that delivered me out of the paw of the lion, and out of the paw of the bear, he will deliver me out of the hand of this Philistine. And Saul said unto David, Go, and the Lord be with thee.

40 And he took his staff in his hand, and chose him five smooth stones out of the brook, and put them in a shepherd's bag which he had, even in a scrip; and his sling was in his hand: and he drew near to the Philistine.

45 Then said David to the Philistine, Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the Lord

of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou has defied.

46 This day will the Lord deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee, and take thine head from thee; and I will give the carcasses of the host of the Philistines this day unto the fowls of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth; that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel.

50 So David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and with a stone, and smote the Philistine, and slew him; but there was no sword in the hand of David.

51 Therefore David ran, and stood upon the Philistine, and took his sword, and drew it out of the sheath thereof, and slew him, and cut off his head therewith. And when the Philistines saw their champion was dead, they fled.

Memory Verse: This day will the Lord deliver thee into mine hand; ... that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel. 1 Sam. 17:46ab

Central Thought: Through the power of God you can overcome all the giants that you meet in life.

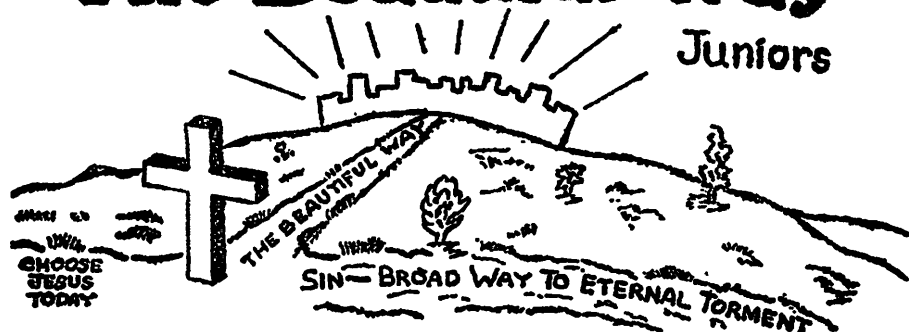
QUESTIONS:

1. What was the name of the giant who daily faced the Israelites?
2. How had God helped David in the past?
3. How many stones did he take in his shepherd's bag?
4. In whose name did David face the giant?
5. What did David want "all the earth" to know?
6. Whose sword did he use to cut off the giant's head?

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



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Part Seven

Nov. 12

Oh, Sow In Me

Oh, sow in me the seeds of life:
Thy word and truth divine!
I turn my heart from earthly strife
For brighter gems that shine.

Spring up within my inmost soul
The planting of the Lord:
A life that's given to His control
His pleasure to afford.

And may the fruit of faith and love
Spread forth their graces true
Directing souls to heaven above
And things forever new.

—Leslie Busbee

God Is Real

"Sarah, you believe there is a God, don't you?" Marie asked in surprise. Stella had stated loudly that there wasn't a God.

"Well, I don't really know," answered Sarah. "Sometimes I wonder if there is one. I know that some people believe there is a God and some do not."

"Oh, but there is a true and living God!" Marie declared. She was astonished to think that anyone would not believe in God, especially in America. She had heard that in the foreign lands there were people who did not believe in God. "Please help me to tell them about You," Marie prayed silently.

"How do you know there is a God?" Stella asked. She had heard her father talk to different ones who tried to convince him that there was a God.

"Know?" asked Marie in surprise, "why, when I pray to Him, He hears and answers my prayers. He heals me when I get sick. And He dwells within my heart by His Spirit. That's how I know."

"Dwells in your heart! What a laugh!" Stella said as she laughed real loud as she had seen her father do.

Marie did not join in her laugh and Sarah only grinned a little. "Oh, but you mustn't laugh like that!" Marie said. "It's terrible to laugh about God. That's mocking him. Don't you know that he is the one who lets you breathe? What if he did not let you take another breath? My father said

one man said one time that if there was a God to let him be hit by lightning and just then a bolt of lightning hit him and he died. I would be afraid to say the things you are saying."

"Well, I do feel uncomfortable when I talk like that. But how do you know that God can dwell in your heart?" Stella asked as she sat down on the swing beside Marie. Somehow she had a queer feeling about what Marie was saying. She couldn't explain it but there was a conviction inside her that Marie was right and that her daddy was wrong. She wondered if he had that queer feeling when he talked as he did about God. Her mother didn't say much about it but once in a while she would mention about going to meeting. Daddy would just laugh and say that he had lost nothing there that he needed to go and get and Mother would not say any more.

"But, Stella, God is real and He talks to us by His Spirit," Marie said with tears in her eyes. She loved God very much. "There is a devil, too, and he is also a spirit. We can't see God nor the devil but we can know them by the things they say to us. You know that something within you makes you know what is right and then another spirit will try to get you to do wrong. The one that tells you to do right is God and the one that tells you to do wrong is the devil. God has talked to men by His Spirit and they have written it all down for us so we can know about Him and the home he has prepared for us. That home is called heaven and it is for those who will love Him and obey his words that are written in the Bible. The Bible also tells us about the devil and hell, too. The

Bible tells us what sin is and that sin will keep us out of heaven. God loved us so much that he sent His only begotten Son, Jesus, to die on the cross for our sins. Sin has to be punished. We sinned so Jesus took our punishment for us and if we will believe that he took the punishment for our sins then God forgives us for Jesus' sake. But we have to quit sinning, or doing what is wrong. Then God is able to make our hearts pure and send His Holy Spirit to dwell in our hearts to help us to live right. We don't have to sin and when we die God will take us to heaven."

"Oh, Marie," Stella said with tears in her eyes, "I never heard it that way before. Do you have a Bible? I would like to read it for myself."

"I have a Bible that I will loan you but Sister Brown gave me a little book with one of the books of the Bible in it and I will give it to you. It is mostly the words of Jesus. Maybe we can get together and all three of us read it together."

"Let's do!" Stella and Sarah agreed.

Just then Stella's mother called her and the girls parted. During the next day Marie prayed much for the girls. She told her mother and father about them and they prayed for the girls in family worship. Marie wanted to be a good missionary. She wanted Stella and Sarah to be saved.

"I don't understand everything we read in this book of John," Stella remarked as the girls were taking turns reading the little book.

"Oh, no, you can't understand it all at once," Marie replied. "That's why the Bible is such a wonderful book. People have read it for years and it is always new. They learn something new every time. God only lets us know a little at a time. We have

been reading the book of John in family worship and Daddy pointed out that the 14th verse in this first chapter tells who the Word means that is mentioned in the first verse. That means Jesus, the Son of God. He was with God from the beginning when he made the world. Let us read some more."

"Oh, I just love to read this little book," Stella stated and Sarah agreed with her. "It makes me feel so good inside. Wasn't that wonderful how Jesus made the water turn into wine? And how do you suppose he knew that Nathaniel was under the fig tree when he never saw him there?"

The little Bible readings with Marie had aroused the girls' interest in the story of Jesus. They agreed to go with Marie to Sunday School where they could learn more. Marie was glad as she could see their faith in God grow. —M. Miles

God said, "My son, give me thine heart, and let thine eyes observe my ways." Prov. 23:26.

Dear Boys and Girls:

Our lessons in Hosea are hard to understand. The word "Hosea" means "salvatio" or "deliverer." He preached to the people who had turned away from God and were worshipping other gods. They did many evils as mentioned in our lesson. Hosea tells them that it is time to seek the Lord.

In 1 Kings 18:1a-40 we read about Elijah dealing with some people who had turned away from God. He told King Ahab that it would not rain upon the earth for three years because of the many sins of the people. They had turned away from God and worshipped an idol called Baal. They had forsaken

the commandments of the Lord and this brought trouble upon them.

After three years of famine Elijah told King Ahab to call all the people to Mount Carmel; also the prophets of Baal whom Queen Jezebel had brought into the land. King Ahab hastened to do that. When the host of curious people came together they saw Elijah the man whom the king had searched for during the dreary years of the awful famine.

"Why are you following first one god and then another? If the Lord be the true God, why not follow Him? But if Baal be the true god, then do not turn again to follow the Lord," Elijah told the people. They were not ready that day to answer Elijah so he told them that he had come to prove to them that very day which is the true God. He said, Now we will prepare two altars and the God who answers by fire and burns up the sacrifice, let him be the God."

The 450 priests of Baal took the bullock that they wanted and built an altar. Elijah told them that they could call upon Baal first to send fire from heaven to burn up their sacrifice. They began to pray to Baal but no answer came. From morning until noonday they cried. Elijah knew that Baal would not answer as he was just a stone image, but he said, "Perhaps he is asleep or gone on a journey." The priests cried even louder and cut themselves. They thought their god would be moved with pity but no answer came.

Finally the time came for the evening sacrifice at the temple. Elijah called the people to come close and he built an altar. He had twelve barrels of water poured over the sacrifice and wood.

When everything was ready, Elijah called upon the Lord, and fire fell from

the sky and burned up the sacrifice and the wood, and even licked up the water in the ditch. The people said, "The Lord, he is the God. The Lord he is the God!" After that God sent rain upon the land.

Boys and girls, there is only one God and we must not worship another.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 7, November 12, 1967

THE LURE OF OTHER GODS

Hosea 4:1, 2, 11, 12; 8:4, 11-14; 10:12

Hosea 4:1 Hear the word of the Lord, ye children of Israel: for the Lord hath a controversy with the inhabitants of the land, because there is no truth, nor mercy, nor knowledge of God in the land.

2 By swearing, and lying, and killing, and stealing, and committing adultery, they break out, and blood toucheth blood.

11 Whoredom and wine and new wine take away the heart.

12ab My people ask counsel at their stocks, and their staff declareth unto them: for the spirit of whoredoms hath caused them to err.

