

TEACHER'S NOTES

JUNIORS

(Please share with all teachers using the Junior Beautiful Way lessons.)

This set of lessons will be taken mostly from the first part of Acts. We will learn about Jesus' promise of the Holy Spirit, read about it being inaugurated on the day of Pentecost, note the changes it made in Apostle Peter, watch it convict unbelievers and see the rapid growth of the Church. We will see it reveal the secret of an untruthful man and his wife, then again watch the once cowardly Peter speaking boldly in defense of Christ. Lesson thirteen will be a review of the twelve previous lessons.

The Holy Spirit is God in us. Children need God in them as well as adults. They are not always able to understand a lot about the Holy Spirit, but that is not necessary. They need the Holy Spirit to be their comfort, their leader, and to teach them how to choose between the good and the evil. Many times things may appear fine to the natural mind, when really there is hidden danger to the soul. The presence of the Holy Spirit in the life will enable even a child to understand these hidden dangers and have grace to avoid them. Encourage the students to seek God for the Holy Spirit.

Older children can be hindered in their Christian life by not receiving the power of the Holy Spirit when they really need it. One of the important duties of the Holy Spirit is to cleanse. Matthew 3:11, 12 reads, "... He shall baptize you with fire: Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and gather the wheat into the garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire." The Holy Spirit is ready to cleanse the inner foe of any individual who realizes they have a foe. Children who are struggling to live for God and find that something about their own selves is keeping them from acting the way they think they should, are realizing the inner foe. Sometimes when they continue to struggle for a long length of time, they become discouraged and decide that living for God isn't worth the struggle. Teach them that God will cleanse this inner foe if they will surrender to Him.

Many children around the ages of ten through fifteen are choosing role models. They are role-playing — many of them in classroom situations, others more or less in play, but none-the-less forming values. They are thinking about who they want to be like or what they will be in life. This then, is a good time to teach them of their responsibility to surrender their lives completely to God, so He can guide them in making these choices. When they are willing to surrender everything about themselves to God, and have seen their need of victory over the inner foe, they are ready to receive the Holy Spirit in their lives.

These instructions, if followed, should help more of our children to live steady lives for God. Why should they stray away from God (their helper) and turn from the teachings of the Bible and then come to adult years without wisdom and strength to make good decisions for their life? If endowed with the Holy Spirit during teenage years, he or she will make better decisions for life and thus have a better environment in which to continue growing in the Lord. Environment (especially home environment) is very important for continued spiritual growth. Adults base their spiritual growth many times on ideas formed while young and many create their future home environments by decisions made while teenagers. How very important it is for children to have a complete experience with the Lord when young!

Never discourage a child from seeking for salvation or the Holy Spirit, by telling them they are too young, or that they are already saved. Take time with them. Ask a few questions. Pray with the child. They may know more about themselves and God than you realize.

—Sis. Charlotte

July 3, 1988

The Promise Of The Holy Spirit

Scripture references: John 14:15-26, 16:7; Luke 11:9-13; Acts 1:4-8.

Jesus promises His disciples and all believers an abiding Comforter. This Comforter is to cleanse the root of sin from the heart. It is to teach, bring things to our remembrance and endow us with power. What great promises are ours in this experience with God!

God's plan in the Gospel Era is not that people continue in sin as they did under the Mosaic law. He sent the Holy Spirit on occasions in those times, but today He freely gives this wonderful Spirit to those who have obedient love and surrender all to His will. The Holy Spirit will cleanse every sin from the heart and give power to live a pure, sinless life.

It is very important that children also surrender to God's will and receive the Comforter in their lives.

July 10, 1988

Understanding Pentecost

Scripture references: Acts 2:1-15; Lev. 23:15, 16.

In this lesson we learn about Pentecost before Christ; the Pentecost fifty days after Christ's Resurrection and ten days after His Ascension to heaven; and our relationship with today's Pentecostal churches. Pentecost is the birthday of the Church of God. It is the day when Jesus and God in the form of the Holy Spirit came to abide in the clean hearts of surrendered believers. What a great day!

We believe in this day, just as it was, nothing added. It was not a day of mass confusion of speeches without meaning but a day of edification for the new Church. It was a day when people of at least fourteen different languages and dialects heard the gospel story clearly in their own language, from unlearned men who were filled with the Holy Ghost. Neither were those who kept silent excluded from the blessing of the Holy Spirit, they were all filled.

According to some historians, speaking in unknown tongues was practiced among pagan worshippers before Christ.

It is hardly, then, an evidence that one is filled with the Holy Spirit. Living a sinless life, however is evidence that the Holy Spirit is within that human, for without this power it is impossible for any human to live without sinning.

July 17, 1988

How Peter Changed

Scripture references: John 13:37, 18:10-27; Acts 2:4, 4:18, 19, 5:17-29.

The Holy Spirit gave Peter the boldness that he had lacked. He was no more afraid of men nor of suffering at their hands. Peter however, had his same quick, strong personality. He seemed to have been one of those "born leaders." He was still a strong leader after being filled with the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit is God in us, a constant comfort and strength and cleansing agent that purifies the "old man" and continues purifying us through life, but it does not rid us of our own personality. Children need to understand this, for the devil will sometimes cause people to think they are not filled with the HOLY Spirit, when they still are faced with personality problems. Instruct the children to not expect the Holy Spirit to make a superman out of them.

July 24, 1988

Peter's First Sermon

Scripture references: Acts 2:13-36.

In Peter's first sermon, he defends the disciples and tells those listeners who were participants in Jesus' crucifixion that they are guilty before God and must repent. He also gives them hope by quoting the words of the prophet Joel, "Whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord, shall be saved."

What were they to be saved from? "The blood of Jesus Christ cleanseth from all sin." "Whosoever abideth in him sinneth not: whosoever sinneth hath not seen him, neither known him." "He that committeth sin is of the devil." "Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin." (Taken from 1 John).

Instruct the children that the Holy Spirit will give power to keep us from sinning.

July 31, 1988
3000 People Are Saved

Scripture references: Acts 2:36-47.

In this lesson we see the Holy Spirit at work convicting the wicked men who crucified Jesus. Yes, the Holy Spirit is willing and ready to convict even the most vile sinner if they do not blaspheme this precious spirit. Not one soul has ever, nor ever will, come to Christ for salvation unless the Holy Spirit does His work of convicting.

Just as the Spirit is faithful to convict sinners, so He is faithful to be always with those who keep themselves surrendered to God.

The Holy Spirit is the working element in the Church that causes both the growth and establishment of believers.

August 7, 1988

Peter Shares With A Lame Man

Scripture references: Acts 3:1-6.

Sharing is an ordinary way of life for the Christian, but many are being cheated out of blessings because they feel financially unable to give. Peter was financially unable to help the lame man, but he gave to him something much more valuable than money.

Sharing can be developed as a habit. The younger a child gets into this habit, the happier he will be. "Let's Talk" has several suggestions for things besides money which can be shared. Encourage your class to think of many more. Remind them often to keep sharing by asking what they have shared lately. A teacher could keep a chart in the classroom and note unusual things that the students have shared. Stress that money or things that money can buy are only a small part of things to be shared.

August 14, 1988

The Holy Spirit Is A Deliverer

Scripture references: Acts 3:12-26, 4:1-4.

Christ was the Prophet like Moses in that Moses was the deliverer of the Israelite people from the bondage of slavery; Jesus is the deliverer of the

world from the bondage of sin and the devil.

Moses could not have delivered those people if they had not followed his instructions; neither can Jesus deliver us today unless we follow His instructions.

Some of Jesus' instructions are very hard to follow. For the carnal mind it is impossible. Those who are willing to obey Jesus need to seek for an infilling of the Holy Spirit to have power on hand to do as Jesus commanded. The disciples were able to keep all of Jesus' commandments and this was making such a stir in the hearts of others that there were five thousand followers of Christ in just a few days after Pentecost.

August 21, 1988

The Holy Spirit Keeps Peter Honest

Scripture references: Acts 4:1-14.

Being honest is very important. It will help a man on his job, a woman with her work, and children to benefit more from their lessons. To the Christian it is not only a help, it is the only way of being a Christian. A person never can get saved unless he is honest and admits his sins and his responsibility before God. A person may say he is a Christian, but he really isn't one unless he is honest.

I am not saying that children, and even adults who are babes in Christ, will not occasionally fail as Peter did in the garden of Gethsemane. However, all these failures must be repented of for the doer to continue on with Christ. A weak believer, especially children, may have an honest heart, and fail sometimes. The Holy Spirit will teach the weak one how to get victory over these weaknesses.

August 28, 1988

Why Peter Was Bold

Scripture references: Acts 4:15-37.

Total dependence upon God is a necessity for a successful life for God. The Holy Spirit oftentimes must show us our inabilities. Everyone must keep the Holy Spirit in the heart and rely upon

it at all times—that is dependence upon God. Life isn't all smooth sailing just because the Holy Spirit has come into the heart. Although filled with the Spirit, the disciples were still human and felt fear. Some young people confuse natural human feelings with the carnal nature. There is a difference. The carnal nature will draw toward sin. Human feelings such as fear, unhappiness, etc., cause the Spirit-filled person to draw nearer to God.

Peter, John, nor any of the other Apostles or disciples could have been so bold in the face of danger if they had not been depending upon God.

September 4, 1988
Dishonesty Doesn't Pay

Scripture references: Acts 4:32-37, 5:1-11.

Some parents have been careful to teach their children to be honest, which is very good. Some have punished them for dishonest behavior and the children are honest because they fear punishment. All this is very good, for dishonesty is always punished, if not sooner, then later.

Some children, however, get the idea that only dishonesty that is caught is punished, therefore some develop habits of being secretly dishonest. Being dishonest to God falls in this category, and spiritual problems will inevitably follow.

Ananias and Sapphira are good examples of secret dishonesty being punished.

September 11, 1988
The Good And Bad Of It

Scripture references: Acts 5:12-28.

The Apostles were completely clean of every sin and attitude that would hinder God from working, so God worked in a mighty way, and the temple rulers wanted very badly to stop it.

The Holy Spirit gives victory over attitudes as well as sin. If juniors are having trouble with attitudes, they need to surrender to God and seek for the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is what you call a "cure all," but it never intrudes over private desires.

September 18, 1988
Beaten And Released

Scripture References: Acts 5:29-42.

Peter and the other Apostles were happy to be counted worthy to suffer for Jesus. There was no resentment, self-pity, questioning, nor murmuring in their attitude. The Holy Spirit so filled their hearts that the beating seemed nothing when compared with the glory they felt in their soul.

Being chosen of God to suffer for Him is many times the way God has of getting His children in the right place and attitude so they can bring others to Him.

September 25, 1988
The Blessings Of The Holy Spirit

Scripture reference: Review of the first five chapters of Acts and John 14.

The Holy Spirit was promised and came on the Day of Pentecost. From that day forward, it has been filling believers who present their bodies in living sacrifice, holy acceptable unto God, which is their reasonable service.

It has no respect of age, social standing, or race. "Whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved." "Repent and be baptized and ye shall receive the Holy Ghost." "The promise is unto you and to your children."

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 1 July 3, 1986

The Nooky Nutrition Club

(More adventures of the "What Would Jesus Do?" Gang.)

Nancy stood looking at herself in the mirror door of her closet. "I look as big as that hippo we saw in the zoo yesterday," she muttered to herself. "Maybe another dress will make me look thinner." She yanked open the closet and looked through her best summer dresses. "Nothing here fit to wear. These high dollar clothes look pretty on the racks in the stores, but on a barrel, ugh!" she grumbled. "But I've got to hurry or we'll be late!" She pushed aside her coat and took out a new school dress. "Maybe this will help me not look so shaped like a globe." Slipping on the dress, she took one look in the mirror and found the same fat girl looking back at her.

"What's the hold up?" David called up to her.

"I can't find anything to wear."

"Nothing to wear? And a closet full of clothes? You're just like some other girls I know, always complaining they have nothing to wear. Wear the pink dress you wore last Sunday. It's pretty, besides, it reminds me of strawberry ice cream."

"No! cause Kim told me last Sunday I looked like a hot air balloon, and don't mention ice cream, that's my problem now; too much ice cream."

"Well hurry up, or we will be late for Sunday school. We've got to leave early to pick up Sarah and her mother, and those two little girls she baby-sits."

"Oh, I forgot we promised to get them while Sandy and her folks are gone on vacation. I'm coming!" she said, as she came thundering downstairs.

Mrs. Powell was waiting in the car. "Your eyes are red, like you've been crying," she said to Nancy.

"I could find nothing to wear except what made me look fat. And then I remembered last Sunday that Kim said to me, 'You look like a hot air balloon.'"

"She shouldn't have said it, she may get fat herself. But really Nancy, let's you and I go on a diet. I'd like to lose the ten pounds I've gained since I've quit smoking. Mrs. Smith gave me a book about nutrition. The woman who wrote the book has also formed what she calls, 'Nutrition for Missions.' She encourages people to save money by denying themselves of foods that aren't nutritious. The money saved is sent to starving brethren, or to help in spreading the gospel."

"That sounds like a good idea! Maybe we could run a contest too, and see who could lose the most weight," David spoke up. "Maybe Nancy would win, she's got so much to lose!"

"Since when did you become a beauty contest winner?" Nancy refuted.

"Now, now, that's enough. Let's not get into an argument."

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WORDS OF GOLD



Jesus Promises The Holy Spirit

New Words: *Baptized:* An outward symbol of cleansing.

Manifest: To show plainly, to prove beyond doubt.

Uttermost: Most remote or farthest.

Matthew 3:11 I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire:

12 Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.

John 14:23 Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.

24 He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings. . . .

25 These things have I spoken unto you, being yet present with you.

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

John 16:7 Nevertheless I tell you the truth: It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you.

Luke 11:9 And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.

11 If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent?

13 If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?

Acts 1:4 . . . Wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me.

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

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

Central Thought: Jesus went away but He promises that He and God will return in the form of the Holy Spirit to not only be with the believers, but to be in them.

Questions:

1. What is the Comforter that Jesus is speaking about?
2. To what kind of people was the Comforter to come?
3. What did Jesus say proves love for Him?
4. Is the Comforter also in those who keep Jesus' commandments?
5. How willing is God to give the Holy Spirit?
6. What happens to the person who is baptized with the Holy Spirit?
7. What is one to receive after baptism by the Holy Spirit?
8. What is the job of a Holy Spirit baptized person?
9. The Holy Spirit should cleanse, comfort, and teach. Yes or No?

MEMORY VERSE

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

Acts 1:5.



Let's Talk

"I will send you a Comforter," Jesus said to His disciples after they had finished eating supper. Jesus knew He was soon to be killed. He had told them in no uncertain terms that this was their last meal together. Of course they were all feeling very sad, that is, all except Judas, who had just sneaked out to betray Jesus in exchange for thirty pieces of silver.

"We cannot always be together," Jesus said, "but the Comforter will be in each of you wherever you must go."

"Why is it that you will come to only us and not to the world?" a disciple asked.

"We will abide only in those who love us," Jesus answered. "The world shows by not obeying God that they do not love us, nor want us in their heart. You love and obey us, and the Holy Spirit will help you to continue obeying, by teaching you and bringing to your remembrance things that will be of help. You need only to love me and obey my commandments and ask for this Comforter and you will receive it. My Father is ready to give it just as good parents are to give gifts to their children."

Jesus' last words to His disciples were, "Stay at Jerusalem until you receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit which I have told you about. Remember, John baptized you with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit in a few days. After you are baptized with this Spirit you will receive power. Then you shall testify of me to the people in Jerusalem, and other cities around, and even to those in the farthest and most remote parts of the earth."

Jesus felt it very important that the disciples be baptized with the Holy Spirit. I am sure He feels it very important that you and I also receive a baptism of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

What is meant by a baptism of the Holy Spirit? We have learned from the

Bible verses, that the Holy Spirit is Jesus and His Father, God in another form. When the Holy Spirit comes to live in a heart, God and Jesus are also present in that person. God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit are three and yet one. Remember Jesus said, "I will not leave you comfortless, I will come unto you." John 14:18.

Most people think of baptism as some ritual using water that connects the baptized person with a church. God started baptism by sending John to baptize those who were sorry for their sins. In other words those being baptized were sorry about their sinful actions, and ready for God to cleanse away their sins. If someone came who was not sorry about their evil ways, John did not baptize them. John also said that Jesus would baptize, not with water, but with the Holy Ghost and that He (Jesus) would thoroughly purge his floor. (Matt. 3:7-12). God forgave people of their sins who came for John's baptism, but the floor of their hearts were not completely clean until the time they would receive the Holy Spirit.

The baptism of the Holy Spirit cleans the heart of inner problems of sin that repentance does not. If any reader has discovered that inner problems are keeping you from doing the things you feel are right, surrender to God and seek to be filled with the Holy Spirit. The work of the Holy Spirit is to: 1. cleanse, 2. comfort, 3. teach, 4. bring things to our remembrance. We all need that, right?