Hosea 8:4 They have set up kings, but not by me; they have made princes, and I knew not: of their silver and their gold have they made them idols, that they may be cut off.

11 Because Ephraim hath made many altars to sin, altars shall be unto him to sin.

12 I have written to him the great things of my law, but they were counted as a strange thing.

13 They sacrifice flesh for the sacrifices of mine offerings, and eat it; but

the Lord accepteth them not; now will he remember their iniquity, and visit their sins: they shall return to Egypt.

14 For Israel hath forgotten his MAKER, and buildeth temples; and Judah hath multiplied fenced cities: but I will send a fire upon his cities, and it shall devour the palaces thereof.

Hosea 10:12 Sow to yourselves in righteousness, reap in mercy; break up your fallow ground: for it is time to seek the Lord, till he come and rain righteousness upon you.

Memory Verse: Thou shalt have no other gods before me. Ex. 20:3.

Central Thought: There is only one true and living God who is able to help us when we call upon Him.

QUESTIONS:

1. Was God displeased because there was no "knowledge of the true God in the land"?

2. Name some of the wickedness that the people in Hosea's day were guilty of.

3. Complete this sentence. "For Israel hath _____ his _____." (See verse 14.)

4. If you sow in righteousness, what will you reap? (See Hosea 10:12)

5. Why did Elijah tell King Ahab that it would not rain for three years on the land?

6. How many altars were built on Mount Carmel when the people gathered there?

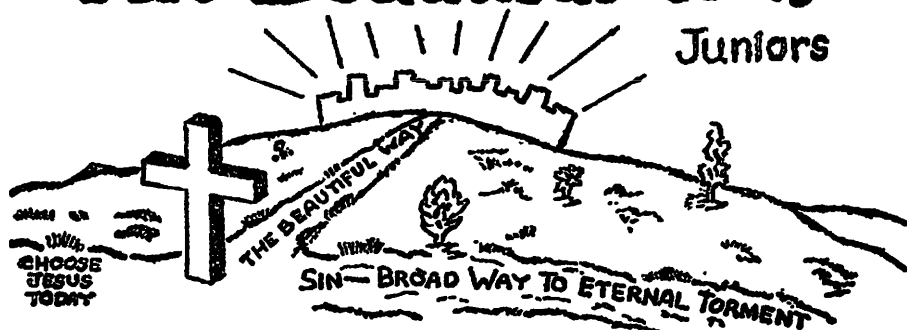
7. Who answered Elijah's prayers?

8. What did the people cry when God sent fire down from heaven and burned up the sacrifice on the altar that Elijah had built?

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 18, No. 4

Oct., Nov., Dec., 1967

Part Eight

Nov. 19

"Thou Shalt Not Kill"

Oh, how sad it is to hear
In the news throughout the year
Of the final work of hate,
Someone's death and awful fate.

Wars and strife the earth infest;
Far away is peace and rest;
Yet these words are written still:
God hath said, "Thou shalt not kill."

Can it be that man so blind
Ne'er the path of life will find
When plain teachings are ignored
From the doctrine of the Lord?

—Leslie Busbee

God's Treasure

The fourth grade of Washington school was enjoying the last-day picnic the school had each year. The boys and girls had just finished their lunch, eaten under the old chestnut tree in the middle of Sheppard's pasture, and were grouped about their teacher, Miss Allison.

"What will we do next, Miss Allison?" asked June Black, her dark eyes dancing with eagerness. "We don't have to go home yet, do we?"

"We don't want to go home! Please! We are having such a good time," begged the others.

Miss Allison shook her head and said smilingly, "No, we are not quite ready to go home. We are going to have a treasure hunt first. I have a list of objects written on sheets of paper. You must each find the objects, and the one who completes his list and reaches my home first will win a prize."

Shouts of laughter rose as the boys and girls began to read their lists. An old shoe, a collar button, a baby's sock, were mentioned among other items.

"I know I will be the winner," boasted Dennis Deal to June.

"I am not so sure," said June, tossing her head. "I know where to find all the items except one, and I think I can get that from my grandmother."

"Well, let us get started," said Miss Allison, briskly. "Remember, wheth-

er you complete your list or not, all come to my house."

The group scattered, calling merry farewells to one another.

Polly Gary, a quiet girl, hurried to her home. It was not difficult for her to find the objects, and she soon had them collected in a little basket.

"Be sure to bring Neddy's sock back again," laughed Mother. "Neddy has two fat little feet and one sock will hardly do."

"And my collar button!" Grandfather twinkled at her. "Of course, I may not need it soon, but I hate to hunt for collar buttons that are not in my drawer."

Polly laughed. "I will bring them back soon. I have all my list now, and," she finished seriously, "the most important is the last. I'm glad that I have many of those!"

Before long all the boys and girls were gathered in Miss Allison's pleasant living room. She began to check lists and articles, and finally declared, "Polly Gary is the winner. She was here first and has a complete list. In fact, all but six of you completed your lists."

A wave of protest rose from the six. "But Miss Allison, the last item was a Bible verse. We couldn't find one!"

"We don't have a Bible at my home," said Patty. "I didn't know where to look."

"We have a Bible," offered Dennis, "but I couldn't find it. My mother said it was in a cupboard somewhere, but she couldn't remember which cupboard."

"I thought I could get a verse from my grandmother," said June, "but she wasn't home."

"You must have had your Bible

handy," observed Patty, looking to Polly.

"Yes," said Polly, "I knew just where it was; but even had it been mislaid, I would have had my verse, and many more."

"What do you mean?" asked Dennis.

Polly felt shy, but answered bravely, "I have memorized a verse for each letter of the alphabet and some favorite chapters, besides."

Miss Allison looked approvingly at Polly. "It is a wonderful thing to memorize Bible verses, Polly. You will always remember them." Then she turned to the others.

"Did you know, boys and girls, that at one time people were forbidden to own Bibles, and if a Bible was found in a home, the owner and his family were punished?"

The boys and girls looked astonished. "I didn't know that, Miss Allison. Why?" June asked the question.

"A few centuries ago the men who translated the Bible were considered heretics and were severely punished. All Bibles were ordered to be burned and the people who loved God and His Word had great difficulty hiding their Bibles. Sometimes holes were cut in floor boards and the Bibles hidden there; sometimes Grandmother's footstool had a secret compartment where rested the family Bible. Always, when the father read from the sacred and precious Book, someone stood guard to watch for spies or soldiers."

"My!" said Dennis. "I'm glad we are allowed to have a Bible here. It—it makes me feel ashamed, though, because we put our Bible away and never read it."

"If we read the Bible," continued Miss Allison, "we will learn the way

of salvation. I am glad, too, that we do not have to hide our Bibles. But Polly has found a wonderful hiding place for hers. In Psalm 119:11, we read, "Thy word have I hid in mine heart." The verses in Polly's heart can never be taken away from her. They are well hidden."

"Now," Miss Allison finished, "I was going to give the winner a book of poems, but perhaps—I have a new Bible here that Polly might prefer. Which would you rather have?"

"Oh, the Bible, please," exclaimed Polly, joyfully. "I'm using an old one of Mother's, and although I love it, I would very much like to have one of my very own." —Selected

Jesus said to the man who had been sick for 38 years, "Sin no more, lest a worse thing come unto thee." John 5:14.

Dear Boys and Girls:

In our lesson today we are shown God's side and His feelings as He deals with His children, with a nation, and as He looks upon the world. God loves us just as he did the Israelites. He led them as a young nation out of Egypt. While they were there he heard their cries because they were being mistreated by hard taskmasters. He led them forth through the wilderness to the land of Canaan, performing many miracles for them day by day. He led them through the Red Sea on dry land and let the waters go back together on their enemies. He fed them manna and quails in the wilderness. He fought their battles for them when their enemies tried to kill them. He gave them great cities and much gold and land. How good God had been to the nation of Israel. They should have loved him. But they turned

to worship the stone and wooden images or idols that their neighbors worshipped. How this grieved the great heart of God. God would punish them as our parents punish us when we do wrong to help us to remember to do right. But again and again they wandered away from God. In our lesson He uses these words to explain his dealings with them: "I taught them how to go by taking them by the arms. I healed them. I drew them with cords of love. I took off the yoke (or trouble) and laid meat (treated them with love and good things) before them." Then we read about the grief and sorrow of the great heart of the God of love in the 8th verse. He yearns for his wayward people. He says, "How can I give thee up? Oh, how can I bear to punish you for your sins? How can I destroy you like Admah and Zeboim? (These are two cities that were destroyed with fire and brimstone like Sodom and Gomorrah were. See Deut. 29:23.) Mine heart is turned within me and my repentings are kindled together. My thoughts of punishment that must be meted out are mixed with thoughts of pity. If I give you the punishments you deserve there would be none of you left." God tempered his justice with mercy.

The Prophet Hosea pleads with the people to turn to God in the last part of our lesson. He was teaching them how to pray for forgiveness.

Today we have a similar situation. Men are still rejecting God's earnest pleadings. They are adrift on the sea of sin. (Draw a swimmer going out to sea.) God has sent His son, Jesus, in a last effort to save men. (Draw a boat and label it "Christ.") Jesus came personally here to this world to persuade men to turn to God and be ready to die when this old world is on fire.

They can get into the lifeboat, "Christ" or stay in the deep sea of sin and be swept to destruction. Will you accept Jesus today and get into the lifeboat? or are you going to continue to go deeper into the sea of sin and be destroyed? God loves you. —Aunt Marie

Lesson 8, November 19, 1967

GOD YEARNS FOR HIS WAYWARD PEOPLE

Hosea 11:1-4, 8, 9; 14:1-4

Hosea 11:1 When Israel was a child, then I loved him, and called my son out of Egypt.

2 As they called them, so they went from them: they sacrificed unto Baalim, and burned incense to graven images.

3 I taught Ephraim also to go, taking them by their arms; but they knew not that I healed them.

4 I drew them with cords of a man, with bands of love: and I was to them as they that take off the yoke on their jaws, and I laid meat unto them.

8 How shall I give thee up, Ephraim? how shall I deliver thee, Israel? how shall I make thee as Admah? how shall I set thee as Zeboim? mine heart is turned within me, my repentings are kindled together.

9 I will not execute the fierceness of mine anger, I will not return to destroy Ephraim: for I am God, and not man; the Holy One in the midst of thee: and I will not enter into the city.

Hosea 14:1 O Israel, return unto the Lord thy God; for thou hast fallen by thine iniquity.

2 Take with you words, and turn to the Lord: say unto him, Take away all

iniquity, and receive us graciously: so will we render the calves of our lips.

3 Asshur shall not save us; we will not ride upon horses: neither will we say any more to the work of our hands, Ye are our gods: for in thee the fatherless findeth mercy.

4 I will heal their backsliding, I will love them freely: for mine anger is turned away from him.

Memory Verse: The Lord hath appeared of old unto me, saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee. Jeremiah 31:3.

Central Thought: We never have to doubt God's love. He has proved it to us many, many times.

QUESTIONS:

1. Tell the story of how the Israelites were called out of Egypt.

2. Who was referred to in the New Testament by these words: "Out of Egypt have I called my son"? Matt. 2:15.)

3. Did God ever accept Israel's disobedience? Does he accept ours?

4. Did He ever quit loving Israel?

5. Are God's offers of mercy on condition? What conditions?

6. What did God mean when he said, "Mine heart is turned within me, my repentings are kindled together"? His thoughts of punishment were mixed with what?

7. What is meant by the words, "I am God, and not man"?

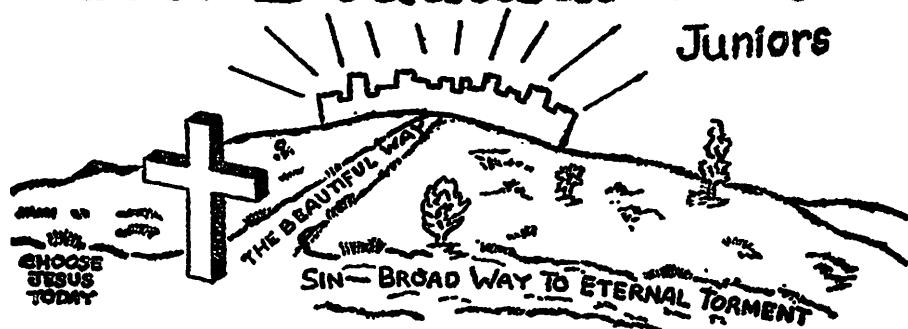
8. What was the prayer that Hosea asked the people to pray?

9. How does God heal backsliding?

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 18, No. 4

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Part Nine

Nov. 26

I Love the Bible

I love to read the Bible,
Its words are very sweet;
It makes me strong and happy;
It's what my heart can eat.

It makes me very loving,
And kind, and brave, and true;
It makes me glad and happy
In all I say and do.

I read it, then I listen
To hear what God will say,
And then I thank and praise Him
All through each busy day.

THANKSGIVING

"We are going to Grandmother's for Thanksgiving Dinner," Randy said to Mary. The children were discussing their plans for the upcoming holiday from school.

"I wish I had a grandmother," Mary said, sadly. I have heard what good things grandmothers fix for Thanksgiving dinner and all the fun to be had at their house and I want

a grandmother for my very own."

"Why don't you have any grandmothers?" asked Sue. "I thought everybody had a grandmother."

"My grandparents died a long time ago," Mary answered. "I was just a little girl. Mother said they loved me very much. I wish they were still living."

"It is sad not to have a grandmother," Randy said. We love our grandmothers. We have two of them and we take turns going to their houses on Thanksgiving. Sometimes we have two Thanksgiving Days and visit both of our grandparents during Thanksgiving holiday. It is such fun. I wish you could go with us."

"Oh, I couldn't do that; but have lots of fun," Mary said as she ran home in answer to her mother's call.

When Thanksgiving Day finally arrived, Randy, Sue, and their baby sister were soon riding down the highway with their parents on their way to see Grandmother and Grandfather. It was such fun to go to the country after being in town all the time. As they rode along they enjoyed seeing the trees with their

many-colored leaves. The children tried to count the many colors. Mother remarked how wonderful it was that God had given us such a beautiful world to live in. "We should always be thankful for all the great things He has done for us," Daddy said to his family.

"May we stop and get some of the pretty leaves?" Sue asked.

"When we get to Grandpa's house you may go down by the creek and get all the leaves you want," Daddy replied. "The squirrels will be knocking them down from the highest limbs as they run to and fro gathering nuts for winter."

"We are going to have lots of fun, aren't we?" Sue said with delight.

"Did you know that God made every leaf different?" Mother asked. He is such a big God and no person has as much knowledge as He does."

"God is great and now we have a day just to thank Him," Sue said.

"Well, Sue, we will thank Him on Thanksgiving Day, but we should be careful to thank Him every day," Daddy said. "Did you know that the word 'thanksgiving' is in the Bible?"

"In the Bible!" Sue said with surprise, "I thought the Bible was written before the Pilgrims came over here to America and started Thanksgiving Day."

"The Bible teaches that every day is thanksgiving day, Sue," Daddy explained. "Mother, get your Bible and turn over to the 95th Psalm. I was reading in Psalms this morning before we started on our trip and it lifted my soul up when I read in the spirit as the Psalmist wrote. It seems he was full of praise and everything he saw, he thanked God for. One verse in the 104th Psalm says, 'I will sing unto the Lord as long

as I live: I will sing praise to my God while I have my being. My meditation of him will be sweet: I will be glad in the Lord.' That is just what I am doing and intend to do as long as I live. We can never praise the Lord enough for His mercies to us."

"Is that your memory verse for Sunday School?" Randy asked. "I haven't learned one yet."

"That would be a good one to learn, Randy," Father said.

"Where in the Psalm did you want me to read?" Mother asked. "I have turned to the 95th Psalm and I'll just read part of it. 'O come, let us sing unto the Lord: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation. Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms. For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.'"

"Thanksgiving is in the Bible!" Sue said with excitement.

"In Philippians 4:6 it tells us to let our requests be made known with thanksgiving," Daddy explained. So when we come into his presence to pray, we should thank God for all the many blessings he gives us and then ask Him for the things we need. God loves for us to praise and thank Him. He created us for His glory."

"I'm going to give Him special thanks for my grandparents," said Sue, and Randy agreed as they remembered Mary whose grandparents were gone.

"I never had thought about thanking God for them before." —M. Miles

POWERFUL

Little things may do much harm. And sometimes big things do little harm. A big balloon shaped like a lion cannot hurt us, but a little bit

of poison or a little bit of dynamite can do great damage, can be powerful. The Word of God is powerful, too. It is like a searchlight which shows the dark parts of our hearts, the parts which are disobedient, or unkind, or mean!

Dear Boys and Girls:

Today we are living in a time when wives leave their husbands and go out after other lovers. This causes great heartache to the husband and it causes the wife to suffer if her husband does the same. This is very wrong and sinful. God, in the beginning, created only one woman for Adam. When a man and woman marry it is "until death do us part." God's Word teaches this very plainly. Read the words of Jesus in Matt. 19:3-9; Rom. 7:2, 3.

I am sure you will not understand all that is in our lesson today, but perhaps you will get some thoughts. The word "her" in the first verse is talking about a wife who has left her husband and gone "after her lovers." This is very sinful. The prophet Hosea is using this example to explain to us about the Israelites who were God's people who had left him and gone after other gods (the god called Baal) and "forgotten me, saith the Lord." It can also mean people today who have been saved and were the "bride of Christ" and have gone away from Christ. They have decked themselves with earrings and jewels and are loving the things of the world. God is grieved and sad. He is not willing that souls stay away from Him. He longs for them to come back and he does all he can to get them to think about Him and desire to come back to him.

Verse 14 tells us that God will "allure" her. That is, He will do all he can

to attract her love and bring her back to him. This shows the deep love God has for a soul. Can you tell some of the things God does to let the world know he loves them? Didn't he send his only son, then the disciples, the Apostle Paul, and preserve His word for us to go by? His word tells us that God loves us deeply.

Read verses four and five of our lesson and then the middle part, verses 18-23. Verse four shows that the Israelites were punished. They were without a king, etc. The punishment of Israel came when the Assyrians overran the land. Warfare brought its misery. Many people were killed and others carried away for slaves. Israel was punished because of her rebelliousness just as people who get into deep sin. It always brings such trouble into their lives. Israel learned that false gods and earthly kings could not help her. The last part of verse five has a promise that in the latter days she would return to God and find peace. Verses 18-23 tell us what takes place in the "latter days" which refers to the coming of Jesus as our Saviour. The "latter days" are the time in which we are now living. We can have peace with God and "lie down safely" because we are new creatures. God satisfies our natures. Jesus said, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God . . . and all these things shall be added unto you." Matt. 6:33. Vs. 19 and 20 tell where Israel returns and is "betrothed" just as the person who wanders away from God's house and returns. God shows his lovingkindness in accepting them back into his love. The Israelites and those who went away from God in the "latter days" can say "Thou art my God" and God will say, "Thou art my people." Boys and girls, don't disobey God. Stay with him and He will bless your life. —Aunt Marie

Lesson 9, November 26, 1967

GOD'S PURPOSE IN DISCIPLINE

Hosea 2:13, 14, 18-23; 3:4, 5

Hosea 2:13 And I will visit upon her the days of Baalim, wherein she burned incense to them, and she decked herself with her earrings and her jewels, and she went after her lovers, and forgot me, saith the Lord.