Jesus promised it to all those who love Him enough to obey him. "I will give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever," Jesus said in John 14:16.

—Sis. Charlotte



(Answers: 1. The Holy Spirit. 2. To those who love Jesus. 3. Obeying His commandments. 4. Yes. 5. Just as willing as good parents are to give good gifts to their children. 6. He is cleansed or purified. 7. Power. 8. He is to witness for Jesus. 9. Yes.)

They picked up Sarah and her mother, Mrs. Jinks, then drove to the girl's home. "Vicky is sick and Martha does not want to come without her," Nancy said when she came back to the car.

While at church Nancy thought about her mother's idea.

Mr. Powell was away for the week-end. David went home from church with Jim Meed.

Let's plan a diet this afternoon while David is away," Nancy said excitedly, while they were eating.

We can try. I have never had a weight problem before so I don't know much about diet foods, but I've learned some from the book Mrs. Smith loaned me. The book is called, *Cleaning Up Your Eating Habits*.

"Is eating too much a sin?"

"I had never thought of it as a sin, but the book proves that it is not God's plan for us. Why do you ask?"

"I heard Mrs. Gray, Tony's mother, say she couldn't be a Christian because she couldn't control her appetite for food."

"She looks like she can't control it. She probably weighs 250 pounds! However, I don't think that would keep Jesus from giving salvation to her if she believes in Him."

"But Mom, I read something in the Bible last night about eating to the glory of God. How could anyone be eating to the glory of God and eat enough to be so-o-o fat. Does it bring glory to God for us to be fat?"

"No, it doesn't, neither have I read that we should eat to God's glory. Let's see if we can find the verse you read." Mrs. Powell got up from the table and put her dishes in the dish washer. She took out *Cruden's Concordance of the Bible* from the kitchen desk. Nancy put away the food and her dishes, and wiped the table while Mrs. Powell looked up the word "glory." Under the heading, "glory of God," she found the Scripture reference, 1 Corinthians 10:31. "Let's read it," she said, as she looked in the New Testament for the place. She read, "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or

whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God." "It does say, that even our eating should bring glory to God. Then we had better be careful what and how much we eat."

"Oh, Mother," Nancy said, "I have been trying to do what Jesus would do. Last night when I read that verse, I felt He wanted me to eat differently. I really want to lose weight too, I'm so tired of what I see in the mirror. This must be God's way of helping me with this big, FAT problem," she said, stretching her arms wide apart.

"I think it must be," Mrs. Powell said, as she laid down the Bible and picked up the nutrition book. "Okay, the first thing we must do to lose weight is eat less high-calorie food so our body will change our stored fat into energy and use it. Let's make a list of foods which are high in calories and low in nutrition. We will only eat these in small amounts."

The book had a "Table of Food Composition" which helped them decide the nutritional value and calorie content of beverages, breads, deserts, fruits, meats, vegetables etc. When they were through studying different foods, Nancy's list looked like this:

Food to eat in small amounts:

Candy, all forms, especially chocolate or any soft candies,
Cakes with frosting, pies, most cookies, and other fattening deserts,
Chips, onion rings, and dips.
Drinks, soft drinks of all kinds containing sugar.
Deep fried vegetables, meats and breads, french fries, donuts, etc.
Ice cream, shakes, sundaes, banana splits or anything made of ice cream,
Meats with a lot of fat, bacon, ham, sausage, lamb, fat beef or chicken,
Sugar-coated cereals.

"Okay, Mother, from this day forward, I am going to try and eat like Jesus would, so I won't always be fat."
(To be continued)



THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 2 July 10, 1988

Visitation Day

(Continued from last week)

Mrs. White, the pastor's wife spends one day each week going from door to door speaking with people about Jesus. Each week she takes a different one of the juniors.

At 9:30, Tuesday morning, Mrs. White picked up Nancy. "I am happy to have you with me today. We will be visiting a family which has two girls about your age. They need friends, for they have just moved to town. When we are finished visiting, I will buy you an ice cream sundae. Would you like that?"

Nancy paused a while, then answered, "I'm on a diet."

Well you can get something else then, whatever you like. I don't usually eat sundaes either, not that I need to lose weight, but my conscience tells me not to waste God's money on things that aren't good for my body, which is His holy temple."

"You must have read, *Cleaning Up Your Eating Habits*. Mrs. Smith loaned the book to Mother. It has been a lot of help with our diet."

"I bought the book for Mrs. Smith. I thought she could put the knowledge to use in her Home Ec. class."

"It says that for every 25 pounds of excess fat, your body has 18 miles of extra blood vessels through which to pump blood. And the heart must do this

every 5/6 of a second. Do you believe that Mrs. White?"

"The author has studied the body and how nutrition affects it, for at least forty years. She should know."

"That must be why I get tired so easily. I don't like swimming and playing like David. Then he calls me 'Drony Darling,' and I get so mad. I wish I wouldn't get mad, but I do. How can I keep from getting angry?"

"Having the Holy Spirit in your heart would help," said Mrs. White as they turned right and stopped in front of a small yellow house trimmed in brown.

A thin woman about thirty years old answered the door and invited them in. Soon the children came in. Nancy was introduced to Andrea 12, Janet 9, and Tony 7. They visited a while, then Mrs. White read from the Bible and prayed with them. They invited the family to attend church and left.

"We will visit Mrs. Howard after we go down this street and leave a tract at each house. If any one is home we will invite them to think about their soul." The title of the tract was, *Where Will You Spend Eternity?* In one house lived an old man. "Are you ready to meet God?" Mrs. White asked.

"Ready or not, I soon will," he answered. "I'll be ninety if I live to my next birthday."

"Jesus says, 'He that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.' Just come to Jesus and tell Him you are sorry about

(Continued on page four)

WORDS OF GOLD



Understanding Pentecost

New Words: *Amazed:* Greatly surprised.

Cloven: Divided in two parts.

Confounded: Surprised or puzzled.

Devout: Religious.

Tongue: Language of a people or nation.

Utterance: Ability to speak in the right way.

Acts 2:1 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.

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

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

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

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

6 Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language.

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

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

9 Parthians, and Medes, and Elamites, and the dwellers in Mesopotamia, and Judaea, and Cappadocia, in Pontus, and Asia.

10 Phrygia, and Pamphylia, in Egypt, and in the parts of Libya about

Cyrene, and strangers of Rome, Jews and proselytes,

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

12 And they were all amazed, and were in doubt, saying one to another What meaneth this?

13 Others mocking said, These men are full of new wine.

Central Thought: On the day of Pentecost the disciples received the baptism of the Holy Spirit just as Jesus had promised.



Questions:

1. On what day had the disciples met?
2. What suddenly happened?
3. With what were the disciples filled?
4. When did the disciples speak with other tongues?
5. From how many nations were the Jews who came as spectators?
6. What unusual happening amazed the spectators?
7. As Peter spoke could people of different languages understand him?
8. Is the word "tongue" used as a native language?
9. What did the mockers say about the disciples?

MEMORY VERSE

And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost [Spirit], and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. Acts 2:4.



Let's Talk

To the Christians of the early Church, Pentecost was the most glorious of all days! Parents and Grandparents told and retold the following story of the first Pentecost after Jesus ascended.

"Jesus had been crucified, sure, but He came back to life and spent the next forty days making miraculous appearances first one place and then another. But everyone who loved Him lived in constant fear that they had seen Him for the last time. One of the times He was with the disciples, He strictly charged them not to leave Jerusalem until they were baptized with the Holy Spirit. They hardly knew what He meant by being baptized with the Holy Spirit, but they wanted to be obedient so they waited at Jerusalem for ten days after Jesus had left them for good.

"The tenth day was the Hebrew Feast of Pentecost, Jews from almost every nation under heaven had arrived for the great day. Many of these people could not speak nor understand the language spoken at Jerusalem.

"The disciples were not very interested in the festival. They met to pray together. Their spirits were so united, it was like one man praying. Suddenly a sound from heaven like a roaring wind filled the room and each one knew that he had been filled with the power of God! Now they understood about being baptized with the Holy Spirit!

"Soon crowds that had gathered for the Pentecost festival heard what was happening among the disciples and came to see for themselves. The disciples were so happy about it that they began telling these men. In an instant the disciples were speaking not their own language, but the language of the listener. Now remember, there were people "out of every nation under heaven." I believe fourteen are named. What

a noise it must have been with so many talking at the same time in fourteen different languages!

"Some scoffers said, 'These men are drunk.' Peter then stood up to explain what was going on and the strangest of all things took place. As Peter spoke everyone listening heard him in their own native language. What a great day that was!"

What does Pentecost mean to people today? It is still seven weeks after Easter and is celebrated by both Jews and Christians. On this day Christians remember the descent of the Holy Spirit on the disciples. The unbelieving Jews celebrate the day in much the same way the Jews did in Jesus' time.

Pentecostal is a word pertaining to Pentecost that is common today. You have probably heard it. Perhaps someone has asked, "Are you Pentecostal?" or "Is the church where you go Pentecostal?" A church is considered to be pentecostal if it teaches that the proof of a person being filled with the Holy Spirit is that he speaks in an unknown tongue. Speaking strange words or phrases in prayer or testimony to him is a sign that he is filled with the Holy Spirit.

Is this the proof? No, for the Bible has only three records of people speaking in tongues (unknown languages) when they were filled with the Holy Spirit. Of all the other thousands who were filled, there is no proof that they spoke in tongues. The best evidence that one is filled with the Holy Spirit is the Spirit in the heart. This is shown by the holy way a Holy Spirit-filled person acts.

We believe in Pentecost just as it happened, but not that everyone baptized with the Holy Spirit is given the gift of tongues.

—Sis. Charlotte

(Answers: 1. The day of Pentecost. 2. A sound of a rushing mighty wind filled the house. 3. The Holy Spirit. 4. As the Holy Spirit made them able to speak. 5. Almost every nation under heaven. 6. The spectators heard the gospel story for the first time in words of their own language from people who had not learned that language. 7. Yes. 8. Yes. 9. "These men are full of new wine.")

the sins you have done. He will save you and make you ready to die. You are sorry that you have sinned against God, aren't you?"

"Well, yes, but the sins are already done, and I'm too old to straighten them out. What can I do?"

"God knows what you are able to do and what you are not able to do. He never requires the impossible. Confess your wrongs and He will forgive, then you will be ready to meet God," Mrs. White urged.

"I don't think it will do any good," he answered.

"We will be glad to pray with you."

"Let me think about it a few days, and come back again. I'm watching my favorite T.V. show right now."

"Better take care of your soul," Mrs. White urged again.

"Another day," he said and began slowly closing the door.

They knocked on several other doors, but no one answered. In the crack of each door, they left the tract with the White's phone number written on it.

They then drove to see Mrs. Howard. A young lady with a baby in her arms answered the door. A little girl with blond hair hid behind her. "We have come to share the Good News of Jesus Christ," Mrs. White said. "Do you have a few minutes to talk about Him?"

"Yes, I do," Mrs. Howard answered. "Will you come in?"

They went in and sat down. Nancy tried to make friends with the baby, but he wouldn't cooperate. The little girl was very friendly and was soon bringing toys to show Nancy and books for her to read.

Nancy was trying her best to listen to Mrs. White's conversation and read to the little girl. Mrs. Howard asked some questions about the Holy Spirit, and that was just what Nancy wanted to know about. "Yes, the Holy Spirit will always be with us. Jesus says, 'I will give you another Comforter, [which is the Holy Spirit] that he may abide with you always.' Jesus also said, 'Ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost

is come upon you.' It supplies power so that we can discipline ourselves to do the things that are right."

"Yes, and to speak in tongues, Oh, praise God," the woman said almost in a shout. "Have you spoken in unknown tongues? It is blessed!"

"I have never had a reason to speak in another language," Mrs. White answered quietly. "The people who worship with us, all speak English."

"You have never received a message from God that even you did not understand?" she questioned.

"Never," Mrs. White answered. "Every message that God has given me has been clearly understood. Solomon the wise king said of God's teachings, 'they are all plain.'"

"The Apostles spoke in tongues when they received the Holy Spirit," the woman said as if to defend her point.

"Yes, they did. There was a need that day. People from many languages were there and they needed to hear the gospel. Only on three occasions does the Bible state that tongues accompanied the outpouring of the Spirit. I have a little book I will leave with you. It should help you understand what the Bible teaches about the Holy Spirit." She reached into her purse and pulled out, *Holy Spirit Baptism and The Second Cleansing*, then gave it to Mrs. Howard.

"I will be glad to read this. I am very interested in the subject."

"Will you come again?"

"Yes, I will come again next Tuesday."

The next stop was the ice cream store, where Sarah was again working.

"Have you decided what you would like?" Mrs. White asked Nancy.

"I've decided I will have a diet lime-aid."

Mrs. White laughed, "I am so very proud of you sticking to your diet! I also thought I would have a lime-aid. It's more nutritious than a sundae."

"I'm not just sticking to a diet. I'm eating the way I think Jesus would want me to," Nancy answered, as she waved a friendly "Hi" to Sarah.

(To be continued)

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 3 July 17, 1988

Nancy Shares Her Plan

(Continued from last week)

Junior's Meeting was held only once a month during the summer. For the past three weeks Nancy had eaten the way she felt that Jesus would want her to eat. She was happy about it and also happy to be 6 lbs. lighter.

"Tomorrow will be the first meeting since I started dieting," she said to her mother. "I want to tell how Jesus has been helping me, but I am afraid the others will laugh at me, especially Kim." She paused a while as if thinking, then added, "I'll just wait until I have lost some more and then, they can SEE with their own eyes that I have really been doing what I think Jesus wants me to do."

"Do whatever makes you feel happy."

The meeting opened by singing, "What Would Jesus Do?" number 251 in the *Evening Light Songs*. After that Mrs. Smith prayed, then she asked if anyone had a Bible verse they would like to share."

Nancy was feeling hot and nervous, she wanted to read 1 Corinthians 10:31. She also wanted to share her plan, but was ashamed to speak her convictions. She just sat there nervously biting on a fingernail while Harvey read, Psalm 28:7, "The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in him, and I am helped: therefore my heart greatly

rejoiceth; and with my song will I praise him." Then he said, "We went to Lake Hesner for a reunion of my father's family on the fourth of July. The morning was fun, saying, 'Hi' to everyone and getting reacquainted with my cousins, aunts, and uncles. At noon Uncle Bill opened up his smoker filled with hickory smoked barbecued spare ribs. Then he opened up his big ice chest full of beer. He always brings meat and beer. Dad, and Uncle Marion haven't been drinking beer since they are doing what Jesus would do, so they refused the beer when Uncle Bill offered them a can. You should have seen him and the other guys laugh. All the time we were eating, first one and then another tried to get them to drink a beer. I got so tired of it, I went down to the lake to cool off. I thought, 'Why can't they see that both our families are much happier and better off since the men quit spending their money for drinks.'

"I sat down on the bank of the lake slipped off my tennis shoes and let my feet fall into the cool water. It helped me cool off in two ways. I didn't stay cool for long though. In about ten minutes, my nine-year old cousin, Taltoon, came and sat beside me. He was chewing on a wad of chewing tobacco. He offered me some. 'No thanks,' I said, 'I don't like it.'

"'How do you know you don't like it?' he asked. 'Ever tasted it? You're not

(Continued on page four)

WORDS OF GOLD



How Peter Changed

John 13:37 Peter said unto him, Lord, why cannot I follow thee now? I will lay down my life for thy sake.

John 18:10 Then Simon Peter having a sword drew it, and smote the high priest's servant, and cut off his right ear. The servant's name was Malchus.

12 Then the band and the captain and officers of the Jews took Jesus, and bound him.

15 . . . Peter followed Jesus. . . .

17 Then saith the damsel that kept the door unto Peter, Art not thou also one of this man's disciples? He saith, I am not.

25 And Simon Peter stood and warmed himself. They said therefore unto him, Art not thou also one of his disciples? He denied it, and said, I am not.

26 One of the servants of the high priest, being his kinsman whose ear Peter cut off, saith, Did not I see thee in the garden with him?

Acts 2:4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost. . . .

Acts 4:18 And they called them, and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus.

19 But Peter and John answered and said unto them, Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye.

Acts 5:17 Then the high priest rose up, and all they that were with him. . . .

18 And laid their hands on the apostles, and put them in the common prison.

19 But the angel of the Lord by night opened the prison doors, and brought them forth, and said,

20 Go, stand and speak in the temple to the people all the words of this life.

21 And when they heard that, they entered into the temple early in the morning, and taught. . . .

26 Then went the captian with the officers, and brought them without violence: for they feared the people, lest they should have been stoned.

27 And when they had brought them, they set them before the council: and the high priest asked them,

28 Saying, Did not we straitly command you that ye should not teach in this name? and, behold, ye have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this man's blood upon us.

29 Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men.

Central Thought: The Holy Spirit changed Peter from a man who denied knowing Jesus into one who was bold to speak for Jesus even when it cost him suffering.

Questions:

1. What did Peter promise Jesus?
2. Did Peter fight with his sword?
3. How many times did Peter deny that he knew Jesus?
4. In what ways was Peter different after the Holy Spirit came on him?
5. Did the rulers put Peter and other of the Apostles in jail?
6. Who let them out of jail?
7. What were they commanded by the angel?
8. Did they obey the angel's command?
9. After they were caught the third time how did they answer the rulers?

MEMORY VERSE

Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John. . . they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus. Acts 4:13.



Let's Talk

How was Peter changed? First let us look at how he was before being filled with the Holy Spirit. Most of you know he was a fisherman whom Jesus called to be one of His disciples. He must have been a good disciple. When Jesus decided to choose from all His many disciples, only twelve men to be His Apostles, Peter was chosen.

Peter also had great faith in Jesus, for he was willing to try walking on water, and he did walk on the water as long as he kept his eyes on Jesus. But when he began looking around at the waves on the sea, he became afraid and couldn't walk any longer without Jesus holding his hand. That's the way Peter was, at times he was courageous and willing to try most anything for Jesus, but at times he was also afraid.

Peter showed fear when he was walking on the water, (but who wouldn't have been afraid?) Another time Peter and Jesus, were in the garden. The enemy had come to take Jesus. Peter was so afraid he slipped his sword out of its sheath and swung at one of the men. His sword hit the man's head and cut off his ear. Later when Jesus was in the judgment hall, Peter was just inside the door when first a girl, and then two men asked if he was one of Jesus' disciples. All three times that he was asked, Peter answered, "No."

Peter felt terribly sorry that he had denied Jesus. He was discouraged and angry with himself. He may have said to himself, "If I only hadn't been afraid. If I had it to do over again, I would not let myself deny Jesus. I would say, Yes, Yes, Yes."

But Jesus died, and Peter didn't get the chance to do it over again.

Poor Peter was up and down. One day he was all for Jesus and the next day afraid to say he was a disciple. Then the next day he was all for Jesus again.

After Peter was filled with the Holy Spirit, he was always for Jesus. That very day, when mockers said that Jesus' disciples were drunk, Peter stood up in front of hundreds of people and preached Jesus to them. A few days later, the authorities commanded Peter to not speak again about Jesus, Peter told them that it was not right to obey them instead of obeying God.

It was only a short time later that the authorities put Peter and other of the Apostles in jail. Neither did this make Peter afraid. The angel opened the jail door, and told them to go preach. Early the next morning they were preaching in the temple when the authorities came after them again. Peter wasn't afraid then either. This time he said, "We ought to obey God rather than men."

The Holy Spirit made Peter a steady Apostle for Jesus. He was not up and down any more. The Holy Spirit will make a steady Christian out of anyone who receives it into their heart and stays obedient to its messages.

If you are having trouble with "up's" and "down's", try surrendering your all to Jesus and seek Him for the Holy Spirit in your life. Having the Holy Spirit in your heart is like having Jesus hold your hand when the waves of trouble are dashing all around you.

—Sis. Charlotte



(Answers: 1. "I will lay down my life for thee." 2. Yes. 3. Three. 4. He was not ashamed to tell everyone that he believed in Jesus. 5. Yes. 6. An angel. 7. "Go and preach Christ in the temple." 8. Yes. 9. "We ought to obey God rather than man.")

still hung up with that, What Would Jesus Do gang, are you?"

"Sure am," I answered.

"You can't always drink milk like a baby. You've got to grow up and be a tough man like the rest of the Hardins," he said.

"It doesn't take chewing, smoking, and drinking to be a man," I shouted, "Now get away and leave me alone."

"He jumped up and shouted back, 'I didn't know I was sitting beside a stick of dynamite!' Then off he ran toward a bunch who were swimming.

"I felt bad I had been so cranky, but I sure didn't want him after me the rest of the evening like the men had been after Dad and Uncle Marion. In another ten minutes or so, here came Mike and Slap (he was called that because when he was little he went about slapping everyone). They were each dressed for swimming and were smoking cigarettes and carrying open cans of beer. One sat on either side of me. 'What's your problem?' Slap asked, as he slapped me on the back. 'Can't you even enjoy July the 4th without thinking about what Jesus would do? There was no Fourth when Jesus was here, so you don't know how he would have celebrated it.'

"Jesus like wine,' Mike added then laughed at his own joke. 'He changed water into wine for a wedding. This beer isn't nothing compared to wine. Come on, have a swig, it'll make you feel good.'

"Then I heard Taltoon say, 'Yeh, Mike, make him drink it!' I looked up and there he was in the shallow water of the lake, with six of my other cousins.

"I don't think he wants to,' Mike answered back. 'He'd probably rather be baptized.' Before I knew what was going on, Mike took me by one leg and arm, and Slap by the other. I fought with all my might to get loose, but it didn't help. They were bigger than I, and to call for help would only bring more audience to witness the unceremonious baptism that I was about to receive. I knew I better hold my breath!

That's what I did, as they lowered me into the water and out again, three times. Then they laid me on the rocky bottom and ran back to the other swimmers. The seven smaller cousins followed, laughing so hard they could hardly wade.

"That day was a little unusual, but I am so glad that God was my strength and my shield, and that He helped me, my Dad, and Uncle Marion to do what Jesus would do."

Everyone laughed when Harvey sat down. "I'd liked to have seen that baptism!" Hoel said.

"Did you come out of the water really cooled off?" Jim Meed asked. Everyone laughed again.

Nancy took one more bite of her midget fingernail and raised her hand. "Nancy, we will be glad to hear you. This is your first time to share an experience."

"Do I have to stand up?" Nancy asked.

"No, you do not," Mrs. Smith answered.

Nancy said very quietly, "I will read 1 Corinthians 10:31, 'Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.'"

"Let me interrupt you just a moment," Mrs. Smith said. I will read the verse loud so that everyone can hear. It fits nicely with how Harvey acted." She read it again, then added, "Harvey and his family did not eat and drink things that were not to the glory of God. Now, Nancy, what will you share with us?"

"I believe Jesus would eat just enough of the right foods, so that He would not be fat. That's what I am trying to do."

Everyone laughed just as Nancy had thought they would.

David stood up. "I want to say that Nancy has been faithfully doing what she thinks Jesus would want her to do for the past three weeks, and she has lost six pounds. Let's all give her a hand." Everyone clapped for Nancy, and her face turned a shade more red.

(To be continued)



THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 4 July 24, 1988

Mrs. Powell Does Her Part

(Continued from last week)

The house was dark when David, Nancy, and their mother drove through the open gate that led into their estate.

"David unlocked the door and held it open as Mrs. Powell and Nancy went in. "Who wants a banana milk shake before going to bed?" Mother asked.

"Are you two allowed milk shakes with your diet?" David asked.

"Sure thing," Nancy answered.

They went into the kitchen. Mother took six frozen bananas from the freezer. First she cut each one in four pieces, then placed them in the blender and added one teaspoon of sugar, and enough milk to cover the bananas.

"M-m-m, I really like this," David said. "But Mom, I've been wanting to ask if something is bothering you."

"I've been noticing it, too," Nancy added.

"Well, I do have two very observant children," she answered with a laugh.

"Can we help?" they both said at the same time.

"I don't think so. It's just. . . just that I can't seem to do what I think Jesus would do about a certain thing."

"Mother!" Nancy gasped, "It's not that hard to do what Jesus would do."

"I didn't think so either, that is, not until I thought about getting up in ser-

vice and talking. (Nancy remembered how hard it had been for her to share in the Junior's Meeting.) Mrs. Powell went on. "I think if Jesus were here, He would share with others the knowledge we have learned and encourage them to give more to the poor."

Nancy spoke up, "I have a good idea," let's form a fund to send to the poor Church in the Philippines. We could all save a little money by not buying foods that aren't nutritious. It would be fun to see how much we could collect."

"That's what I think Jesus would do. But I have been saved only a short while, so why should I be trying to teach those who have been living for God many years. Besides, we have plenty of money and some of the poor ones might think I should give enough for all of them. They don't understand that we have money invested in the plant."

"They wouldn't get a blessing if we did it all," Nancy said, to stress the point that everyone should help.

"The idea is good and I believe Jesus wants our congregation to profit by it, but I just don't have the boldness to present it. There are other things that are bothering me too, . . . like times when I go with your father to business gatherings with presidents of other companies and their wives. Sometimes I think I see pain, that cannot be covered with make-up, in the faces of some of the wives. I long to talk to them, but I don't

(Continued on page four)

WORDS OF GOLD



Peter's First Sermon

New Words: *Patriarch:* Father and ruler of a family or tribe.

Acts 2:12 And they were all amazed, and were in doubt, saying one to another, What meaneth this?

13 Others mocking said, These men are full of new wine.

14 But Peter standing up with the eleven [Apostles]. . . said unto them. . .

15 . . . These are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is but the third hour of the day [nine a.m.].

16 But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel;

17 And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:

21 And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

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

23 . . . Ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain:

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

29 Men and brethren, let me freely speak unto you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his sepulchre is with us unto this day.

31 He [David] seeing this before spake of the resurrection of Christ, that his soul was not left in hell, neither his flesh did see corruption.

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

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

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

Central Thought: Only Christ has been resurrected and is a living Saviour who is able to give power to His followers to live without sin.



Questions:

1. Were the people drunk?
2. What had happened which made the people act unusual?
3. By whom had it been prophesied that this would happen?
4. What shall happen to all those who call upon the name of the Lord?
5. What did Peter accuse the men of doing?
6. What had King David prophesied about Christ?
7. Had both prophecies been fulfilled?
8. What is Jesus to all people of the world?
9. Has Christ redeemed you from a lost state in sin?

MEMORY VERSE

. . . God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ.

Acts 2:36.



Let's Talk

The Scripture reading is the story of what took place right after the disciples were baptized with the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost. People from many different nations were at Jerusalem on that day and when they heard about the disciples receiving the Holy Spirit, they came to see what was happening. Immediately the Apostles began preaching to them about Christ. The unusual thing that happened was that people from many different languages heard words in their own native tongue. It seems that part of the time the Apostles were speaking languages they had never known. At other times something else was happening, like when Peter spoke, the people of different nations each heard his words in their own language. I don't believe that Peter spoke each word many times in each of the different languages that were represented that day. It was an unusual miracle where God caused each one to hear words in their own language instead of the Greek words which Peter was speaking.

Peter tells these people the good news, that they can be saved. It is just like the prophet Joel said, "Whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved." "This Lord who will save those who call on Him, is the man Jesus," Peter told them. "He has been here with us doing many wonders and miracles, but for envy, your wicked hands have crucified Him. Death could not hold Him, though, for He has power over everything in the universe, even death." He is the only man who has been able to resurrect Himself. Great King David did a lot of things, but he couldn't do that! He knew however that someone in his family would be able to do it. He even spoke about it in his Psalms. He said, "Thou shalt not suffer thy Holy One to see corruption." In other words Jesus' body would not decay like other

bodies do after people die. Yes, Jesus has power over death. He is the only prophet or religious leader who has such power.

Twelve major religions are practiced in the world today. Each of them includes various groups that may practice their religion in different ways. But all have certain basic beliefs, traditions, and philosophies. These twelve major religions are Christianity, Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, Confucianism, Taoism, Shinto, Sikhism, Zoroastrianism, and Humanism. Of course there are many more minor religions. Of all these many religions and their sects, only Christians boast a founder who has power over death, was resurrected and today, is a living Saviour for His followers. Only Christians have a living Saviour. Only people who are truly born again children of God experience the joys of this living Saviour. Only those who are filled with the Holy Spirit have the presence of this living Saviour with them all the time, to comfort, lead, teach and bring to remembrance all things that they need to know so that they may moment by moment live without sinning.

Apostle John in 1 John 2:1, 6 says, "My little children. . . I write unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He that saith he abideth in him [Jesus] ought himself . . . so to walk, even as he [Jesus] walked." "Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth." 1 Peter 2:22.

Do you do things that the Bible calls sin? Do you sometimes feel it is impossible to live without doing sinful things? You should seek God for forgiveness for any sin, and ask Him to cleanse the sin nature out of your heart by His great Holy Spirit. Then you will be able to live without sinning.

—Sis. Charlotte



(Answers: 1. No. 2. They had been baptized with the Holy Spirit. 3. By Joel. 4. They shall be saved. 5. Of crucifying Jesus. 6. About His resurrection. 7. Yes. 8. He is Christ, the Redeemer. 9. Some will answer yes, others will say, no.)

know how. Sometimes I come home with a heavy heart, when I should be happy because the meeting has been a success for your father."

"Jesus was sometimes sad too," Nancy added. "He wanted to help and protect the children like a hen cares for her chicks, but they would not come to Him, and that made Jesus sad."

David had been listening, and praying for God to help him know what to say. Finally he said, "Jesus said that the Holy Spirit would teach us all things and also give us power. The Holy Spirit will teach you what to say to other hurting people. It will also give you boldness to speak so you can share with others what you have learned. Have you received the Holy Spirit since you got saved?"

"I thought I received it when I repented of the evil I had done, like accusing Mrs. Hardin of stealing my ring, and for being so proud, etc."

"We're all learning, aren't we, Mother? I thought I was the best Christian in the town until Steven came along and we started trying to do only what Jesus would do, then I found out that I wasn't even saved. Later when I had trouble with some temptations, Pastor White showed me that I needed the Holy Spirit. I was also feeling sad because I was not always doing what I thought Jesus would do." While talking he picked up a Bible laying on the kitchen desk, and thumbed through it to Titus 2:14. Then laying it on the table so Mother could read it, he said, Jesus died to cleanse us from all iniquity, and purify us even as he is pure. In 1 John 3:3 it says that we must purify ourselves even as He (Jesus) is pure. We do our part by disciplining ourselves to do what we know is right. Jesus purifies us of the nature of sin, that each of us is born with, is how Pastor White explained it to me."

"I thought I was pure when Jesus forgave my sins?" she questioned.

"Oh, Mother, I don't understand all about this, maybe you had better talk to Pastor White. I believe Jesus forgives the sins we have done, and that makes

us pure or clean of sin, but our character is still kind of dirty, I guess."

The next day, Mrs. Powell went to talk with Pastor White. He said, "Jesus' disciples were forgiven for sins, just as you are. However, after Jesus died and arose again, they were ready to give their all for Him. Before this, they were still thinking of themselves: who would sit near Him in His kingdom, which of them was the greatest, and fearful of what might happen to them. To be filled with the Holy Spirit, one must completely surrender to God. By the time the Holy Spirit came on the disciples on the day of Pentecost, they were saying to Jesus, 'Do whatever you want with me, my family and everything I have.' If you are willing to make that surrender, Mrs. Powell, the Holy Spirit will come into your heart."

After prayer she said, "I feel assurance that the Spirit is with me."

She explained her idea of challenging the women to save money by shopping more wisely for food, and with the money saved, starting a fund for the poor.

Pastor White suggested she invite the women to her home on Tuesday.

A huge imaginary wall loomed in Mrs. Powell's mind. She relived the shocking experience of losing her diamond ring the last time she had invited the Church to her home. At that time it was to make plans to get rid of Pastor White. She was thankful to be a new woman with a clean, Spirit-filled heart.

Mrs. Wilshire, Mrs. Shoor, Mrs. Miller, Mrs. White, Mrs. Meed, Mrs. Poline, and also Mrs. Gray came to the meeting. They thought it sounded like a good idea. Mrs. White added that she had spent their money only on nutritious foods since her husband had been called to the ministry. She was happy to know that the women in the congregation were willing to help the poor.

Mrs. Gray, Mrs. Miller, and Mrs. Wilshire were especially interested in a plan to lose weight—a plan that might prove to be a permanent way in which to control their weight.

(To be continued)

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 5 July 31, 1988

The Project Grows

(Continued from last week)

David was surprised when Mrs. Hardin said to him, "I hear your mother plans to build a fund for the poor by saving food dollars. Our family will be glad to help. We have decided to quit buying soft drinks. I believe we spend five or six dollars a week on soft drinks of one kind or another. In one year that could add up to \$300."

"That will be great!" David said.

When David finished talking to her, Jim Meed walked up and said, "I heard my Dad tell Mom that he was going to quit buying so much junk food too. 'I promise, I will save at least one dollar a day,' he said. 'That will be \$365 a year. Put a bank of some kind right here on the bar and when I come in each night, I will put what I've saved in it.'"