14 Therefore, behold, I will allure her, and bring her into the wilderness, and speak comfortably unto her.

18 And in that day will I make a covenant for them with the beasts of the field, and with the fowls of heaven, and with the creeping things of the ground: and I will break the bow and the sword and the battle out of the earth, and will make them to lie down safely.

19 And I will betroth thee unto me forever; yea, I will betroth thee unto me in righteousness, and in judgment, and in lovingkindness, and in mercies.

20 I will even betroth thee unto me in faithfulness: and thou shalt know the Lord.

21 And it shall come to pass in that day, I will hear, saith the Lord, I will hear the heavens, and they shall hear the earth;

22 And the earth shall hear the corn, and the wine, and the oil; and they shall hear Jezreel.

23 And I will sow her unto me in the earth; and I will have mercy upon her that had not obtained mercy; and I will say to them which were not my people, Thou art my people; and they shall say, Thou art my God.

Hosea 3:4 For the children of Israel shall abide many days without a king,

and without a prince, and without a sacrifice, and without an image, and without an ephod, and without teraphim:

5 Afterward shall the children of Israel return, and seek the Lord their God, and David their king; and shall fear the Lord and his goodness in the latter days.

Memory Verse: And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him: For whom the Lord loveth, he chasteneth and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. Hebrews 12:5, 6.

Central Thought: Those who backslide and leave God are like unfaithful wives who leave their good husbands.

QUESTIONS:

1. Does the Bible teach that it is all right for a woman to leave her husband and marry another man?

2. Do you agree that it is wrong for her to have other lovers?

3. In our lesson, who is compared with a wife having other lovers?

4. What did it mean when God said, "I will allure her"?

5. How does God feel when a person sins and goes away from him?

7. How has God shown us today that He loves and cares for us?

8. How was Israel punished for loving other gods?

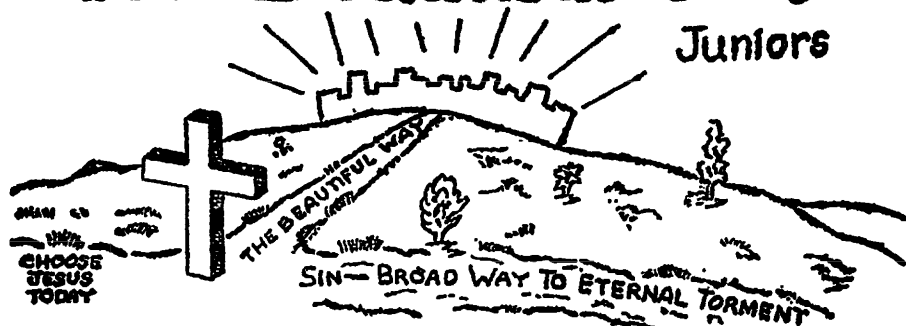
9. What took place in the "latter days" when Jesus did come as a Saviour?

10. When those who have left God find peace again, what does God say to them? (verse 23)

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



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Part Ten

Dec. 3

The Law of God

His Law is Light unto my way,
It's manna to the soul,
To think upon it night and day
Will help to keep me whole.

Like honey in the honey comb
More precious far than gold,
His law of Life is Home Sweet Home
Whatever life may hold.

While others seek in earthly mines
Their wealth and hope to find,
Content am I His choice designs
To ever keep in mind.

—Leslie Busbee

Salvation of Tom Foster

"Some day I will leave all this drudge behind and make good in a big city." It wasn't the hard labor that made Tom hate the farm life. He just couldn't see any future toiling, day after day, in the field. It was the big city where, he thought, he had an opportunity to become rich and famous. Then, too, there were

his parents always preaching to him about going to church. Why should they be so old-fashioned, he wondered? The stories of Moses, David, and Solomon delighted him as a child but now he was a young man of twenty summers. He thought it foolish to believe in an unseen God. He wasn't going to let even his parents talk him into believing something he held fatuous. But, their constant preaching irritated him. He wanted to get away from here as soon as possible. He had enough money saved up to be able to go away even now if he felt like it.

As he shouldered his hoe and plodded his homeward way, he thought it over and over. The more he thought, the sooner he wanted to leave the farm.

"I'll go away tomorrow. That's what I'll do," determined Tom just as he reached the worn-out gate leading to his home.

When he was half through with his supper, Tom looked up and for a while he couldn't seem to find the right words. Then finally,

"Mother," he stammered, "I'm going to the big city tomorrow." Mother cast a melancholy glance, first upon her son and then, upon the father who returned a pathetic stare. That which they had suspected for a long while had come. They knew they were helpless to stop him now. A few minutes ticked away before Mother calmly said,

"Son, no matter where you go, Father and I will always be praying for you."

Next morning as Tom started to pack, Mrs. Foster walked into the room with a small Bible.

"Tom, before you go, I want you to let me give you this."

"I don't see what use I'm going to have with a Bible," Tom protested.

"Maybe not now, but when you get in trouble, please read this Bible and it will help you out. Promise me you will always keep it with you."

"All right, Mother, I'll keep it with me always—just as a sort of a souvenir from you." After Mother had gone, Tom carelessly tossed the Bible into the bottom of his suitcase and packed the rest of his belongings tightly on top of it.

For months after he left the farm, Tom roamed the streets of the city, trying to find that opportunity which he thought would be waiting for him. All the money he had brought from home was gone. He was forced to raise a few dollars by selling most of his clothing. But that money, too, soon withered into mere few pennies. All his worldly belongings consisted solely of those few pennies, a shabby tweed suit which he had worn when he first set his feet on the streets of this city, and the Bible. He had kept the Bible for no other reason than that it was given him by his

mother. Day after day he was forced to make his round, from house to house, exchanging odd jobs for just a bit to eat. There were times when he had to go without food for several days. Night after night he shivered on the park benches, or rolled uncomfortably against some building.

One evening after a fruitless search for food, he passed by a small mission. A sign on the door indicated that food would be served to those attending the services held at the little mission. Here was a chance to eat. Although he knew he had to listen to the things he had no interest in, he had to eat. He walked in, feeling rather self-conscious, and took a seat among men who seemed as hungry as himself. The preacher told them the parable of the Prodigal Son. Tom almost knew the story by heart. His mother had repeated the story to him time and again. But, tonight, it sounded different, it seemed. When the preacher quoted the twentieth verse in chapter fifteen of Luke, "And he arose, and came to his father . . ." Tom thought of his own parents. He wondered how they would receive him if he should go back to them now. That thought soon faded away, for he knew it was useless for him even to think of going home when he didn't have a cent to his name.

After he had received his share of the food, Tom slowly but thoughtfully paced his way toward the park. He sat for a while meditating on things the preacher had said. Without thinking he reached into his pocket and brought out the Bible which his mother said would help him in time of trouble. As he glanced through the pages, he thought he saw a piece of paper between the leaves.

He looked again. Sure enough, there was a neatly-folded dark piece of paper! At first he thought it was only something Mother had forgotten to take out of the Bible before she gave it to him, and he was inclined to leave it there. But curiously he picked it up and unfolded the paper. He jumped up, half shouting with joy. There in his hands was a ten-dollar bill. His mother had purposely placed it in the Bible hoping Tom would, some day, find use for it.

(To be continued)

The Barking Dog

A lad was mowing the lawn, and had hitched his dog to the mower to help pull it. This, of course, was none too pleasant for the animal, and he took occasion to stop and bark at every passer-by. A neighbor remarked to the boy that his dog was doing an unusual amount of barking.

"Oh, yes," explained the lad. "You see, it isn't that he really cares about the people that go by, but it's a lot easier to bark than to pull." That's right. In the home, in the church, in the community, it's much easier to criticize than to carry the load.

Dear Boys and Girls:

Some people get the idea that they did not ask to come to this world and that they don't owe anyone anything. This is a wrong idea. You would not be here if God had not given you the very breath you breathe when you were born. You owe everything to God. He is responsible for your being here. The question is asked and answered in our

lesson as to what God does require of every boy, girl, man, and woman in this world.

In the courts of our land the clerk calls out, "Hear ye! Hear ye!" In our lesson we have a controversy and that is the beginning or opening of the case. If the mountains and the hills could speak they could tell a lot of things. In other words God is as real as they and He sees all. He calls upon the people to testify against Him. What has He done that was wrong? Then in verse 4 he begins to tell them about the many blessings he has bestowed upon them. You can tell how and why God brought them out of Egypt when they were slaves. Moses was their chief leader and the one through whom God sent the law so they would know how to live to please Him. He was fair in every way with them. Aaron was the first High Priest and a leader to show them how to worship. Miriam, their sister, led in the singing of praises at the time of the deliverance of the people. (Ex. 15:20.)

God calls their attention in this trial, contending with them, that he has been good to them by referring to Baalam the prophet the king tried to hire to pronounce a curse upon the people instead of a blessing. (Read Numbers 22 and 23. Remember the story of the donkey talking.)

Verse 6 is Micah asking the questions that the people should ask after thinking about the goodness of God to them. The prophet Micah knew that calves of a year old were the very best. Is that what God wants? Does he want thousands of rams? Would that mean anything to a God who owns "the cattle on a thousand hills"? Does he want the parent to offer his first child, the one upon whom he bestowed all of his

love and affection before there were any others? The answer is implied, "no."

The prophet Micah is now telling what God does require of each of us. Boys and girls, we need Jesus in our hearts in order to live justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with our God. God's kingdom is spiritual and we need a spiritual birth. "Believe on the Lord Jesus and thou shalt be saved." "Except ye repent, ye shall likewise perish." God expects obedience to all of His words from the heart. This is the conclusion of the trial. God is the judge and He has spoken.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 10, December 3, 1967

WHAT GOD REQUIRES OF MAN

Micah 6:1-8

Micah 6:1 Hear ye now what the Lord saith; Arise, contend thou before the mountains, and let the hills hear thy voice.

2 Hear ye, O mountains, the Lord's controversy, and ye strong foundations of the earth: for the Lord hath a controversy with his people, and he will plead with Israel.

3 O my people, what have I done unto thee? and wherein have I wearied thee? testify against me.

4 For I brought thee up out of the land of Egypt, and redeemed thee out of the house of servants; and I sent before thee Moses, Aaron and Miriam.

5 O my people, remember now what Balak king of Moab consulted, and what Balaam the son of Beor answered him from Shittim unto Gilgal; that ye may know the righteousness of the Lord.

6 Wherewith shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before the high

God? shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves of a year old?

7 Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, or with ten thousands of rivers of oil? shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?

8 He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?

Memory Verse: He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God? Micah 6:8.

Central Thought: God requires our loyal devotion and love for Him and His Word at all times.

QUESTIONS:

1. Who gives us the breath we daily breathe? Do we owe anything to God?

2. What does the clerk in the courts of our land call out?

3. Who are the witnesses in the trial in our lesson?

4. Tell about the goodness of God to the Israelites when they were in slavery in Egypt.

5. What did Moses do for them?

6. What did Aaron and Miriam do for them?

7. How did God help when the king wanted to hire Balaam, the prophet, to speak against them?

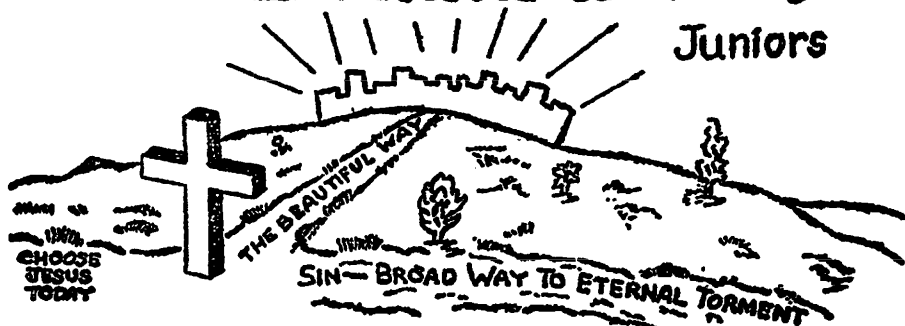
8. What questions did the prophet Micah ask that the people should have asked?

9. What does our lesson tell us that God requires of us?

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 18, No. 4

Oct., Nov., Dec., 1967

Part Eleven

Dec. 10

"I Can" and "I Can't"

Little Mister "Yes, I can"
Is such a happy little man—
He's always bright and gay;
With all his might and main he tries,
When even hardest jobs arise,
To clear the work away.

But small "I Can't" is such a pout—
And everybody finds it out
When he has tasks to do;
He never says, "I'll gladly try!"
But wrinkles up his face to cry
And sadly wails, "Boo-hoo!"

The dear Lord Jesus is the One
Who helps to make our duties fun
And gives us gladdest joy.
If you will trust Him right away,
He'll make you, even now, today,
A helpful, happy boy!

Every Nickel

Ted was a little boy and his little pocketbook was never very full. When he heard how many of the boys and girls in Mexico were hungry most all the time, Ted wished he could help.

"Mother, I wish I were a rich boy," said Ted at dinner that day.

"And just what made you wish for that?" asked Mother.

"Because if I were, I'd send a lot of money over to Mexico and I guess a million of those children over there would really be fed for a change."

"Yes, but Ted, you don't have to be rich to send money to Mexico. Even a nickel will feed a Mexican child for several meals, they say."

Ted was silent; he was thinking. After a while he said, "Mother, I have decided to give every nickel I get, from now on, to Mexico. See—if I get a penny, well, I'll keep that. If I get a dime, well, I'll keep that. But if I get a nickel, well, that goes to Mexico. What do you think of that idea, Mother?"

"That is fine, Ted. Now be very sure you do just that. You'll be tempted to not play fair sometimes, but just remember, Son, that God will see you and if you play fair and honest about giving every nickel, He will bless you for it. Give this money just as if you were giving it to God directly."

Ted got along fine. He was very faithful to his promise. Then his birthday came. That morning Aunt Sue came over and said, "Happy birthday, Ted!" She pretended to spank him but she knew it didn't hurt and she and Ted laughed together.

"You are ten years old today, are you not, Ted?" asked Aunt Sue. "Here is fifty cents for your birthday gift, a nickel for every year you are old today."

Ted thanked her and was very happy. After she had gone he suddenly remembered his promise—he was to give every nickel to Mexico. That meant he'd have to give his whole birthday gift. He wondered—did even birthday gifts count? Yes, he was tempted to keep this; then he remembered what his mother had said. He remembered that God was watching him. He went right to his mother and said, "Here, this is all for Mexico, Mother. It is all nickels."

His mother was very pleased and silently asked God to bless Ted.

The next morning before Ted went to school, their neighbor, Mr. Walker, stopped and asked if Ted would rake the leaves off his yard and burn them for him. Ted said he would.

"That's fine," said Mr. Walker, "I know you will do it if you say you will, Ted. I'll be away for a few days so I will pay you now." He gave Ted a dollar bill.

After he was gone Ted said to his mother, "I guess that's what I get for being honest and giving those ten nickels to Mexico. I'm glad I did."

"Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh His name in vain." Ex. 20:7.

Salvation of Tom Foster

(Continued from last week's paper)

Only then did he fully realize the meaning of what his mother had said before he left the home. Instinctively he got down on his knees and thanked the Lord and asked for forgiveness of his sins. Right there and then he accepted the Lord Jesus as his Saviour. He arose from his prayer and as fast as his weary feet could carry him, he rushed to the station and purchased a one-way ticket back home.

The morning sunbeam seemed to gaily dance over the hills and the birds seemed to tweet a welcoming song as Tom eagerly quickened his steps over the dusty road leading home. At last he reached the door. He hesitated to enter his own home. But the thought of his Saviour encouraged him to knock. The door was widely opened and there, before him, stood his mother open-armed. Tom threw himself at her feet saying,

"Mother, I have come home to ask forgiveness." With tears in her eyes Mrs. Foster tenderly embraced the boy and softly murmured,

"Thank the Lord, you have returned to us! Our prayers are answered."

—Selected

People—boys and girls, men and women, are like geese. They run into danger. But, like the geese, they also have a Leader, Jesus—one who is, Jesus will, if He is their Leader. will see them safely through. That Is Jesus your Leader? "Choose you this day whom ye will serve . . . but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord" (Joshua 24:15).

A Collie's Heroism

The name of the little dog is unknown, but he was a young terrier that had run in front of an electric car in Halifax and had become bewildered. The motorman called to him and would have stopped the car had it been possible, but the down grade made it difficult to come to a sudden halt.

Most of the passengers were breathless, realizing the danger of the little dog. A collie that was on the sidewalk grasped the situation and made a bold dash in front of the car. Seizing the terrier firmly by the collar, with one supreme effort he gave a strong pull, and in the nick of time his shaggy little friend was in a place of safety. That the onlookers appreciated the intelligence and bravery of the noble collie was apparent by hearty cheering as both dogs trotted together down the street.

When we are in sin we are in trouble. We face hell and the lake of fire. Jesus came to help us out of trouble. As the Bible says, we can be as a "brand plucked out of the fire." Zech. 3:2.

Dear Boys and Girls:

It is important that you understand our lesson today. We have many false teachers who are trying to change God's Word. Many teach that there will be a time when Jesus will come back to this earth and set up a literal kingdom, but boys and girls, we want you to always remember that Jesus has already come and set up his kingdom which is a spiritual kingdom. Read Luke 17:20, 21 and that should settle it forever with you. We want you to learn well our

lesson today. You must know the truth. When Jesus comes bursting through the clouds in that last day that is the end. The judgment will be set then and all peoples of the earth will be judged. God gave the Apostle John a vision of that last day in Rev. 20:11-15.

The words "last days" mean the days when Jesus was born and came to this world and died, arose and ascended on high. On the day of Pentecost, the 50th day after the resurrection, God set His church in motion and filled it with the Holy Spirit. That is the "house of the Lord" that was established upon the mountain, or high above everything else. "The gates of hell shall not prevail against it." (Matt. 16:18) The hills would mean the religions of men but God's church is above them and the only one. "And people shall flow unto it." "Many nations shall come." "Let us go up." Before Jesus came to this world the Israelites were his people but when he came, all nations and people could be saved. Jesus told the disciples to go into "all the world," (Mark 16:15) and preach the gospel. All nations are welcome. All can walk in God's paths. Through Christ all can have peace and not be at war. No one in God's church will be without peace. Jesus came to bring peace to the soul. Those who have Jesus, have rest. "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you." (Matt. 6:33) We find everything our soul might want in Christ. There can only be peace on earth in the hearts of those who are "born again." It is found in the hearts of those who come through the door (Christ) into the Church of God. The Bible is the rule in God's church. We must live by it to stay there. Our names are written in heaven and God keeps the record. Sin puts us out of the church. Through

prayer and watching we should see to it that our lives are measured by God's Word so we can stay in the Church.