"Then Mom said, 'I'm going to give, too. I'm quitting Weight Watchers once and for all. Just listen to this, she took a paper from the bulletin board and read: 'Last year alone, Americans spent 61.5 million dollars on Weight Watchers and Tops.' Let's see, what else did she read, I wrote it down." Jim fished in his pocket for a scrap of paper. "Yes, here it is. Another 423.1 million was spent on diet foods. That's a total of-of, 484.6 million dollars. Then she said, 'If just half of this could have been used to buy food for hungry children, think how many children could have been happy. Anyway, my weekly dues and all I've

been spending on their products will from this day forth be given to our fund for the poor.' "

" 'Good for you,' Dad said, 'just don't get so fat I can't reach around you!'

" 'I won't,' Mom assured him, 'because God will help me to control my taste for fattening foods since I'm doing it as a sacrifice to Him and the poor.' "

On the way home from church, as David was telling his mother what Jim and Mrs. Hardin had said, Nancy interrupted by saying, "And Mother, Edith said they could not have chocolate anymore. It made Kim awfully mad, but her Mom said, 'No, it's just a waste of money, and besides it adds to the problem with your complexion.' They are going to cut down on the amount of meat they eat also, only Mr. Poline doesn't know if he will stick to that change or not. He loves meat."

"Maybe they should cut down slowly," Mrs. Powell suggested.

"And Mother," Nancy continued. "I think the fund will grow real fast, Sandy said that she and her mother were going to give the money they usually spend at the health spa. And, Mrs. Gray told me that if I kept my weight down, that she would try again to conquer her appetite. That would be wonderful, then maybe she would get saved again."

"Well, Nancy, you have been telling about what everyone else is doing. What are you doing to save for the poor?" her father asked.

(Continued on page four)

WORDS OF GOLD



3000 People Are Saved

New Words: *Fellowship:* A close companionship or friendship.

Remission: Pardon or forgiveness.

Singleness: Oneness, with perfect trust in each other.

Steadfastly: Loyal; unwavering; firmly fixed.

Untoward: Stubborn; headstrong; willful.

Breaking bread comes from the custom of the Jews to not slice bread, but break it. In the Scripture, it means eating.

Acts 2:37 Now when they heard this [Peter's sermon], they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?

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

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

40 And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, Save yourselves from this untoward generation.

41 Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.

42 And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

43 And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles.

44 And all that believed were together, and had all things common;

45 And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all men, as every man had need.

46 And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart,

47 Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.

Central Thought: A person must repent and if possible, be baptized, before he can receive the Holy Spirit.

Finish the Words

Find Acts 2:42. Read what the early Christians did and finish the words.

F _ LL _ _ _ _ P

B _ _ _ K _ _ _ G B _ _ _ D

_ _ _ Y _ _ S

A P _ _ _ L _ S' D _ _ T _ _ N E

Questions:

1. What did the men ask the Apostles?
2. What did Peter say they should do?
3. What would they receive, if they repented and were baptized in Jesus' name?
4. How many people repented and were baptized?
5. What did the people do after they were baptized?
6. Did the Apostles do signs and wonders?
7. Did the believers share food, clothing, homes, etc., with each other?
8. What did the unbelievers think of the believers?
9. Who were added to the Church?

MEMORY VERSE

...Repent, and be baptized...
for the remission of sins, and
ye shall receive the gift of the
Holy Ghost. Acts 2:38.



Let's Talk

This is the third lesson about what happened on the day the disciples were baptized with the Holy Spirit. First the disciples were filled with Holy Spirit and people from many nations who were already at Jerusalem came to the disciples and heard about salvation through Jesus. Because of the many different languages being spoken, the excitement and praising of God, the disciples were accused of being drunk. Lesson two was Peter's sermon. In it he told the people about what was going on. The lesson today is the end of Peter's message.

Peter is bold to tell his listeners that they are guilty before God for having Jesus killed. Peter's message made them realize that they needed to change their ways. They cried out, "What must we do?"

Peter told them to repent and be baptized and they would also receive this wonderful gift of the Holy Spirit. Many people repented and were baptized. What a full day the disciples had. Some Bible historians believe that not only Peter but all the Apostles were preaching to groups of people. Each may have been speaking in a different language as the Holy Spirit directed them.

The Bible does not say how many disciples were awaiting that morning to receive the Holy Spirit. There were 120 of them together when they elected a man name Matthias, to be an Apostle in place of Judas. All of these 120 may have been there on the day of Pentecost, at nine o'clock in the morning when the Holy Spirit came. That evening when the people were counted who had repented and accepted Jesus as their Saviour, the number of the disciples had grown to 3000!

The Holy Spirit of God was working in many hearts. The disciples were not afraid, to tell the people that they were guilty of crucifying Jesus. The Holy

Spirit gave them this boldness. The disciples knew that there were some men listening who could have also had them killed. The Holy Spirit was working in the minds of the listeners, helping them to see that Jesus was the real Saviour and that they needed forgiveness for not only killing Him, but for many other sins.

It is the Holy Spirit that helps every man understand the things of God. Even though a person is not a believer, this Holy Spirit causes a person to think and feel his need for a Saviour. The Spirit does not stay all the time with that person, but it comes to him at different times, and causes that person to think about God.

After a believer has surrendered himself and all he has to God and the Holy Spirit comes into his heart, it is there to stay. (Jesus said, "I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.") This Holy Spirit, which is another form of God, has a lot of work to do for that person. First it cleanses the heart from the root of sin that so often causes the believer to return to sin. Then it teaches that person how to think and act in ways pleasing to God. It must comfort, when the heart is sad. It must guide that person down the trail of life. Sometimes it must perfect the believer of ways that are not pleasing to God. Yes, the Holy Spirit has a lot to do in the believers' heart, but He will never leave the believer alone, as long as the believer keeps surrendered to God.

Jesus told the disciples to wait for the promise of the Holy Spirit. He knew they needed it, and so does everyone.

—Sis. Charlotte

Red on top; red means stop!

Green below; green means go.

Yellow means wait, even if you're late. Heed signs given while you're livin'; God, too, has signs of various kinds!

—Connie Sorrell

(Answers: 1. "What shall we do?" 2. "Repent and be baptized in the name of Jesus." 3. The gift of the Holy Ghost. 4. 3000. 5. They kept a good friendship with the Apostles, obeyed their doctrine, ate and prayed with them. 6. Yes. 7. Yes. 8. The people liked the way the believers were doing. 9. All that were saved.)

"I don't know," she said with a shrug of her shoulders as she got out of the car.

They went in the house and David went to his room. The other three continued their conversation in the kitchen, while they worked together on lunch. While Mr. Powell scrubbed the potatoes to bake in the microwave, he said to Nancy, "You can be the cover girl on the newsletter your mother and I plan to send out. You have done such a good job of getting some excess weight off. How much have you lost?"

"I've lost ten pounds already," Nancy said as she grated yellow squash she had just washed. "And Daddy, it doesn't seem hard, now that there isn't any high-caloried junk food around the house, and Mom doesn't make fattening deserts, fried foods, or fat meats anymore." She mixed slaw dressing with squash for a salad.

"I sure miss your mothers flaky biscuits, sausage and gravy, but I know it is best for me not to eat them. The food we are eating will keep us healthy longer and make us a happier family."

Mother was sauteing chopped mushrooms, onions and bell peppers together making a topping for the baked potatoes. "Have you noticed that I am losing weight too?" she asked. "I can wear some of the clothes I bought when I first got saved although they are still a little tight. Now I won't need to buy any new clothes. I can give the clothing money."

"Well, Mother, you have helped our family and a lot of other people right here in our own town."

"It was all because the Holy Spirit made me bold enough to do what I thought Jesus would do."

Nancy set the table and Daddy filled the glasses with apple juice. Mother set the Jamaican loaf on the table. It was a meat substitute made from soybeans, lentils and brown rice. Then she set on a dish of broccoli and cheese sauce.

Over the intercom, Nancy called David to the dining room.

Around the table they held hands while Mr. Powell thanked God for living

in a land of plenty. He also asked God to bless the project that Mrs. Powell had started.

Everyone was happy except David. "When are we going to have steak or just a good Sunday roast again? I'm tired of trying our new foods."

"The least we can do for the poor is to deny ourselves of meat just a couple of times a week," Mrs. Powell said, "By doing this we could save around 10 pounds of grain every week. That would be enough to serve a lot of hungry people! Do you know that 60 million parents have to see their children go to bed hungry. Half of the world's children under school age are suffering from malnutrition."

"I'm sorry I said anything. I really do want to deny myself to help the poor."

"I know you do," Mother said.

"Yes, we all want to help," Dad added, "but really this Jamaican loaf is tasty. Better try some, David, I see there is none on your plate."

"Mrs. White told me she shared this project with her Sunday school class and collected seventy-nine cents this morning. One little boy, I think she called Todd, gave 50¢. He said his mother gave it to him to buy a candy bar or something for breakfast because she didn't want to get up. Wasn't that a great sacrifice?"

"Yes, it was. I'm glad my mother cooks good meals all the time, even though I don't always like to try her new dishes," David said as he smiled at his mother. "I think with time I will learn to enjoy them."

"You will," Dad assured David, "and always remember, to be a good man you must learn to be happy with what your wife cooks. Not all women are good cooks like your mother."

(To be continued)

No one likes a pouter
Who wears a sour face.
God doesn't hear a doubter
Who shuns His saving grace.

—Connie Sorrell

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 6 Aug. 7, 1988

Jeanie's Jungle

(Continued from last week)

"I'll get it," David called as Nancy jumped to answer the phone. "Hello. Yes, I'll call her." He laid down the phone and spoke into the intercom, "Mrs. Spoor wants to talk with you, Mother."

David heard her pick up the telephone in her room. He put the receiver down on the one in the family room. "From where are you expecting a call?" he asked Nancy, "You got a boy friend, now that you're not so-o-o FAT?"

"No! And quit teasing me. I'm waiting for Edith to call. She's supposed to let me know if Kim is coming today. I hope she isn't! She makes me miserable."

"Ah, she's all right. Just ignore what she says."

"I can't! She says I look like all sorts of things, a hot air balloon, porky, greasy and stylish stout are just a few. Now she is calling me 'Droney Darling,' 'cause she heard you call me that when we played baseball at Tony's farm last Saturday. There will be no end to her remarks today. Of all the girls, I'm the slowest swimmer and still fat enough to look somewhat like a barrel in wet clothing. I wish she wouldn't come."

"If you wouldn't let it bother you, she would quit."

"You don't understand. No one ever teases you."

"I don't let what people say bother me, that's why."

Nancy wished she could be like that. She had always wished she could be like David, but she wasn't. As long as Nancy could remember, grown-ups, and all her friends had admired him. "Why can't I be like that?" she thought. "I'm just a little fat nobody!" She picked up the book about Tash Todoor and began reading. Books were her escape. She could forget all problems in their pages.

"David, Mr. Spoor won't be coming for you today," Mother said as she came into the room. "Jeannie is worse and he will be taking her to the hospital."

"What happened to Jeannie?" Nancy asked as she looked up from her book.

"She has another headache. She has passed out twice this morning and she can't carry on a conversation. Her mind is confused. Her thoughts seem to be tangled like a vine in the jungle. Her head hurt all day yesterday and all during the night. She has been having headaches for months now. They had her eyes checked, but glasses haven't helped. They have tried different diets, but none have improved her condition. The optometrist has reported the case, and they are having to take her in for a brain scan."

"Oh, poor Jeannie. She is the sweetest girl I know. Why did this happen to her? Why couldn't it happen to some meany like Kim?"

"Nancy," Mrs. Powell scolded, "You should never wish for anything to hap-

(Continued on page four)

WORDS OF GOLD



A Lame Man Is Healed

New Word: *Alms:* Money or gifts for the poor.

Acts 3:1 Now Peter and John went up together into the temple at the hour of prayer, being the ninth hour.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

12 And when Peter saw it, he answered unto the people, Ye men of Israel, why marvel ye at this? or why look ye

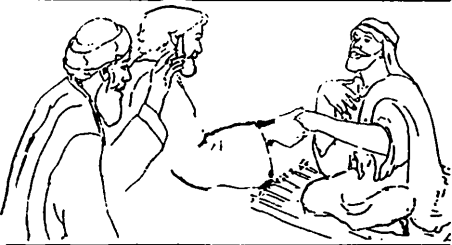
so earnestly on us, as though by our own power or holiness we had made this man to walk?

13 The God of Abraham, and of Isaac, and of Jacob, the God of our fathers, hath glorified his Son Jesus. . .

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

Acts 4:22 For the man was above forty years old, on whom this miracle of healing was shewed.

Central Thought: Peter and John were willing to share what they had with a beggar. We too should be willing to share whatever we have with others.



Questions:

1. Where were Peter and John going?
2. Who did they see?
3. What did the lame man ask for?
4. What was Peter's answer to the man?
5. What did God do for the man?
6. Did the people know who the man was?
7. Were they surprised that he was walking and leaping?
8. How did Peter say the man was healed?
9. Will faith in the name of Jesus still bring healing?

MEMORY VERSE

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

Acts 3:6.



Let's Talk

All the disciples were eager to share their blessings with others. There was no selfishness, dishonesty, pride, nor prejudice left in their hearts after the Holy Spirit came in. They seemed to eat together in whatever home they happened to be in when it was time for a meal. They were eagerly telling everyone they met about Jesus and His power to be with them all the time in the form of the Holy Spirit.

They were also continuing to attend prayer service at the temple, although they knew some of the leaders at the temple hated Jesus. Going to the temple gave the disciples a chance to meet many good people who came there to worship God. The disciples were not the least bit ashamed of Jesus so they told these people about Him.

When the lame beggar asked for alms, Peter didn't feel sorry for himself because he had no money to give. He knew he had something better than all the money in the world. "Such as I have, give I to thee," he said, "In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk."

Are you ready to share what you have? Many people wish they had money and nice things to share, but if they would just think real hard, they may have something better than money to give. There are many things more valuable than money or things that money can buy. The most valuable thing you have is an experience with Jesus. Share this with all who seem to be interested in listening to you.

I read a story about a boy who shared a tract with a man who was ready to kill himself. After the man read the tract, he decided not to commit suicide. Tracts and little portions of Scripture are very good things to share with people you may or may not know.

There are many other things you can share with those you know. Your time is valuable and can be shared. It is

selfish to use all our time for the things we like to do. Use some of your time listening to someone who needs to talk. People who live alone, have a great need for someone to listen to them. It isn't hard work, it just takes a little patience and an unselfish heart. Our strength is another thing that can be shared. Some people are weak, too weak to lift things that don't seem heavy at all to you. Some cannot carry out their trash. Some may just be very tired, and lending a hand would be a great help to them. Your eyes are something else which are valuable and can be shared. You may read to someone who cannot see very well, or cannot read. Share those eyes which God gave to you. Sometimes we can also cheerfully share our Mother or Daddy with someone who needs them or it may be a brother, sister or friend that you can share. Always do it with a smile and you will get a blessing for it. There are many, many more things that you may share.

Sharing is a way of life. It is the way Jesus' disciples lived after the Holy Spirit came into their hearts. Never again did they ask, "Who is greatest in the kingdom of God?" nor did they say, "This is mine." They knew everything they had came from God and they gave it back to Him when they received the Holy Spirit. You too, must give up everything to God to receive the Holy Spirit. Then when you have the Holy Spirit, you have things to share that are much more valuable than what money can buy.

—Sis. Charlotte



(Answers: 1. Into the temple through the gate called Beautiful. 2. A man who from birth had not been able to walk. 3. Money or a gift. 4. "Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk." 5. God put strength into the man's legs, ankles and feet, and made him know immediately how to walk. 6. Yes. 7. Yes! 8. Through faith in the name of Jesus. 9. Yes.)

pen to Kim, even though she doesn't treat you good."

"I know, I didn't really mean it."

"What will I do today, while all those girls are here?" David asked.

"Maybe you could go see one of the boys since Mr. Spoor isn't able to take you fishing."

"Let's see, Sid, Jim, Harvey and Jake are working. Tony and Alex have gone camping up on Superstition Foothills. Maybe Bert is home. I will call."

He picked up the phone and dialed Bert's number. "Bert has gone with Pastor White to visit the Boys Ranch," he said when he hung up the phone.

"Maybe you will just have to stay in your room," she suggested.

"With all the girls here? I'll find somewhere to go!"

"I think we should have prayer for Jeannie, before we do anything else," Mrs. Powell said.

They prayed for Jeannie. When they got up David said, "Mother would you take me to the library? I've been wanting to do some research on John Wesley, Martin Luther, and some of the earlier reformers."

"Good, I will take you now. Nancy, tell the girls they cannot get in the pool until I come back."

While Mrs. Powell was gone, the girls came. Nancy told them what had happened to Jeannie and why her mother was gone. "We must wait until Mother comes back, to go swimming," she said.