From a remnant of the Jewish people Jesus chose those who were willing to follow Him and through them the whole world that was known then heard about Jesus and the kingdom of God. Can you name the disciples and those who later spread the good news? —Aunt Marie

Lesson 11, December 10, 1967

THE MOUNTAIN OF THE LORD

Micah 4:1-7

Micah 4:1 But in the last days it shall come to pass, that the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow unto it.

2 And many nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

3 And he shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

4 But they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree; and none shall make them afraid: for the mouth of the Lord of hosts hath spoken it.

5 For all people will walk every one in the name of his god, and we will walk in the name of the Lord our God for ever and ever.

6 In that day, saith the Lord, will I assemble her that halteth, and I will gather her that is driven out, and her that I have afflicted;

7 And I will make her that halted a remnant, and her that was cast far off a strong nation: and the Lord shall reign over them in mount Zion from henceforth, even for ever.

Memory Verse: And he shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. Micah 4:3.

Central Thought: When we have given our hearts to God we can have peace in the midst of trouble.

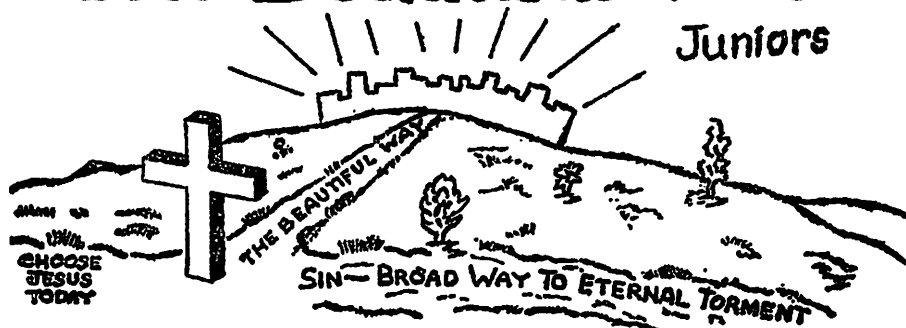
QUESTIONS:

1. Do some think Jesus will set up a kingdom here on earth again?
2. What kind of kingdom did he set up when he came?
3. How do we get into the kingdom of God or the church of God?
4. When did God establish his "house" or church upon the mountain?
5. Is it higher than the "hills" which are the religions of man?
6. What did Micah mean when he said, "Let us go up"?
7. How can we have peace here on the earth?
8. Who is the door of the church, the record keeper and our ruler?
9. Tell who were the "remnant" or the few that came out of the Jewish nation.

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 18, No. 4

Oct., Nov., Dec., 1967

Part Twelve

Dec. 17

The Boy Jesus

When Jesus was a little boy,
And played beside the street,
I know that when His mother called,
He ran on flying feet.
I know that when He saw a child
Too small or lame to run,
That He would stop His own swift
feet
To help that little one.
I think He played at happy games
As children do today,
And that He played them fine and
fair,
For that was Jesus' way.
And often in His Father's shop,
Among the clean, bright wood,
I know He sang and did His work
The very best He could.

Mother's Glasses

Little Archie liked sugar very much and Mother would occasionally give him a treat. However, Archie never thought that he had enough. He often looked at the sugar jar high on the shelf in the cupboard, wish-

ing for more; but he would not dare to climb up when Mother saw him, because he knew that she would tell him to get down.

One day he planned in his little mind how, when evening came and it was dark, he would climb up on the shelf by the kitchen window, reach the shelf in the cupboard where the sugar was, and help himself to some. That evening everything seemed favorable for his plan, the rest of the family being in the living room. He slipped into the kitchen which was lit up by the moonlight shining through the window, and climbed upon the shelf to get to the cupboard.

As he did so, he heard a slight noise on the shelf at his feet, and something touched his legs. Looking downward, he saw two bright eyes glaring at him! What could it be! In a fright, he jumped from the shelf. On his way down, he again felt something at his legs, and then heard a scratching on the floor, and saw those two bright eyes following right after him!

In real terror now, he fled into the living room and threw himself

into Mother's lap for safety. Trembling all over, he clung tightly to Mother for protection. Then he heard her laughing heartily, and looking backward, how surprised he was! There, tangled around his legs, was the yarn from Mother's knitting, which he had knocked down from the window sill as he had climbed up; and hooked up in the knitting needles were Mother's glasses.

The moonlight shining through the window had been reflected on the glasses, and had made what looked like two bright eyes glare at him just as he was reaching for the sugar.

After such an experience, we may be well assured that Archie did not try to take sugar without asking Mother first.

You may laugh at little Archie, as his Mother did then and many times afterwards; but may we not learn a lesson for ourselves from his experience?

How often we forget, like Archie, that God's eyes are looking down, and He sees what we do and knows what we say or think, anywhere and at any time. "The eyes of the Lord are in every place, beholding the evil and the good" (Proverbs 15:3). Some may say, when doing wrong, "How doth God know? and is there knowledge in the most High?" (Psalm 73:11) God surely does know, as His Word says: "Thine eyes are open upon all the ways of the sons of men: to give every one according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings" (Jeremiah 32:19). "All things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do" (Hebrews 4:13). "For the ways of man are before the eyes of the Lord, and he pondereth all his doings. His own iniquities shall take the

wicked himself, and he shall be holden with the cords of his sins" (Prov. 5:21, 22).

When we fall into sin and continue in sin, we find cords binding us—cords stronger than the yarn that tangled around Archie's feet—and are unable to free ourselves. We may try to run away, but we cannot get away from God.

Archie threw himself into Mother's arms because he knew that she would help him; and so we, too, may flee to One who will not only help us, but will also save us completely from our sins. Jesus is that one and only Saviour, who came to set the captives free. He took our sins upon Himself and suffered for them on Calvary's cross. —Selected

ASKING GOD'S BLESSING

Charlie was going home with his Uncle Tom. They were on a steamboat all night. A steamboat is furnished with little beds on each side of the cabin. These little beds are called berths. When it was time to go to bed, Charlie undressed himself.

"Make haste and jump into your berth, boy," said Uncle Tom.

"May I not first kneel down and ask God to take care of us?" asked Charlie.

"We shall be taken care of fast enough," said his uncle.

"Yes sir," said Charlie; "but Mother always tells us not to take anything without first asking God's blessing."

Uncle Tom had nothing to say to that; and Charlie knelt down, just as he did by his own little bed at home.

God's bounty and goodness, and grace you live on day by day, boys

and girls; but never take it without asking.

FIRST SPACEMAN

The first spaceman lived nearly 6000 years ago. His name was Enoch. He was a good man. How do we know? The Bible says, that he "walked with God." And then, when it was time for him to make this trip—just before the flood which destroyed all the world except Noah and his family—we read, "He was not; for God took him" Gen. 5:21-24.

God wants his people to be happy. Those who praise the Lord are joyful people. God wants us to tell others about the times Jesus kept us from yielding to temptation. He wants us to praise Him for answering prayer when we were in need.

Dear Boys and Girls:

In the winter months you have time to read so be sure that you read your Bible often. We have a number of good books here at the office that you should read if you have not already. Write for a book list.

Jealousy is a terrible sin. Boys and girls, never let it have any part in your life and heart. Jealousy has caused people to take the lives of others. Some boys and girls are so full of jealousy that they can't hide it. If they do not win in a game they will get real angry at the one who did win or they will burst into tears. How terrible! It is bad to feel jealous and think bad thoughts about the one who may have won the game. Many will tell you to "be a good sport" or "be a good loser." But

I tell you to get God in your heart and ask him to take away those bad feelings once and for all. Don't overlook those feelings. Don't be satisfied with yourself when you feel bad at someone because he has something nicer than you or because others praise and honor him. Pray for God to deliver you from such feelings. Feelings like this will cause you great trouble. Jealousy brings hatred into the heart. Be sure to watch your thoughts, your attitudes, and your actions and see if they are what God wants them to be.

Our lesson is an example of jealousy and the cruelty it brought. King Saul was jealous of David who had risked his very life for his country. He had not done anything wrong for Saul to want to kill him but Saul knew that David was a better man than he. He sent David out to fight in a severe battle hoping that he would be killed but instead he won and the women of Israel came out of the cities to honor him. They said, "Saul has slain his thousands, And David his ten thousands." Saul was very unhappy because he let jealousy come into his heart. He tried to think of different ways to get rid of David. He sent David out to fight against the Philistines. He told the men that to the one who killed 100 Philistines, he would give his daughter in marriage. He no doubt thought that the Philistines would surely kill David because he had killed the giant, Goliath, but David fought bravely and killed 200 Philistines. Saul was afraid not to keep his promise so he gave Michal to be David's wife. How miserable Saul was now! He feared David even more because he thought he would take his throne. Boys and girls, jealousy is cruel so be sure you never let it have any place in your heart and thoughts.

Aunt Marie

DAVID'S WIFE SAVES HIS LIFE

1 Samuel 19:9-20

1 Sam. 19:9 And the evil spirit from the Lord was upon Saul, as he sat in his house with his javelin in his hand: and David played with his hand.

10 And Saul sought to smite David even to the wall with the javelin; but he slipped away out of Saul's presence, and he smote the javelin into the wall: and David fled, and escaped that night.

11 Saul also sent messengers unto David's house, to watch him, and to slay him in the morning: and Michal David's wife told him, saying, If thou save not thy life to night, to morrow thou shalt be slain.

12 So Michal let David down through a window: and he went, and fled, and escaped.

13 And Michal took an image, and laid it in the bed, and put a pillow of goats' hair for his bolster, and covered it with a cloth.