The girls sat around talking until Sandy came. She had talked to Mrs. Shoor before they left for the hospital. "I think we should pray for God to move whatever is in Jeannie's head that makes it hurt," she said. She asked for a Bible and read, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. . . these signs shall follow them that believe. . . they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover." Mark 16:15-18. Then she turned to James 5:16, and read, "Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous

man availeth much." "If we confess our faults to each other, our prayers will be of much value," she said.

Nancy remembered how she had felt toward Kim and what she had said about her. She felt she should confess it, but her throat seemed tight and solid as if not one sound could come through. She listened while Sarah told how she had felt sorry for herself, because she thought she would have to work. She was sorry that she had felt that way. Andrea had come. She confessed how she has been disrespectful to her mother and hoped God would forgive her for it. Kathy confessed she had felt bad at her folks, because they wouldn't let her go out with boys until she was older—that is until she remembered how glad she was that God helped her to break up with Roo last year. "I wonder where I would be today if I had kept on running around with him," she said.

Nancy coughed and cleared her throat. "I need to confess that I felt real mean toward Kim this morning, and hoped she wouldn't come. Will you forgive me, Kim?"

"Of course I will forgive you," Kim said, "I am sorry I have teased you so much and said hurtful things to you. I don't feel good about myself, because my face looks as rugged as the Rockies and I seem to be looking for someone to knock down so I will appear a little better. You are the one I picked on most. I really do admire you. I think I am a bit jealous because you are able to make yourself look better by staying on a diet. I haven't been able to make myself quit eating chocolate and rich foods so my face would clear up. You will forgive me, won't you?"

"I sure will," Nancy said with a smile.

Just then Mrs. Powell walked in. "I see you girls are waiting for me," she said.

"We are getting ready to pray for Jeannie," Nancy told her mother.

They prayed. Then they swam and played all afternoon.

(To be continued)

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 7 Aug. 14, 1988

A Ray of Hope

(Continued from last week)

At 4:45 the phone rang. It was Mrs. Shoor. Mrs. Powell took the phone out on the patio to keep an eye on the seven girls in the pool while she talked. After she hung up, she called the girls out of the pool. "Mrs. Shoor wants you girls to know about Jeannie, so you could each be praying for her. The doctor found evidence of a brain tumor. He wants some special neurosurgeons to examine her tomorrow. He feels that surgery is necessary. The specialist will decide for sure if she should have it. The doctor said that the tumor is causing pressure on Jeannie's brain. For this reason she cannot keep a conversation going. He said, 'it's like being lost in a jungle and not being able to figure out which way to go.'"

The sad news broke up the swimming party. Sandy was first to get her dry clothes on. All the others soon followed. Their parents were to pick them up at 5:30, so they prayed again, then said good-bye.

Nancy drooped around the house all the next day waiting for news about Jeannie. No news came.

Sunday Pastor White asked that the congregation pray earnestly for Jeannie Shoor. An operation to remove a tumor from her brain was scheduled.

The juniors gathered outside after service as usual to visit, but all of their

talk was about Jeannie. They wanted to visit her in the hospital, but no visitors were allowed. They decided to get together and pray for her everyday. Monday they would pray at Kim and Kathy's home.

At 7:00 p.m., Monday, Sandy, Nancy, David, Jim, Sid, Bert, Peter, Jake and Harvey were all seated on the patio at the Poline home. "Wouldn't it be great if Jesus would come walking across the lawn?" Bert said.

"Or if He would go into the hospital and heal Jeannie?" Edith added.

"Mrs. Shoor told Mother that Jeannie has been saying, 'I want to touch the hem of Jesus' garment,' " Sandy told them. "Mrs. Shoor thinks that Jeannie believes she will be healed like the woman in the Bible, if she could touch His garment."

"She would be!" Nancy assured them.

"I wish Apostle Peter was here and would say to Jeannie, 'Silver and gold have I none, but such as I have, give I thee. In the name of Jesus be well!'" Sid added. "I can see Jeannie, running down the hall, waving her hands above her head and saying, 'I'm well, I'm well! I don't need surgery! Let me out of here.'"

"Ah, Sid, you have a big imagination," Jim said teasing.

"That's not imagination, That's faith! Why are we praying, if we don't believe she is going to get well?"

"I have some Scriptures to read," David said. He was sitting Indian fashion.

(Continued on page four)

WORDS OF GOLD



The Holy Spirit Adds To The Church

New Words: *Convert:* To change from unbelief to faith.

Ignorance: Without knowledge.

Iniquities: Sin or wickedness.

Acts 3:13 The God of Abraham, and of Isaac, and of Jacob, the God of our fathers, hath glorified his Son Jesus; whom ye delivered up, and denied him in the presence of Pilate, when he was determined to let him go.

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

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

17 And now, brethren, I wot that through ignorance ye did it, as did also your rulers.

18 But those things, which God before had shewed by the mouth of all his prophets, that Christ should suffer, he hath so fulfilled.

19 Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out. . . .

20 And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you:

22 For Moses truly said unto the fathers, A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear in all things whatsoever he shall say unto you.

23 And it shall come to pass, that every soul, which will not hear that prophet, shall be destroyed from among the people.

24 Yea, and all the prophets from Samuel and those that follow after, as

many as have spoken, have likewise foretold of these days.

25 Ye are the children of the prophets, and of the covenant, which God made with our fathers, saying unto Abraham, And in thy seed shall all the kindreds of the earth be blessed.

26 Unto you first God, having raised up his Son Jesus, sent him to bless you, in turning away every one of you from his iniquities.

Acts 4:4 Howbeit many of them which heard the word believed; and the number of the men was about five thousand.

Central Thought: As the Israelite people obeyed Moses to be delivered from slavery, so believers must obey Jesus to be delivered from sin and eternal death.



Questions:

1. What did Pilate want to do with Jesus?
2. Who did the Jews want in place of Jesus?
3. What caused the people to crucify Jesus?
4. Were the people told to repent of things they did ignorantly?
5. What would happen to their sins if they repented?
6. To what man in the Old Testament was Jesus likened?
7. What is to happen to any person who does not hear Jesus?
8. Did God send Jesus to the Jews first?
9. What did Jesus plan to do for them?

MEMORY VERSE

. . . Thou shalt call his name
JESUS: for he shall save his
people from their sins.

Matthew 1:21.



Let's Talk

To understand this lesson, let's talk just a little about what happened before. As Peter and John went into the temple one afternoon, a beggar asked for help. Peter took the man by the hand and lifted him to his feet saying, "In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk." The man, who had never before walked, leaped up and began praising God for healing. He must have shouted loud enough to be heard all over the temple, for soon a great crowd gathered to see what was going on.

The lesson today is about what happened next.

Peter saw this was a good chance to preach Jesus. He said, "Why look at us so strange, as if we, by our own magical power have made this man well. This man is healed through faith in the name of Jesus. Yes, through the name of Jesus, the man who you denied when Pilate wanted to let Him go. Now I know you were ignorant and did not realize what you were doing, but just the same it was evil. You must repent of this and plead for God to change your hearts and erase these sins. Remember Moses said that God would raise up a prophet much like himself and that everyone who would not listen to this prophet should be destroyed. Repent then, and He will bless you and turn everyone of you away from sin," Peter told them.

A lot of men felt convicted by the Holy Spirit. So they repented and accepted Jesus as that prophet sent from God which Moses spoke about. Two thousand more people joined themselves to the followers of Jesus. This made the number around five thousand. How big the Church had grown in just a few days after that first Pentecost when the Holy Spirit had filled the disciples!

Now let's think about what Moses meant when he said that God would raise up a prophet (Jesus) like unto himself. Both Moses and Jesus were

humble men much like other ordinary men of the day. They were chosen of God to lead the people, but they did not look and act like other leaders. They were not proud, rich, showy looking men. Both were born very humble and were almost destroyed in early childhood.

But how were their works for God alike? Moses was the deliverer of the Israelite people from the bondage of slavery in Egypt. Jesus is the Saviour of the world to deliver everyone from the bondage of sin and eternal death. Just as the Israelite people had to obey Moses to be delivered, so people today, must obey Jesus' teachings to be delivered from eternal death.

Is it possible to do all of the things that Jesus said? How about this one? "I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also. And if any man will sue thee at the law, and take away thy coat, let him have thy cloak also." Matt. 5: 39, 40. Does it sound awfully hard? Yes, it does, and most people would not be able to do it; neither was Peter able, until the Holy Spirit came into his heart. Remember when Jesus and Peter were in the garden and Peter used his sword on a man? One cannot act as Jesus taught unless the Holy Spirit has cleansed his heart and is controlling his actions.

The Holy Spirit delivers us from sin. Jesus and Moses were both deliverers from bondage — Moses from earthly bondage, Jesus from spiritual bondage.

Sis. Charlotte



(Answers: 1. Pilate wanted to let Jesus go. 2. A murderer. 3. Their ignorance. 4. Yes. 5. Their sins would be blotted out or erased. 6. Moses. 7. He shall be destroyed. 8. Yes. 9. He planned to turn each one away from his iniquities [sin].)

ion on the cement. A large potted weeping fig tree was behind him.

"Okay, Jonah," Nancy remarked.

"Why do you call me Jonah?" he asked looking at his little sister with an 'I'll get you' expression on his face.

"That tree behind you, makes you look like Jonah sitting under the gourd that grew up to shade him."

"Don't be silly," David scolded. Then he began. "2 Peter 1:3-5 reads something like this: Jesus gives us all things of life and godliness, and has called us to glory and goodness. He has also given us exceeding great and precious promises, that by these we might partake of His divine nature. Peter is telling us that God has promised many times that He will give His Divine nature to those who seek for it. The next few verses show us that after we get God's nature in us, we must develop it by adding knowledge, temperance, patience, goodness, kindness and love. Doing what Jesus would do, is developing that divine nature that God has given us."

"Do you really think we can have God's nature and be perfect?" Harvey asked

"Yes, for in Hebrews the 13th chapter it says, 'Now the God of peace. . . make you perfect in every good work. . . .' Apostle Paul said, in Hebrews 12:23, that the Church of God was a group of 'spirits of just men made perfect.' And Timothy said 'All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness. That the man of God may be perfect. . . .' Yes, Harvey, God makes our nature perfect by giving us His nature, and He expects us to live perfect. That is what we are doing when we do what we believe Jesus would do."

"But doing what Jesus would do, does not save us," Jim protested. Ephesians 2:8, 9 says, 'By grace are we saved through faith. . . not of works, lest any man should boast.' "

But James says, "Faith without works is dead." Nancy said.

"It sounds like living for God takes a lot of faith and a lot of working, just like we've all been doing, but when are we going to pray for Jeannie?" Kathy asked.

"I'm sorry," David said. "When I began, I was going to say that Jesus hears and answers the prayers of those who are willing to be perfectly obedient to Him. That includes giving up ourselves for God's perfect nature."

"I really want to do that," Nancy said. "I think the Holy Spirit would come in if I did, and I do want the Holy Spirit in my heart."

Mrs. Poline who had been listening, spoke, "I understand that the Holy Spirit will come into a heart that is willing to be obedient to God and give up their nature for His nature, just as Nancy said. I think we should all kneel and give ourselves and everything we have into Jesus' hands. Let's ask Him to cleanse every bad attitude from each of us and place the Holy Spirit in our hearts so that we may be clear before God to ask for Jeannie's healing."

Each one knelt on the patio. Jake, Nancy, Bert and Mrs. Poline prayed outloud, one at a time, while the others prayed silently.

Tuesday evening they met at Sandy's home. Mrs. Wilshire said, "I have good news. The neurosurgeons have decided to take another brain scan before doing surgery. It will be Friday before they can take it. Mrs. Shoor said she believed that Jeannie was out of the jungle. She recognized both her parents and laughed and talked with them during visiting time. Tonight we can praise God for what He has done."

First they sang, "What a Mighty God We Serve." Then they sang "A Song of Praise," and "We'll Crown Him Lord of All." After that they bowed in prayer. Sandy, Edith, Kathy and David led the others in prayer.

When they were through praising and giving thanks in prayer, they went out on the lawn where Mrs. Wilshire served ice cold watermelon.

(To be continued)

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 8 Aug. 21, 1988

Out Of The Jungle

(Continued from last week)

Sid and Jim were working on a construction job for Jim's dad, Mr. Meed. They were helping Bill Jones to clean up the mess of scrap board, tar paper, roofing, and sheet rock that were scattered in and around a house he had just finished. "Say boys, what do you say that we stop by the Golden Arches and get something to eat?" said Bill.

"Sounds great!" Sid answered before Jim had a chance to say anything.

Jim remembered his father had said he would give the money to the poor that he had usually spent on junk food. Jim was doing the same. He already had \$3.25. Jim was trying to decide if snacking so near supper time would be a waste of money, when Sid asked, "You going to get a drink, Jim?"

"Maybe," Jim answered.

"Do you and your dad think you can solve the world's hunger problems by saving a little bit on soft drinks?" Bill questioned. "I've got news for you. It won't do any good. Those big shots who handle your gifts will pocket most of the money. Maybe a nickel out of every dollar you send will be used to buy food."

"That's the reason my dad won't help with Mrs. Powell's project to send to the poor," Sid added, as he twisted his left ear lobe as he usually did when he disagreed with anyone.

"The money she collects is not going through the big shots. She said something about a friend of hers who goes to the Philippines on missionary trips. The money will go straight to the brethren."

"Really Jim, what good does it do for just us to save? We could help such a few compared to the billions that need help."

"That is possibly the way the Apostles felt when Jesus told them to feed the five thousand hungry men in the wilderness."

"But they had Jesus with them," Sid protested.

"We have Jesus with us too, if we are doing what Jesus would do. Anyway, that is all I am trying to do. I'm not trying to solve the world's hunger problems. As for my gift getting to the poor, I trust others to do that, just as the disciples trusted Jesus. They brought the few small fish and loaves of bread to Him and then left the rest to Jesus."

"Ah, Jim, you sound like a preacher already. Maybe some day you will be one," Mr. Jones answered. "If you are, I will come to your Church, because you are all right, you are. But I'm not giving up my cold drinks for any rich woman's ideas to feed the poor. Why doesn't she do it herself?"

Jim ordered a soft ice cream, 42¢, and put the change from a dollar in the left pocket of his jeans to be put into his

(Continued on page four)

WORDS OF GOLD



The Holy Spirit Keeps Peter Honest

New Word: *Hold*: confinement or imprisonment.

Acts 4:1 And as they spake unto the people, the priests, and the captain of the temple, and the Sadducees, came upon them,

2 Being grieved that they taught the people, and preached through Jesus the resurrection from the dead.

3 And they laid hands on them, and put them in hold unto the next day: for it was now eventide.

4 Howbeit many of them which heard the word believed; and the number of the men was about five thousand.

5 And it came to pass on the morrow, that their rulers, and elders, and scribes,

6 And Annas the high priest, and Caiaphas, and John, and Alexander, and as many as were of the kindred of the high priest, were gathered together at Jerusalem.

7 And when they had set them in the midst, they asked, By what power, or by what name, have ye done this?

8 Then Peter, filled with the Holy Ghost, said unto them, Ye rulers of the people, and elders of Israel,

9 If we this day be examined of the good deed done to the impotent man, by what means he is made whole;

10 Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole.

11 This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner.

12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

13 Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus.

14 And beholding the man which was healed standing with them, they could say nothing against it.

Central Thought: Peter and John were honest and spoke the truth about Jesus, even though they knew it could cause them suffering.

Find three books in the Old Testament beginning with the letter H:

H

H

H

Questions:

1. Why were the priests and captains angry with Peter and John?
2. What did they do to Peter and John?
3. Who met with Peter and John the next morning?
4. What did they ask the disciples?
5. What was Peter's answer?
6. What did Peter say that shows boldness?
7. Besides healing, what else is found only in the name of Jesus?
8. Why did the men believe the disciples had been with Jesus?
9. Did the Holy Spirit help the disciples to be honest in front of their accusers?

MEMORY VERSE

... Provide things honest in the sight of all men.

Romans 12:17.

Let's Talk

The temple priests, Sadducees, and the Pharisees had worked and schemed a long time to get Jesus killed and out of the way. Now all their work seemed in vain! The disciples had been saying for the last fifty days that He had risen again and a few had believed them. But these last few days since the Holy Spirit had come, five thousand good Jewish men had left the temple teachings to follow Jesus. This made the priests and captains of the temple very angry with Peter and John — the main speakers of the Apostles. The disciples were kind of quiet until the Holy Spirit filled them, now they were boldly witnessing for Jesus everywhere, even in the temple!

The temple leaders thought they would put a stop to this, so they caught Peter and John and put them in prison overnight. The next morning they brought them before a great crowd of leaders. It was during the feast of Pentecost which the Jewish people were obligated to attend, so priests and other leaders from many towns and nations were at Jerusalem at this time. A great crowd of them came together and brought Peter and John in to accuse them.