14 And when Saul sent messengers to take David, she said, He is sick.

15 And Saul sent the messengers again to see David, saying, Bring him up to me in the bed, that I may slay him.

16 And when the messengers were come in, behold, there was an image in the bed, with a pillow of goats' hair for his bolster.

17 And Saul said unto Michal, Why hast thou deceived me so, and sent away mine enemy, that he is escaped? And Michal answered Saul, He said unto me, Let me go; why should I kill thee?

18 So David fled, and escaped, and came to Samuel to Ramah, and told him all that Saul had done to him. And he and Samuel went and dwelt in Naioth.

19 And it was told Saul, saying, Behold, David is at Naioth in Ramah.

20 And Saul sent messengers to take David: and when they saw the company of prophets prophesying, and Samuel standing as appointed over them, the Spirit of God was upon the messengers of Saul, and they also prophesied.

Memory Verse: Have we not all one father? hath not one God created us? why do we deal treacherously every man against his brother, by profaning the covenant of our fathers? Mal. 2:10.

Central Thought: Wrong thoughts like weeds will grow and should be plucked up when they are small.

QUESTIONS:

1. Why was King Saul jealous of David?

2. Explain what it means to be jealous.

3. How does someone act who is jealous of another?

4. What are you to do when jealous thoughts come to your mind?

5. What do you suppose were the thoughts of King Saul when David was playing his harp before him?

6. What did King Saul do to try to catch David and kill him when he fled to his home?

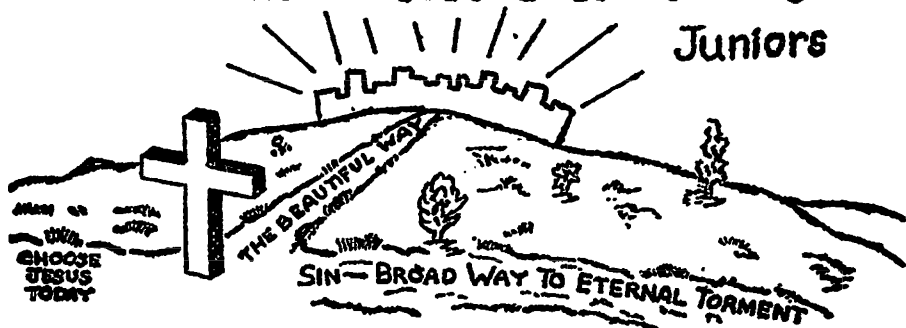
7. How did Michal help David to have more time to flee?

8. What did King Saul do when he found out that Michal had tricked him?

9. Did the men stay and worship the Lord at Ramah?

The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 18, No. 4

Oct., Nov., Dec., 1967

Part Thirteen

Dec. 24

Think and Tell

I often think how Jesus loved
The children when He was on earth.
He took them in His gentle arms
To show to us how great their
worth.

I love to think He's coming back,
For every child some black, some
fair.
To them He'll give a home in heaven
And let each one His glory share.

I'll tell of Him to all I meet,
And how He loves us one and all.
I'll tell them how He saves from sin,
And pray that each may heed His
call.

Green Christmas

"I surely wish I were as fortunate as Linda Mayo," said Brenda. "She is moving back to Ohio, and she will get there for Christmas. Just think of all the fun she will have there in the snow!"

"Maybe so," said her mother, "but did you ever think of the kind of Christmas Marie Sanchez is going to have?"

Marie was a little Mexican girl Brenda had learned to know. They attended the same church and were in the same Sunday school class. They were very poor, and her father had just been hurt in an accident. Brenda knew that she would be happy just to have enough to eat for Christmas, and that she wouldn't even expect any presents.

Brenda tried to push this thought out of her mind and to think only of what a good time Linda would have making a snow man and sliding down the hills on a sled when she returned to Ohio from Arizona. Then she remembered that Linda didn't have a sled, and how she had said she hoped her father would get her one for Christmas.

All at once she found herself sitting on the sofa thinking.

"What's the matter?" asked her mother.

"I'm thinking about Linda and Marie," said Brenda. "I feel bad when

I think of Marie not getting any presents at all. That's even worse than not having any real snow to play in. I—I wish I could buy her something, but I've already spent my Christmas money for you and Daddy."

She thought some more. Then she exclaimed, "Do you suppose I could sell my sled to Mr. Mayo for Linda and use the money to buy some presents for Marie?"

"I think that would be wonderful," said Mrs. McCormick.

"Do you think Grandfather would care? He gave it to me but we don't have any snow here," said Brenda with her blue eyes shining.

"I'm sure he wouldn't," answered Mrs. McCormick, turning her head and blowing her nose.

Brenda was afraid that Mr. Mayo would say that it would be foolish to buy a sled in Arizona and take it clear out to Ohio, and she prayed that he wouldn't. And that afternoon as she timidly approached him she prayed some more. But it was all right with Mr. Mayo, and in just no time at all she was skipping back home with three crisp new dollar bills in her hand.

The next day she and her mother went up town for their second shopping trip, and this was the happiest shopping trip Brenda ever made. They bought Marie a doll, a color book and pencil set. On their way home Mrs. McCormick said, "I did not tell you this before, but Marie and her parents are coming over for Christmas dinner, and we'll open our packages together!"

"Oh, that's wonderful, Mother!" said Brenda, jumping with delight.

Mrs. Sanchez came over early on Christmas morning in order to help Mrs. McCormick make a Spanish

Christmas dinner. Brenda's eyes danced excitedly as she watched the dark-haired lady fry tortillas and beans and prepare tacos and enchiladas and other Spanish dishes.

When the dinner was over, they opened their presents. Marie had brought Brenda a tiny clay dish with a beautiful design that looked like lightning painted on the inside. It had been made in Old Mexico, and when Brenda saw it she shouted with happiness. But her greatest joy came when she saw Marie open her presents.

That night, after she had prepared for bed, Brenda said, "It was a green Christmas, but it was the best, the very best Christmas I ever had!"

—o—

The Poet Who Made a Blot

Did you ever make a blot? I have and I want to tell you about a little girl who made one, and it resulted in her death. There it was a great, ugly, black spot! She did not like the looks of it, and thinking to get rid of it, licked it off with her tongue. Sin is like a blot. Oh, how it mars the life, the conscience, the heart! How can we get rid of it? By anything we can do? By licking it, as it were? To do so only transfers the blackness, so that the outward blot becomes an inward blot. God says, "He that covereth his sins shall not prosper" (Prov. 28:13). Such attempts are sure to end in death.

After the little girl had licked her blot she was taken ill. Then she got worse, and at last died. The doctors examined her after death, and found that the ink had poisoned her. When Jesus undertook to remove our sin-blots it cost Him His life. "Christ

died for our sins" (1 Cor. 15:3). Thus He "put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself" (Heb. 9:26). Now, "if we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" 1 John 1:9.

When Heber wrote the missionary hymn, "What though the spicy breezes blow soft o'er Ceylon's isle, though every prospect pleases, and only man is vile," he made a blot over the word "Ceylon." Years after I saw a reproduction of the verse in the poet's own writing, and the ugly blot was there. How dreadful to have our sin-blots preserved! They will be, unless the Blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us. (1 John 1:7.)

There are many different ways of telling lies. Bobby realized that when he cheated he was not only stealing, but was lying also because he passed answers for his own that were not his.

Dear Boys and Girls:

We are anxious that you know about all of the Bible. The lessons of the minor prophets are a little difficult to understand but they are part of the Bible. As you grow older and live for God many more years you will understand them better.

Malachi was the last prophet sent from God to the people of Israel for over 400 years. His book closes the Old Testament and prepares the way for the New Testament. In the year of 450 B. C. he appeared on the scene. The priests were corrupt and careless in their religious duties. The people were not going after other gods but were doing something as bad. They were careless about their worship of God. That is the

way Jesus found them when he came to this world.

The messenger spoken of in the first verse of our lesson is John the Baptist. You remember how he came to prepare the way before Jesus. Malachi looked into the future by the Spirit and saw what Jesus would find when he came here in the flesh as our Saviour to live and die on the cross. He says, "Who may abide the day?" You remember how Herod "was troubled and all Judaea with him." Jesus was great and mighty. Men feared him yet they sought to kill him. On the mountain of transfiguration, in the garden of Gethsemane, at his crucifixion, and in his resurrection was shown the power of God and his greatness and majesty. Jesus was God in the flesh and He knew all things. He silenced those who tried to ensnare him. There had never been one before him that was like Him.

Jesus was to sit as a refiner and purifier. Only through Christ, living in our hearts and lives can we "offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness."

The last part of our lesson is in Micah. When the wise men came looking for the king, after seeing the star, Herod did not know how to answer them. They asked where the king of the Jews was to be born. (Matt. 2:1-22). He asked the scribes and others to tell him. They got their scrolls, which was the Old Testament writings, and looked in Micah 5:2 which is in our lesson and found out that Jesus was to be born in Bethlehem. Herod told this to the wise men and then asked them to return and let him know where the king was so he could go and worship him, too, but Herod wanted to kill him. God warned the wise men in a dream to go home another way after they had worshipped and given gifts to Jesus. God took care of the little baby Jesus.

When we have Jesus in our hearts, God will take care of us. We must always love and serve Him. —Aunt Marie

Lesson 13, December 24, 1967

ONE GREATER THAN THE PROPHETS

Malachi 3:1-4; 4:2a, Micah 5:2-4

Mal. 3:1 Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come in his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the Lord of hosts.

2 But who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' sope:

3 And he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness.

4 Then shall the offering of Judah and Jerusalem be pleasant unto the Lord, as in the days of old, and as in former years.

4:2a But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings.

Micah 5:2 But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel, whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.

3 Therefore will he give them up, until the time that she which travail-

eth hath brought forth: then the remnant of his brethren shall return unto the children of Israel.

4 And he shall stand and feed in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God; and they shall abide: for now shall he be great unto the ends of the earth.

Memory Verse: But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall. Mal. 4:2.

Central Thought: John the Baptist the messenger, came as Malachi said he would, and Jesus was born in Bethlehem, as Micah said he would.

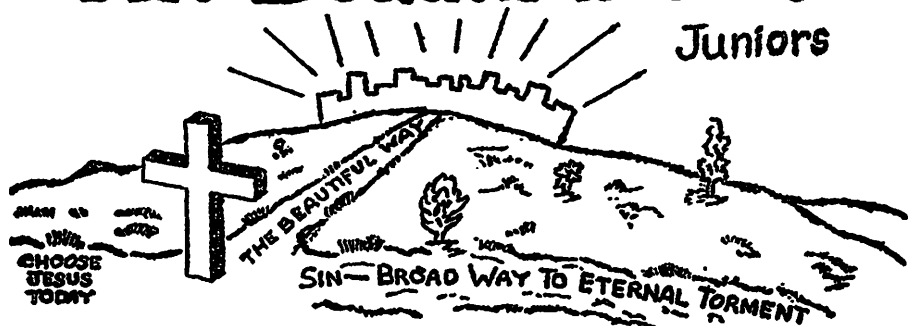
QUESTIONS:

1. Who was the messenger referred to in our lesson?
2. Were there any prophets from God between Malachi and John the Baptist?
3. How many years were the people of Israel without a prophet?
4. Does sin in the hearts of people need to be destroyed?
5. Can you name some of the disciples who were refined with fire as the prophet Malachi foretold?
6. When will we be able to "offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness"?
7. Who is referred to as "the Sun of Righteousness"?
8. Where did the scribes look when asked where Jesus was to be born?
9. Did the wise men find Him? What did they do?
10. Will God take care of us when we have Jesus in our hearts today?

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The Beautiful Way

Juniors



Vol. 18, No. 4

Oct., Nov., Dec., 1967

Part Fourteen

Dec. 31

JESUS

I love to think of Jesus

How He came from heav'n above
And walked the earth, and showed
the worth

Of Father's wond'rous love.

A path He tread in coming
Throughout this world of woe
For those in sin to enter in
And full salvation know.

To death on Calv'ry's mountain
His Father's will to obey,
But from the tomb came forth to
bloom

The Life, the Truth, the Way!

—Leslie Busbee

Putting up an Honest Cord

When I was a boy on the farm we cut a lot of cord wood to sell. It was hard work and little pay. Two men had to do a full day's work, especially in the winter months, to saw, chop, split and put up two cords in a day of hard wood, and we got twenty-five cents per cord.

There was a way in which to cheat a little in cording the wood if anyone had that desire. We could arrange the split wood so as to leave considerable holes in the cord, or even give a little short measure that might not be noticed. However, my father always gave very full measure, also placing the wood close together so as to leave no large holes. Everybody who bought our wood knew they would get a very full cord, and never measured it, or examined the closeness or looseness of the cord.

When my father left me sometimes to cord the wood by myself I was just as careful to give an honest cord as if he were there. This honesty in cording wood has followed me across the years of life. I do not remember one instance wherein I ever short-measured, or short-weighted anything I had to sell. In fact, I thought it honest to give a little extra, if any difference, above the necessary requirements. This gave me the assurance that I was honest and trustworthy. I learned this as a boy on my father's farm, and from my father who passed away many years ago.

I believe in trying to cheat someone else, that one is only cheating himself. He cheats himself of absolute honesty, cheats himself of a clean, clear conscience, of peace and comfort that helps to make one joyous, and above everything else, cheats himself out of noble and trustworthy manhood, also of true success and heaven in the end.

The youth today, or the boy or girl, who would live nobly and sublimely, and would make success in life, especially morally, mentally and spiritually must be honest. In fact this makes for real and true success financially.

No one should get it in his head and heart that cheating, even on a small scale, is all right, just so it is not found out. Usually it is found out, but if never discovered by man it is known to God. The principle of cheating in pennies is just as bad as cheating in dollars. It is on a smaller scale, but God knows the small things that are dishonest, or the little dishonest principles, just as He knows the larger ones.

The principle of putting up honest cords of wood in my boyhood and youthful days has been a great and wonderful stay to me through life. I have never made debts and left them unpaid. I have never tried to get by in my dealings with my fellowmen with just a little in my favor that belonged to him. This has held true along all walks of life. The youth who would make good tomorrow by filling some honorable, trustworthy place must be absolutely honest today. He can't cunningly, slyly, underminingly, cheat his way to greatness, nobility, dependability, success, godliness, and heaven.

O, youth, put up a full cord, give full measure, full weight and deal with your fellows honestly! Put in good

time, make something for somebody else. Don't cheat yourself of a clean record, a clear conscience, and the marvelous approval of God upon your life, conduct and soul. **He who cheats himself of God's goodness, blessedness and final reward is the greatest of all losers.** —Selected

A VERY LITTLE SERMON

"Look not everyone on his own things," like this: "It's my hat; I can't find it!" "It's my ball; I will not lend it!" "It's my ribbon; you mustn't wear it!" "It's my knife; don't you touch it!" "Let my doll alone!"

"But everyone also on the things of others," like this: "It's his hat; hang it up for him." "He is such a little chap, let him have the ball." "She likes blue; lend her the ribbon." "I am sorry you can't go out; don't you want to whittle with my knife?" "You may kiss dolly, if you want to." This is Jesus' way.

Without It

A boy went to his mother one morning with a broken arrow. It was his pride and joy, and he felt sorry that it was broken.

"I'll try to fix it," she said, "but I'm afraid I can't do it."

He watched her anxiously for a few moments, and then said cheerfully, "Never mind, Mother. If you can't fix it, I'll be just as happy without it."

That boy had learned a big secret—the secret of contentment. Contented people are happy people. The Bible says, "Having food and raiment [clothing], let us therewith be content."

ALMA IS CHECKED

Alma liked to tell "tall" stories. One day in prayer Jesus spoke to her heart. He told her that exaggerating was the same as lying. She asked Jesus to forgive her and deliver her from this habit. He did, and often when tempted to "color" her stories, the Spirit checked her and she was obedient. It wasn't long until others discovered that they could trust Alma to tell the truth and they became more interested in listening to her.

Dear Boys and Girls:

This is the last day of 1967. Let us look back a little while. Can each of you tell some blessing the Lord gave you this year? Don't forget to think of the blessings of having a father and mother, and you are especially blessed if they are both saved. Then thank God for your Sunday School teacher. She spends time in prayer for each of you and also in studying your lesson so you can know more about God. But the greatest blessing that we have is that Jesus Christ is our Saviour. We want to be sure that we live for Him and do always those things that please Him. He has given his life for us and the very least we can do is to bring happiness to Him by obeying and loving Him. When we hold back our love and perfect obedience, we are robbing Him of what belongs to Him.

God has made us his bankers. Do you know what a banker does? He takes care of people's money. He will loan that money to others who pay the banker for the use of it. The money that they pay for using it is added to the person's money that the banker takes care of. In this way when you put money in the bank you can

make more. Of course some people do not want the banker to loan out their money so they have to pay the banker for keeping it for them. This is called a checking account. Any time you want your money you can get it.

When you grow older you will be making more money than you do now. Perhaps some of you do not have jobs and therefore do not make money but sometimes your parents or others might give you some. Do you not know that you should be willing to share it with God? You are God's banker and he should be able to get what you are holding for him anytime he wants it.

Under the law of Moses, God required each person to give ten per cent of what he had. Ten cents out of every dollar went to God's work. Our lesson tells about those who refused to do this. God said they were robbing him. God told them that if they would give to him that he would open the windows of heaven and pour out upon them blessings that they would not have room enough to receive. If you give of the little that you have to God by helping those in need or putting it in the treasury box, you will be laying up treasures in heaven. You can't out-give God.

We can give in many ways beside giving money. We can give of our time by running errands for others, helping elderly people in their yards or homes, by helping Mother, helping to clean the chapel—there are many ways in which we can give to God. Name some ways you can think of to help God. We do not want to rob God by holding back from him his part of our lives. Notice that our lesson tells us that God writes a "book of remembrance." What is written there about you? We want to be one of his jewels in that day, don't we? —Aunt Marie

MAN'S RESPONSE TO GOD

Mal. 3:5-10; Matt. 6:19-21 Mal. 3:16, 17

Mal. 3:5 And I will come near to you to judgment; and I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, and against the adulterers, and against false swearers, and against those that oppress the hireling in his wages, the widow, and the fatherless, and that turn aside the stranger from his right, and fear not me, saith the Lord of hosts.

6 For I am the Lord, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.

7 Even from the days of your fathers ye are gone away from mine ordinances, and have not kept them. Return unto me, and I will return unto you, saith the Lord of hosts. But ye said, Wherein shall we return?

8 Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings.

9 Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation.

10 Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

Matt. 6:19 Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal:

20 But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth

nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal:

21 For where your treasure is there will your heart be also.

Mal. 3:16 Then they that feared the Lord spake often one to another: and the Lord harkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the Lord, and that thought upon his name.

17 And they shall be mine, saith the Lord of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him.

Memory Verse: Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. Mal. 3:10.

Central Thought: We rob God when we do not give ourselves and all we have to Him.

QUESTIONS:

1. What did God say he would do to those who did wrong?
2. Name some of the sins they committed.
3. What does it mean to fear God?
4. How did the people of that day rob God?
5. How can we rob God today?
6. What will cause the windows of heaven to be opened?
7. How can we lay up treasures in heaven?
8. What kind of record is God keeping of those who fear him?

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