Even though Peter was standing before all of these important men, he was not afraid to speak the truth. Nor did the fact that they could have John and himself punished or even put to death cause him to deny Jesus. He had done that once and was very unhappy with himself for doing it. That was before the Holy Spirit had filled his heart. This time, when he was asked, "By what power, or by what name, have you made this crippled beggar to walk?", Peter answered, "I want you and everyone in the country of Israel to know that by the name of Jesus, whom YOU crucified and God raised from the dead, this man is well. Jesus is the foundation stone of the Church. But you builders have cast Him aside. (The temple

leaders were builders of God's kingdom.) Even though you have cast Him aside," Peter continued, "He is the only way to be saved. There is no name under heaven that can save a man except this name, JESUS."

The men were really surprised that Peter and John were so bold. They were sure that only Jesus could have given them that boldness.

The priests and other men did not know that Jesus had sent the Holy Spirit into Peter's and John's hearts. Having the Holy Spirit is like having Jesus not as a man standing beside you, but like having Him as God living right inside, giving you power to speak the truth at all times even when speaking the truth could mean trouble for you.

Have you ever wanted to tell a lie because you knew telling the truth might get you in trouble? Did you weaken and tell a lie? Sometimes people who don't have the Holy Spirit, do weaken and tell lies. When the Holy Spirit is in the heart, it will give strength to tell the truth just as it gave Peter strength to tell the truth.

Be sure to read next week's paper and find out what happens to Peter and John.
—Sis. Charlotte



(Answers: 1. Because they taught the people through Jesus, the resurrection of the dead. 2. Put them in prison. 3. Anna, the high priest, Caiaphas, John, Alexander and all the family of the high priest. 4. By what name or power have you healed the crippled man? 5. Through the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth. 6. He said that Jesus "whom ye crucified is the stone which was set at nought by YOU builders, and neither is there salvation in any other." 7. Salvation. 8. Because of their boldness. 9. Yes.)

special bank when he got home. He thought, "It sure doesn't seem like much, but if 1000 people would save that much each week, they would save over \$28,000 a year. That could really buy a lot of food, or Bibles."

"Is that all you are ordering?" Bill asked.

"I believe you are as crazy as your dad. After all isn't this your birthday?" Sid remarked.

"Sure is, and Mom will have a special supper waiting for me. It's 4:00 now."

"Yeah," Sid answered as he munched french fries.

They worked until 5:30. Jim was tired, but he ate supper, then he hurriedly showered and dressed. He wanted to meet the other juniors at David's house to pray for Jeannie. Besides that, he was hoping to take a dip in their pool. He didn't know how he'd work it. David had suggested he spend the night, but he couldn't do that, he had to help his dad again tomorrow.

"I will stay until your meeting is over," Mrs. Meed told Jim, as they went by to pick up Jake, Harvey and John. Keith Johnstone was waiting also. "Got room for one more?" he asked. "John invited me to come."

"Always room for one more!" Mrs. Meed said, as she unlocked the doors of her '86 Ford station wagon. The boys piled in, each of them carrying a closed sack.

After they were seated on the patio, Mrs. Powell said, "This meeting will be a little different tonight. The boys will pray by themselves, and the girls by themselves." Everyone smiled. "First we will sing one song together." Mrs. Powell started singing, "Happy birthday to you!" Everyone joined in, "Happy birthday to you! Happy birthday, dear Jim! Happy birthday to you!"

"The juniors wanted to celebrate your birthday tonight," she said.

"Happy birthday!" they shouted and showered him with cards and small gifts."

"Thank you, thank you, everyone!" Jim said.

"Now the girls will have prayer with Mrs. Meed in the living room, while the boys swim. The boys with sacks in hand ran for the utility room to change clothing.

Mrs. Meed read a lesson from 2 Kings 20:1-7. King Hezekiah was sick. God sent a prophet to tell him that he would die. Hezekiah told God in prayer how he had always obeyed Him, and that he wished to live longer. God sent Isaiah the prophet back to tell the king that he would live 15 more years."

"Maybe God will heal Jeannie, because she has been doing what she thought Jesus would do."

"We hope that He will, but God doesn't heal everyone who is doing right. If He healed everyone who lived right, heaven would be empty," Mrs. Meed said.

"That's right!" the girls agreed.

First Sandy, then Edith and last of all Kathy prayed.

By 8:00 the boys were out of the pool and in their dry clothes. The dryer was busy getting the wet ones ready to put back in the sacks that hid them a little earlier.

Mrs. Powell read the same lesson for the boys, and they prayed, while the girls were swimming.

When the girls were back in their dry clothing, carrot cake without frosting and home made ice cream were served.

While they were eating on the patio, the telephone rang. It was Mrs. Shoor, "I have good news," she said.

"Just one moment," Mrs. Powell answered as she flipped the telephone speaker on so everyone could hear. "Jeannie has been released from the hospital. The brain scan showed the growth much smaller than before. At this time surgery is not necessary," they heard. What else she said, they did not hear for the clamor that followed. "He did it! He did it!" they shouted. Everyone was talking at once. Kathy and Kim were hugging each other and dancing around in a circle. Sandy and Mrs. Powell were crying.

"This has been the best birthday I have ever had," Jim said. "Thanks to God and everyone here."

(To be continued)

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 9 Aug. 28, 1988

Young People's Meeting

(Continued from last week)

"How did you like the gift I gave you?" Sid asked Jim as he threw a 2x4 into the pick-up. "I thought you might like a bank to keep all the money you are saving for the poor."

"I needed a new one. Thanks Sid."

Sid laughed. "I suppose you already have your old one full, buy starving yourself everyday."

"Now look Sid," Jim said, as he stood up straight and dropped an arm load of scrap lumber. "If you don't want to help in the project for the poor, you don't have too, but why does it bother you that I am?"

"What good is 50¢ going to do?" Sid asked with a smirk on his face, while he twisted his left ear lobe.

"Sid, I have saved \$5.00 this month. If only 10 people in our congregation would do that, we could give \$50.00 a month, or \$600.00 a year. If 100 congregations would do that. That would be \$60,000 a year. Think how many children could be fed with \$60,000, or how many Bibles that would buy. It would even be enough to send men to take the Bibles to those who want them."

"Jim, you always have things figured out, but I don't want to be so narrow-minded, that I can't even drink a Sprite."

"I drink one whenever I want."

"You do?"

"Yes. I hardly ever want one. Once you get out of the habit, they don't even taste good."

"What doesn't taste good?" Mr. Jones asked as he came out to take the boys to the dump to unload the pick-up.

"Oh, nothing, Jim's trying to convince me to save money by not eating junk food. He never will though. I'm a junk food man, that's what made these muscles," he said, rolling up his sleeves to show his bicep.

"What muscles?" Mr. Jones asked, as he looked real close at Sid's upper arm.

On the way to the dump, Jim asked Sid if he was going to young people's meeting that night.

"I suppose, since they invited us."

"Good, I'll have Mom come by for you."

The juniors and their parents had already saved \$366.85. The young people wanted the juniors to explain the project to them. They were to ask questions. The juniors were to answer the questions and that is why Jim had his figures all together.

Kent Wilson was the main speaker for the young people. He said, "Our first question is: Is it the Christian's duty to help the poor?"

For an answer David read 1 John 3:17, 18, "But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of

(Continued on page four)

WORDS OF GOLD



Why Was Peter Bold?

Acts 4:13 Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus.

15 But when they had commanded them to go aside out of the council, they conferred among themselves,

16 Saying, What shall we do to these men? for that indeed a notable miracle hath been done by them is manifest to all them that dwell in Jerusalem; and we cannot deny it.

17 But that it spread no further among the people, let us straitly threaten them, that they speak henceforth to no man in this name.

18 And they called them, and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus.

19 But Peter and John answered and said unto them, Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye.

20 For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard.

21 So when they had further threatened them, they let them go, finding nothing how they might punish them, because of the people: for all men glorified God for that which was done.

23 And being let go, they went to their own company, and reported all that the chief priests and elders had said unto them.

24 And when they heard that, they lifted up their voice to God with one accord, and said, Lord, thou art God, which hast made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all that in them is:

29 And now, Lord, behold their threatenings: and grant unto thy ser-

vants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word,

30 By stretching forth thine hand to heal; and that signs and wonders may be done by the name of thy holy child Jesus.

31 And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.

Central Thought: Peter's boldness came from being filled with the Holy Spirit and because he continually depended on God for that boldness.



Questions:

1. Why were Peter and John bold?
2. Why were the authorities afraid to punish Peter and John?
3. Why did they command Peter and John not to teach about Jesus?
4. How did Peter answer them?
5. How did knowing about this trouble affect the disciples?
6. How did the disciples solve their problems?
7. Name some things they prayed for.
8. What happened after the disciples prayed?
9. What did the disciples do after prayer?

MEMORY VERSE

... Lord, behold their threatenings: and grant unto thy servants. . . boldness [that] they may speak thy word.

Acts 4:29.



Let's Talk

Peter was very bold after the Holy Spirit had come into him, but we must not think that Peter went around like a big bully, nor did he have a "know it all" attitude. Peter and all the Apostles felt a great need of God. I believe they felt more the need for Him after being filled with the Holy Spirit than before, because then, they understood more about Him.

The authorities who had imprisoned Peter and John overnight, were afraid the people would dislike them if they punished Peter and John, so they only threatened them and commanded that they not speak about Jesus nor teach in His name.

These men of authority were the religious leaders of the country of Israel. They believed in God and taught the people to obey God's commandments. One of God's commandments reads like this: "Thou shalt not bear false witness."

How could Peter obey this commandment and not tell the truth about Jesus? Jesus had risen again. He had healed the multitudes of sick folks, and done many other wonders. Peter asked, "Is it right in the sight of God to obey you or to obey God? I must be a true witness to obey God. Everyone is asking if Jesus rose from death, and if He is the Saviour. If I say I don't know, that would be a false witness. We know He is alive and is the Saviour."

The authorities threatened them again and let them go.

They did not leave laughing and joking about how they had got the best of the authorities. They went away with a prayer of thanksgiving in their hearts that God had protected them.

They went to the group of other disciples and told them all that had happened. When the other disciples "heard that, they lifted up their voice to God with one accord, and said, Lord thou

art God, which hast made heaven and earth, and the sea, and all that in them is: Who by thy servant David hast said, . . . The kings of the earth stood up and the rulers were gathered together against the Lord, and against his Christ. Now behold their threatenings: and grant unto thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word."

This prayer shows us that the Apostles and disciples were bold because God helped them to be bold. They knew they needed help to be brave and faithful through suffering. The Holy Spirit was in them, but they were still seeking God for continued help. One job that the Holy Spirit has to do in the heart is to get people to see their inability to do anything without God's help.

God had already taught this to Peter and John, so they prayed together with the other disciples for courage and boldness to continue witnessing for Jesus, so does every person need to continually pray for help, even after the Holy Spirit is in the heart.

The Holy Spirit in the heart will give power everyday if that heart surrenders again everyday to God and seeks for His help.

—Sis. Charlotte



(Answers: 1. They had been with Jesus. 2. Because of the people (verse 21). 3. They did not want the doctrine of Jesus to spread. 4. He asked them to judge if it was right to obey them or God and that he and John could only speak the truth about what they knew about Jesus. 5. It caused them to cry out to God. 6. They got help from God through prayer. 7. They asked for boldness to speak God's Word, for healings and that signs and wonders be done through Jesus' name. 8. The place was shaken and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit. 9. They spoke the Word of God with boldness.)

God in him? My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth."

Bert read Deuteronomy 15:11, ". . . I command thee, saying, Thou shalt open thine hand wide unto thy brother, to thy poor, and to thy needy, in thy land

Jake said, "The second greatest of all the commandments says, we should love our neighbor as ourselves. It isn't love to waste money on foods that do not help our bodies, and let the starving suffer."

Sandy read Zechariah 7:9, "Thus speaketh the Lord. . . saying, Execute true judgment, and shew mercy and compassions every man to his brother."

"Jesus told the story about a man who was robbed and left to die. Jesus praised the man who helped the dying one, and scolded those who were unwilling to get involved and help," Kathy said.

Jim read Acts 4:34, "Neither was there any among them that lacked. . . ." When Jim finished reading, Kent said, "These verses prove we are to help the poor brethren around us. How about the poor brethren in other countries?"

"We have examples of the Church in Antioch sending money to help the brethren in Judaea. Travel was difficult in those days, so these brethren were sending help to persons they would never know. I think that would be like us sending to brethren in other countries," David said.

"Sounds like you are right," Kent answered.

Then he asked the young people if they thought the question was answered okay. They said it was. "Our next question then is: How can we as young people help? We want to hear what each of you are doing."

Kim was first to answer. "I will tell how I am helping," she said. "I was angry when Mother quit buying some foods I loved, like chocolate. I am helping by not grumbling, and complaining. Mother estimated she has saved \$12.00 to \$15.00 on this one item."

Jim was next to speak. "I'm drinking ice water instead of so many soft drinks."

"That's what our whole family is doing," Jake said. "The four of us have saved \$38.00 this month. If each of you ten young people could get your families to do that, you could have \$380.00 to give each month."

"But we don't drink that much in cold weather," Sid protested.

"You are right," Jake answered. "Our family has already talked about that. In the winter time we will try and do without those foods, like donuts, that really aren't nutritious."

Lois, one of the young people said, "If your mother buys nutritious food to take the place of other foods, how will she save money? Aren't health foods more expensive than regular food?"

Everyone was quiet for a long time, until Kent said, "Lois has a good point. Does anyone know if health foods are more expensive than regular food?"

"All I know is that Mother said she spent \$54.00 less on groceries last month, than she did the month before," Kathy answered.

Finally Nancy said, "I don't think Mother buys what people call health foods. She buys fresh, dried, or unprocessed foods, whole grains and uses less expensive cuts of meat. She has saved a lot of money in this way. We are losing weight by eating these nutritious low-calorie foods. I am saving some of my allowance money that I used to spend on candy bars," she added.

"Mom and I are saving money we used at the health spa. We are swimming, walking and exercising together at home," Sandy said.

"Well, we have time for just one more question," Kent said. "How do you feel about this project? Is it worth the sacrifice?"

"Yes, yes," they almost shouted.

"It makes us feel great, like we are doing something worthwhile," Sandy said, "and I think God likes it, too."

(To be continued)

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 10 Sept. 4, 1988

The Sad Night

(Continued from last week)

Juniors' Meeting had already started when Tony came in. Hoel was sitting in a sprawled out manner on the sofa, saving a place for Tony to sit. Tony squeezed in beside him. As soon as everyone's attention was back on what David was saying, he whispered to Hoel, "Do you get to stay with me tonight?"

"Yes!"

"Good, my cousin Cliff will pick us up at 8:50. That's a little early, but he's got somewhere else to take us."

"Sh— you'll have us in trouble before we get out of the house."

David read Matthew 25:31-46, then he said, "I can hardly believe that only one year ago I was so unchrist like that I would not bother myself enough to help that strange boy, Steven. In this parable that Jesus spoke, the king put those into everlasting fire who would not help the needy. I would have been in bad shape if God had called me last year. I think we are in much better shape before God now than we were then. Shall we all tell something that has been special this last year?"

"I think that is a great idea. I will be first," Sandy said. She told of the big difference in their home now that her mother loved the poor and needy. "Remember there was a time she wouldn't let me come to church or juniors meeting because of some of the Sunday school children. Nor did she like Sarah

and I being best friends. Now she is giving up her own comforts to help the poor. What a change!"

Sarah, Kim, Kathy and Jim told of different things in their lives that had changed.

Hoel was next, "I just wanted to say 'thank you' to all the juniors and my parents for being good examples to me and for having these wonderful meetings so I could have good friends and stay out of trouble. I will be leaving early. I am spending the night with Tony, and his cousin is picking us up in a few minutes. I guess that's all I have to say. Hope the rest of the meeting is as good as it has been." He walked out into the kitchen. In a few minutes, he and Tony disappeared out the back door.

"Why did you say all that?" Tony asked, as they were speeding down Broadway in Cliff's blue Trans-Am. "You know you hate junior's meeting, and I'm the only one of them that is your friend."

"They are too my friends, just not the ones I like to be with. And Junior's Meeting beats doing nothing."

"You won't be doing nothing tonight, boys. I'm taking you to an old-fashioned square dance. Are they fun!" Cliff said.

"Good!" Hoel exclaimed. "I've learned a lot of steps from the kids at school. Sheila is really good, and she likes to teach me."

"Maybe she will be there," Tony said as they pulled into the parking lot.

(Continued on page four)

WORDS OF GOLD



Dishonesty Doesn't Pay

Acts 4:33 And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all.

34 Neither was there any among them that lacked: for as many as were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the prices of the things that were sold,

35 And laid them down at the apostles' feet: and distribution was made unto every man according as he had need.

36 And Joses, who by the apostles was surnamed Barnabas. . .

37 Having land, sold it, and brought the money, and laid it at the apostles' feet.

Acts 5:1 But a certain man named Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession,

2 And kept back part of the price, his wife also being privy to it, and brought a certain part, and laid it at the apostles' feet.

3 But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back part of the price of the land?

4 Whiles it remained, was it not thine own? and after it was sold, was it not in thine own power? why hast thou conceived this thing in thine heart? thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God.

5 And Ananias hearing these words fell down, and gave up the ghost. . .

6 And the young men arose, wound him up, and carried him out, and buried him.

7 And it was about the space of three hours after, when his wife, not knowing what was done, came in.

8 And Peter answered unto her, Tell me whether ye sold the land for so much? And she said, Yea, for so much.

10 Then fell she down straightway at his feet, and yielded up the ghost: and the young men came in, and found her dead, and, carrying her forth, buried her by her husband.

11 And great fear came upon all the church, and upon as many as heard these things.

Central Thought: Sometimes when people pretend to be keeping vows to God that they are not keeping, God severely punishes.



Questions:

1. What did the disciples witness?
2. In what ways did the early Church share with one another?
3. What did Joses do?
4. What did Ananias and Sapphira do?
5. Did Ananias have to give all the money from the sale?
6. Did Sapphira also lie about the price of the sale?
7. What was the terrible sin that they committed?
8. How did they pay for being dishonest?
9. What happened to the Church because of these happenings?

MEMORY VERSE

When thou vowest a vow unto God. . . pay that which thou hast vowed. Better is it that thou shouldest not vow, than that thou shouldest vow and not pay. Eccl. 5:4, 5.



Let's Talk

How would you like for someone to promise you a birthday cake and give you a little cupcake instead? How would you like for a friend to promise to help you with some difficult homework and then brag about helping you when he or she hadn't helped?

That is kind of like what Ananias and his wife Sapphira did to God. They had something for sale, and together promised to give the money to the Apostles. This was their way of giving it to God. After it was sold, they discussed the matter and decided to take part of the money to the Apostles and pretend it was all they had received. "We will both tell Peter we sold it for this much," they said to each other.

Some people find it easy to lie to God. One reason for this is that promises made to God are many times a secret between only them and God. No one knows what the promise is, so no one, except Holy Spirit filled people, ever know if the promise is kept. There is no embarrassment or humiliation because no one knows that it has not been kept.

Another reason it is easy for some people to be dishonest to God, is that they believe that God's love makes Him an easy pushover — just treat Him any way, break your promise, transgress His laws or whatever and He will still love and forgive. We all know that some people will not be our friends long if we don't keep our promises to them, but people believe that God is different. He always loves. This idea about God is a very dangerous one. God is love, but He also knows everything and He loves everyone, and for this reason, sometimes, His love causes Him to punish. You may wonder why God punished Ananias so severely for what he did. It may seem to you that God was unjust, however no one really knows all the other evil things that Ananias and his wife may have been doing. Another

thought is that God made a public example out of these two unworthy people so that the whole Church could see His displeasure on hypocrisy and dishonesty. By letting these two die, many, many, more may have been spared from living deceitful and dishonest lives which could have caused many more to be lost.

The memory verse reads, "Pay that which thou hast vowed. Better is it that thou shouldest not vow, than that thou shouldest vow and not pay." A vow is a solemn promise to God. It is better to not make promises or vows to God when excited or in a hurry. Promises should be made when the body is calm and the mind clear of excitement. Another verse reads like this, "Be not rash with thy mouth, and let not thine heart be hasty to utter any thing before God." Remember, VOWS are to be kept, so make them carefully and keep them surely.

A wedding promise is a vow which each of you will probably make sometime in your life. Many wedding vows end with these words, "till death do we part." Once this promise is made, you are responsible to keep it. If you break it, God will punish you some way or another.

Get the Holy Spirit in your heart by surrendering everything to God and ask God to keep it fresh in your heart. It will give you power to be honest to God and keep all the promises made to Him.

Any time you feel like being lazy or dishonest and not keeping a promise to God, just remember what happened to Ananias and Sapphira.

—Sis. Charlotte



(Answers: 1. The resurrection of Jesus from the dead. 2. The rich sold things and gave the money to the Apostles which they gave, as needed, to the poor. 3. Jesus sold land and laid the money at the Apostles' feet. 4. They also sold something and pretended to give all the money to Peter. 5. No. 6. Yes. 7. The sin was being dishonest to God, and hiding it. 8. They fell dead. 9. Great fear came upon all the Church.)

"Here's a well-lighted place to park. Sometimes vengeance is taken out on cars in places like this," Cliff said as he braked to a stop. "Lock your doors boys, and now for the best night you have ever had."

"Things are kind of dark and spooky around here," Tony whispered to Hoel as they walked across the parking lot.

"Sure thing," Hoel agreed.

Inside, things were different. There was plenty of light! Decorations were of the pioneer era and everyone was laughing and keeping time with the music, while the square dancers bowed, curtisied, tangled and untangled themselves in rhythm with the music. Hoel immediately spotted Sheila. She soon noticed him and gave a friendly nod and smile as she clapped and kept up with the others. When the music stopped, she came to him. "Want to be a partner with us?" she asked. Mr. Pikes wanted someone to take his place the last time we stopped. "Come on. I'll ask him."

He followed her and when the music started again, he was doing real well keeping up with the others.

Before Hoel knew it, several of the couples were leaving. "Is it time to go home?" he asked. He hoped it was. Although he enjoyed Sheila, he was miserable.

"Not unless you want to," Sheila answered. "The older couples usually leave at 10:30 because the square dancing is over. But the fun has just began. We'll do some real dancing now. I'll show you how, if you will stay."

Tony came up. "Say Hoel, I think we better get out of here. Those guys sitting on the bench over there say they are going to beat you up when you step outside."

"Why, what have I done?"

"I don't know."

"It's that fat one," Sheila said, "he's been trying to get me to dance with him all evening. He's so fat and ugly. Maybe if you stay a little longer, he'll get tired and leave."

Tony stood around near the boys so he could hear what they were saying. Hoel tried to learn from Sheila, but he

just kept stepping on her toes and feeling more miserable every minute.

At 11:00 the boy was still sitting on the bench eyeing Hoel.

At 11:30 he left. Tony followed him out. In a jiffy Tony came running back in. "Where's Cliff?" he asked. "That guy is letting the air out of Cliff's tires." A quick search proved that Cliff was not in the room. Then Hoel spotted a policeman by the back entrance.

The policeman went out, but it was too late. Two tires were flat, and the left front one was slashed. They could hear the air still escaping. The policeman inquired over the microphone for Cliff Hooten. Cliff was soon there. Was he angry! "How will we get home now? I only have one spare."

"You boys stay by the car while I go get help," he said. He unlocked the door. Hoel said a quick good-bye to Sheila and jumped in beside Tony. He quickly locked the door.

When Cliff came back he said, "No one around here has an air pump and no one cares to help either. I've called your dad, Tony, but I don't want him to know I brought you here, so you two get out and walk home. I'll tell your mom I left you at Charles' Game Room, maybe she will forgive me for that. Now don't you dare tell her I brought you here, or she'll kick me out and I won't have a place to stay. Did you hear that? Don't get me into trouble, or you'll both be in big trouble with me," he shouted. "Now hurry and at least get to Charlie's before your mom or your dad show up to get you. It's right on the way."

"Let's go down the alley," Tony said and started to run.

"No," Hoel called, "that fat, I mean that guy, he might be hiding in the dark."

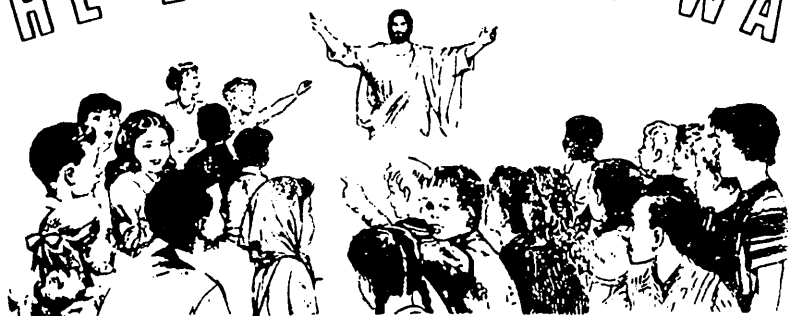
"But Mom will see us on the street."

"Maybe not if we hurry."

The boys ran until they were tired, then they walked with hurried steps. "Charlie's is just around the corner," Hoel said. They hurried around the corner. "Charlie's is closed!" he gasped.

(To be continued)

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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Juniors

(USPS549-000)

Part 11

Sept. 11, 1988

The Strange Camp Out

(Continued from last week)

Hoel sat down on the sidewalk in front of Charlie's Game Room. "It would have to be closed after running those eight blocks," he said, panting for breath.

Tony plopped down beside him. "What will your mom say if she finds out where we've been tonight?" Tony asked.

"I won't get to go to camp, but you won't tell, will you?"

"I won't tell, cause Cliff will get me if I do."

"If you don't tell and I don't, then we are all right."

Just then a police car came slowly around the corner and stopped in front of them. "Don't you boys know it's an hour past curfew? Come along with me down to the station and we'll call your parents."

"My dad is on his way to pick us up right now," Tony said. "He had to help my cousin fix a flat and that's making him late. Honest, he'll be right here."

"We will see," he said, opening the police car door and motioning them to get in. They got in. In a flash they were at the station.

Tony and Hoel walked obediently inside. "Have a seat while I call your parents," he said. "What is your phone number?"

"8956," Tony answered.

He closed the door of the office. The boys couldn't hear what he was saying.

When he came out he said, "Your mother said 'your dad will be coming when she tells him where to find you.'"

Tony was afraid to say anything else, because of Cliff's threat.

Tony and Hoel sat quietly on the hard bench. They were afraid to talk. Everyone in the police station was busy with his job. The noisy radios were blaring and beeping. After fifteen minutes Hoel whispered, "What are you going to tell your dad?"

"I don't know," Tony whispered back.

"Let's tell him that Cliff took us to a square dance, they might not think a square dance is so bad, it's the truth, and it's probably the easiest way out."

"But you don't know Cliff, he'd do most anything to hurt us if we got him in trouble."

"Mom is always easier on me if I tell the truth. She might forgive me and let me go on that camping trip, if I'm honest."

"It's selfish to be honest to get yourself out of trouble and let someone else suffer for it. If Cliff gets kicked out over this he wouldn't have any place to stay. His mom is dead, and he doesn't know where his dad is. Besides, being honest is telling all the truth. You didn't want to leave, you were having too much fun."

"I wasn't having much fun. I was laughing at my mistakes. All the time, I was thinking I ought to be at Juniors' Meeting or at your home. It's not really

(Continued on page four)

WORDS OF GOLD



The Good And Bad Of It

New word: *Wrought:* Worked.

Acts 5:12 And by the hands of the apostles were many signs and wonders wrought among the people. . . .

13 And of the rest durst no man join himself to them: but the people magnified them.

14 And believers were the more added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women.

15 Inasmuch that they brought forth the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and couches, that at the least shadow of Peter passing by might overshadow some of them.

16 There came also a multitude out of the cities round about unto Jerusalem, bringing sick folks, and them which were vexed with unclean spirits: and they were healed every one.

17 Then the high priest rose up and all they that were with him. . . .

18 And laid their hands on the apostles, and put them in the common prison.

19 But the angel of the Lord by night opened the prison doors, and brought them forth. . . .

22 But when the officers came, and found them not in the prison, they returned, and told,

23 Saying, The prison truly found we shut with all safety, and the keepers standing without before the doors: but when we had opened, we found no man within.

24 Now when the high priest and the captain of the temple and the chief priests heard these things, they doubted of them whereunto this would grow.

25 Then came one and told them, saying, Behold, the men whom ye put

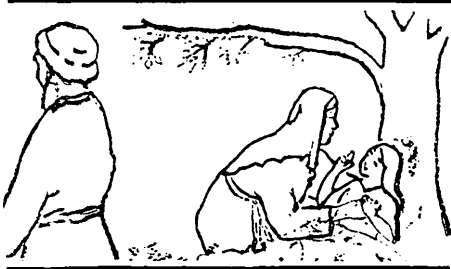
in prison are standing in the temple, and teaching the people.

26 Then went the captain with the officers, and brought them without violence: for they feared the people, lest they should have been stoned.

27 And when they had brought them, they set them before the council: and the high priest asked them.

28 Saying, Did not we straitly command you that ye should not teach in this name? and, behold, ye have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this man's blood upon us.

Central Thought: The Holy Spirit helps the Christian to enjoy both the happy and unhappy times.



Questions:

1. Did God perform many miracles through the Apostles?
2. Did the Apostles always have to lay hands on the sick?
3. Were all the sick healed?
4. How many new believers were added to the Lord?
5. Were unbelievers afraid to join the group of disciples?
6. What did the high priest do to the Apostles?
7. How did the Apostles get out of jail?
8. What were the Apostles accused of?
9. Discuss why the Apostles had great power with God.

MEMORY VERSE

There came also a multitude . . . bringing sick folks, and them which were vexed with unclean spirits: and they were healed every one. Acts 5:16.



Let's Talk

The Holy Spirit had cleansed every bit of sin from the Apostles' hearts. It also corrected any attitudes that would have hindered God in working through them. Several times before the Holy Spirit filled their hearts, they showed poor attitudes. Let us look at some of these: 1. They argued about who was greatest in the kingdom of God. 2. Selfishness had created other problems. One mother asked Jesus if her sons, James and John could sit on either side of Him in His kingdom. Not only did the mother want this position for her sons, but they also wanted it. When Jesus asked if they were able to earn the place, they answered, "We are able." Besides having a selfish attitude, they 3. showed pride in themselves and 4. a self-sufficient or independent attitude. With the Holy Spirit in their hearts, they knew they could do nothing without God, and with Him they could do all things. They were selling lands and houses and giving it unselfishly to the poor who were in need of daily food.

5. Another poor attitude showed up when John and James asked Jesus, "Shall we command fire to come down from heaven, and consume them?" (Luke 8:51-56). At this time Jesus had sent John and James to Samaria to find a place (probably food and lodging) as they traveled to Jerusalem. The people of that village refused. The disciple's attitude was to hurt those who hurt them: Jesus said to them. "You know not what manner of spirit ye are of." It was not the Holy Spirit.

The Apostles had enough faith to believe that at their command fire would come out of heaven and destroy those people who would not accept Jesus. Jesus, however, would not let them use this powerful faith they possessed. After they were filled with the Holy Spirit, they had right attitudes, so so Jesus let them use their faith. Peter said to the

lame man, "Such as I have give I thee." This was the first of a multitude of healings that God allowed.

Immediately after this miracle, the Apostle's attitudes were tested. They were thrown in jail, and threatened. Peter boldly told the people that they were guilty of crucifying the Son of God and therefore they were in trouble with God, but he added, "I know that through ignorance ye did it, as did also your rulers." Peter did not say this to them because he was angry or to accuse, but that they might see how they needed to repent of this wickedness. This attitude is quite different from the one they had when they asked about commanding fire from heaven to destroy men who had done them a minor injustice.

Neither were there deceitful or hypocritical attitudes among the group of disciples, for Ananias and Sapphira had been struck dead when acting the hypocrite and all who were not totally honest were afraid to join the followers.

The Holy Spirit had changed those wrong attitudes of the Apostles. Now God could work, and that is just what He did. All the sick were healed. If the shadow of Peter fell on the sick, it encouraged their faith in Jesus so much, that they too, were healed.

While God worked wonders through the Apostles, the rulers persecuted them.

—Sis. Charlotte



(Answers: 1. Yes. 2. No (verse 15). 3. Yes. 4. Multitudes. 5. Yes (verse 13). 6. Put them in jail. 7. An angel opened the door. 8. Filling Jerusalem with their doctrine, and bringing Jesus' blood on the priests and Jewish people. 9. God was manifesting that Jesus was truly His Son, and that death could not stop His work. He was showing the people that the Holy Spirit was really a form of Jesus and God. The Apostles were full of faith in Jesus and had no attitudes that would hinder God working. Also, they were completely surrendered to God.)

much fun to do things you don't have permission to do."

It wasn't easy to keep themselves and Cliff out of trouble.

"We just ought to be doing what Jesus would do and then we wouldn't be in this mess," Tony said, after they had talked for a long time.

"Say, it's been forty-five minutes since they called your dad, wonder why he hasn't — oh, there he is, and my parents too."

Mr. Gray's face was stern. "What are you two doing here?" he asked.

Hoel stared at the floor. Tony was nervously clapping his feet together. Hoel could hardly keep from laughing although he, too, felt sick and shaky.

"Well, answer me," Mr. Gray demanded.

"Cliff let us off at the game room and didn't come and pick us up. We were just sitting on the sidewalk waiting, when the police took us. Honest, Dad, we haven't done anything."

"Nothing? Nothing but give us and the Smith's a good scare? You boys don't understand how dangerous it is to be out alone at night. Someone could easily snatch you away," he said.

Just then the officer in charge came out and began talking to them. "The boy's only offence is being out after curfew, but they were also seen running as if to get away from someplace, so we will take fingerprints in case a theft in that area is reported. After fingerprints and filling out some papers, the boys will be released."

On the way home, Mr. Smith asked, "Why were you boys wasting money at the game room? I thought you wanted to save money to help hungry children."

"I didn't spend any money," Hoel said. "All I did was wait."

"It's hard to believe you just waited for three hours. Why didn't you borrow the telephone and call us or Mrs. Gray?"

"I don't know."

"Hoel, you know we want you to be perfectly honest."

"Really, that's all we did at Charlie's."

"I am glad, but why did Cliff leave you there?"

"He had to get a tire fixed."

"I should have taken you to the Gray's myself when I found out Mr. Gray was working on their car and Mrs. Gray couldn't come for you boys."

In the house all that Mr. Smith said, was, "We shall pray and thank God that Tony and Hoel are safe. "At this very minute, they could be far away from home, maybe dead, or bleeding and hurting."

Monday in the Home Ec. class, Mrs. Smith was helping Sheila place her pattern on striped material so the stripes would match. Sheila said to her, "Hoel and I had lots of fun at the square dance Friday night."

"You had fun where?"

"At the square dance Friday night. I really was surprised he came."

Mrs. Smith seemed to ignore what Sheila was saying and continued showing her how to place the pattern.

That evening while the Smith's were having family worship, Mrs. Smith said to Hoel, "The police said you boys were seen running. Why were you running?"

"Nothing else to do," Hoel answered.

"I'm surprised you are being dishonest," Mrs. Smith said.

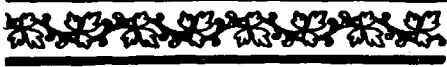
"I haven't told you one lie," Hoel said, "everything I have said is true."

"Maybe so, but neither have you told us ALL the truth. Your mother did some checking around today and found that Officer Phillips helped you find Cliff at 11:45 p.m. and you were not at Charlie's. We have decided you will not go on the camping trip. You haven't been dependable. How can we trust you three days away from home?"

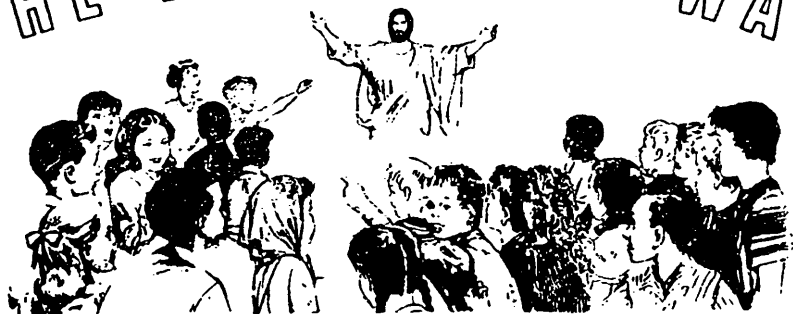
"But Dad, I've bought a new tent, sleeping bag, and hiking boots. I've worked and planned on this all year."

"And so have we, but you will not be camping while we are at the workshop. Grandmother will be staying with you here at home. You may set up your tent in your room and sleep in your new sleeping bag every night, right there."

(To be continued)



THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 12 Sept. 18, 1988

The Surprise

(Continued from last week)

The Juniors' Meeting was held at the Powells. To open the meeting, David read Deuteronomy 15. They then prayed together. Verse 7 and 8 reads: "If there be among you a poor man of one of thy brethren. . . thou shalt not harden thine heart, nor shut thine hand. . . but shalt open thine hand wide unto him, and shalt surely lend him sufficient for his need."

"We know we should help the poor brethren," David said. "Tonight we will try to decide which ones we will send offerings to, but first Mother wanted to hear about some of the different ways we have been able to save this money. Who will be first?"

Jim Meed said, "I'll be first." He unfolded his long legs and straightened the vertebrae of his back bone until he stood his full six feet. "You already know I've been laying off junk foods. I've saved \$19.79. Dad gave me \$23.25 more that he has saved, mostly from not buying soft drinks. Mom gave me a check for \$88.00. She wrote on this piece of paper how she has saved it." He read from the paper, "Weight-Watchers membership dues, \$6.00 a week for 8 weeks, \$48.00, Toning beds, \$5.00 a week for 8 weeks, \$40.00. That's \$88.00. She said she saved on her groceries, too, but she didn't have time to figure it up. Don't you think she's done well?"

"Yes!" they all answered.

Sarah was next to speak. "The ice cream shop where I work sells expensive ice cream. It is delicious! I love it, and have a dish often, but I have not eaten any since we started this project. I have been buying ice milk at the super market on my way home. It costs around \$1.69 for a half gallon. What I sell is 5.95 for a half gallon. By doing this, I've saved \$22.19 this summer. Everyone gasped in disbelief that Sarah, although she was poor, could save so much money.

Jake said, "I have already given \$30.00 that my family has saved mostly from not buying soft drinks. Tonight I have \$17.04 more. The children gasped again. Jake Hardin's parents were also very poor, but he had been able to give \$47.04 in eight weeks.

"Mom gave me this \$25.00 that she has saved on groceries," Kim said. "Dad says that he is beginning to like Mom's low meat menus. He thinks we will continue with this plan, so we will be able to give around \$25.00 a month. Kathy and Edith would like to share some other ways we have saved."

Kathy spoke next, "Before we started asking ourselves, 'What would Jesus do?' Mom usually gets herself and us three girls a hair cut and perm in the fall before we started school. She didn't get herself one this year and is giving the money she saved, which is \$35.00. She let Kim, Edith and I decide for ourselves what we would do. Each of us

(Continued on page four)

WORDS OF GOLD



Beaten and Released

New Word: *Refrain:* To hold back.

Acts 5:29 Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men.

30 The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom ye slew and hanged on a tree.

31 Him hath God exalted with his right hand to be a Prince and a Saviour, for to give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins.

32 And we are his witnesses of these things; and so is also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him.

33 When they heard that, they were cut to the heart, and took counsel to slay them.

34 Then stood there up one in the council, a Pharisee, named Gamaliel, a doctor of the law, had in reputation among all the people, and commanded to put the apostles forth a little space:

35 And said unto them, Ye men of Israel, take heed to yourselves what ye intend to do as touching these men.

36 For before these days rose up Theudas, boasting himself to be somebody; to whom a number of men, about four hundred, joined themselves: who was slain; and all, as many as obeyed him, were scattered, and brought to nought.

37 After this man rose up Judas of Galilee in the days of the taxing, and drew away much people after him: he also perished; and all, even as many as obeyed him, were dispersed.

38 And now I say unto you, Refrain from these men, and let them alone: for if this counsel or this work be of men, it will come to nought:

39 But if it be of God, ye cannot overthrow it; lest haply ye be found even to fight against God.

40 And to him they agreed: and when they had called the apostles, and beaten them, they commanded that they should not speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go.

41 And they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name.

42 And daily in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ.

Central Thought: The Holy Spirit caused the Apostles to be happy that they could suffer for the name of Jesus.



Questions:

1. How did Peter answer the men?
2. What did Peter say that made the priests mad?
3. Who spoke in favor of releasing the Apostles?
4. What was Gamaliel's reason for wanting to let them go free?
5. If the Apostles were not of God, what would happen to the Church?
6. Did the other priests agree with Gamaliel's idea?
7. What was done before their release?
8. What was the disciples attitude when released?
9. Did the Apostles continue to preach and teach?

MEMORY VERSE

Daily in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ.

(Acts 5:42)



Let's Talk

Peter and the other Apostles had been put in jail for preaching. An angel had opened the prison door and let them go. The next morning they were again found preaching in the temple. The priests, Sadducees and Pharisees brought them before a council to decide what should be done with them, for multitudes, upon multitudes were leaving the Jewish religion and following Jesus with the disciples.

This was the second time the Apostles had been thrown in jail, and commanded to not speak about Jesus. When asked why they disobeyed, they answered, "We ought to obey God rather than man."

How about you, don't you think each of us should obey God rather than man?

There was one man, a doctor of the law, who thought the Apostles should be released. "If it is not of God, there will soon be nothing left of it. If it is of God, it will grow no matter what we do against it," he said.

The Apostles were beaten and released. They did not leave feeling angry, or sorry for themselves. They left feeling happy that God had counted them worthy to suffer for Jesus.

Yes, they had to be worthy to suffer for Jesus. God doesn't choose just any person to be His witness through suffering. He chooses only those who are clean, and filled with the Holy Spirit. People that are clean and filled with the Holy Spirit are special people to God. Those are the kind He wants to use. Sometimes He chooses to use those persons, by healing the sick when they lay on hands, or He might use them for some other spectacular thing. There are other times when God chooses to use the clean, Holy Spirit filled person to suffer for Him.

I just read about Victor Walter, a Christian prisoner in the U.S.S.R. A violent murderer, Alek Armalov, was

placed in the cell with him. Instead of being afraid of the violent murderer, he spoke to Alek with love about Jesus. Alek responded to Victor's witnessing and repented of his evil actions, and God saved him. Now the two men have Christian fellowship.

Victor was very much like Peter. He was chosen to suffer for Jesus. He did it faithfully and with boldness. The Holy Spirit knew who should be chosen to suffer in the prison cell, so that Alek could be brought into the kingdom of God.

Christian reader, are you willing to suffer for Jesus? Are you willing to say, "No," when your friends ask you to do wrong with them? Are you willing to speak up for Christianity when others are talking evil about it? Are you willing to continue dressing and acting different from most of the people around you? The Holy Spirit will make you willing to not only suffer for Christ, but to be happy about it.

Suffering for Christ is kind of like bitter-sweet candy. It has some bitterness, like pain, ridicule, loss of some things we enjoyed, etc., but together with the bitterness, there is sweetness. The sweetness is the wonderful inner feeling of peace, security, and a mind without doubt.

—Sis. Charlotte



(Answers: 1. He said, "We ought to obey God rather than man." 2. He said that God raised up Jesus to be the Saviour to give repentance and forgiveness of sins, but ye slew (killed) Him on a tree (cross). 3. Gamaliel. 4. He said other religious leaders had many followers, but their death ended the problem. 5. It would soon disappear. 6. Yes. 7. The Apostles were beaten and told to never again speak of Jesus. 8. They were happy they could suffer for Jesus. 9. Yes.)

are giving our \$35.00. Altogether that is \$140.00." Then turning to Edith she said, "Now you tell how you saved money."

Edith said, "I thought if Mom could save money on our hair care, I could save by doing my dogs hair. It costs \$7.50 every two weeks to have her shampooed and trimmed. I've done it three times, so I have \$22.50 to give. Tippy doesn't look as pretty, but she is just as much fun." Everyone laughed and gave Edith a big hand.

"That was a very clever idea," Mrs. Powell said. Edith looked a little embarrassed.

Hoel stood to his feet. The others wondered what he would say. "I have not been trying to help with this project, so I don't have much to give, but I want to give this \$10.00 that I had to spend at camp, but I was naughty and didn't get to go."

Everyone clapped for Hoel.

"Does anyone else have something to share?" David asked.

"I do," Sid said. "I've been razzing Jim all summer about saving for this project, and as you all know I love junk food too much to give it up, but I have saved in another way." Jim's mouth fell open in surprise. "Yes, Jim, I have saved \$16.00 by getting a burr in the spring as I usually do. I haven't had to have my hair cut for a long time." He rubbed his long fingers over his head and said, "I'll have another \$8.00 to give next week, because it will be the usual time for a hair cut that I won't be needing. Mom's giving me the hair cut money this summer because she knows I want some to give to the project."

"I can hardly believe this!" Jim exclaimed. "Sid, you're a bang!"

"Is there time for me to tell what Mother and I have done?" Sandy asked.

"And for me too," Jeannie asked.

"Yes," Mrs. Powell answered.

Sandy said, "You all know how my mother was before she got saved. She had her hair trimmed and styled every four weeks, \$20.00 each time. The health spa where she went twice a week last summer, cost \$62.00 every month. She

has saved \$186.00 this summer by exercising, and swimming at home. She hasn't gained a pound either. She also gave me the money she usually spends on my hair, now that I am not getting it cut. That is another \$20.00. I have also saved \$9.75 from my allowance. Here's a check for \$255.75."

Jeannie said, "My father is giving what he calls a 'payment' on what he thinks we could have spent on the doctor and hospital bill if the Lord hadn't healed me. He will be giving another payment next month, but it may not be the same amount." She walked over and gave the check to Mrs. Powell. Mrs. Powell's eyes got big when she looked at the check. "My family also plans to change our eating habits, but my sickness has kept us from doing much. I am giving my allowance for the past eight weeks, also."

Mrs. Powell said, "I have been working at saving money by buying more nutritious foods. I am very pleased that our family has saved \$118.00 on food, and I have lost ten pounds of unwanted FAT!"

"And I have lost 16 pounds," Nancy spoke up.

"Yes," Mrs. Powell said, and continued speaking. "David is doing most of the gardening around here so he has \$200 to give that I would have paid to the gardener. Nancy and I have done all the house cleaning this summer, so that has earned another \$86.00. Does anyone know how much we have saved altogether?"

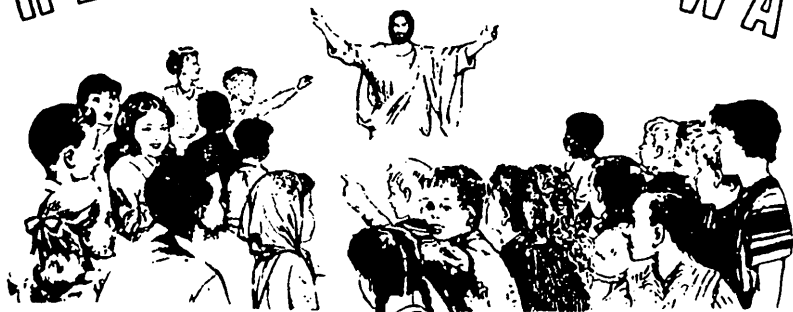
"I have written down what has been given tonight. The amount we have saved is \$1042.63. This does not include the large check from Jeannie's dad," Jim said. All began clapping and yelling.

When everyone had quieted down, David said, "Everyone ask yourself how you think Jesus would use this money if He were deciding. Then come next time with some ideas. Shall we dismiss the meeting now?"

(To be continued)



THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 13 Sept. 25, 1988

Help For The Poor

(Continued from last week)

The Juniors met again at the Powell's home to decide how to use their money. Nine weeks of doing what they thought Jesus would do had earned for the project \$1909.47. All of it had been saved by the Juniors and their families. Some was saved by changing to better eating habits; others by changing habits of living that were not what they thought Jesus would do if He were here. David, Nancy and Mrs. Powell had kept up the gardening and house cleaning to earn money to give. Jeannie's dad had given what he called a "payment" on the amount he expected to pay in hospital and doctor bills if Jeannie had not been healed.

"I think we should ask our parents how to use this money wisely," Sandy had said in the last meeting. "Maybe we could invite them to our next meeting."

The parents were invited, and most of them came. Pastor and Mrs. White came with Bert, and Mr. and Mrs. Wilshire with Sandy. Mr. and Mrs. Powell, Mr. and Mrs. Shoor, Mrs. Meed, Mr. and Mrs. Smith, and Sarah's mother, Mrs. Jinks. Two Mrs. Hardins came: Jake's and Harvey's mother, and John's mother. It was the first time Jake's mother had been to the Powell's home since the ring was stolen. Big Mrs. Gray came with Tony, and Sid's mother, who was studying to become a teacher, had a

class she could not miss, so she had persuaded his dad, Mr. Speaks to come.

Pastor White was asked to open the meeting which he did by saying, "Let us turn to page 239 in *Evening Light Songs*, and sing, 'Take My Life and Let It Be,' then we will pray."

After prayer Mrs. Powell again explained the project. She said, "I understand that half of the people in the world are hungry, and that each minute, around twenty children die somewhere of starvation. I felt that if we were doing what Jesus would do, we would do something about these starving children. My plan was to deny ourselves of unneeded foods, save this money, and give more money to spreading the gospel and feeding hungry children. Our motto has been, 'EAT LESS, SAVE FOOD DOLLARS, FEED THE HUNGRY.' Many of you, however, have found other ways of denying yourselves of unneeded activities and in this way have saved money to give. I am amazed we have saved so much and wish to thank the children for sacrificing, and you parents who encouraged and cooperated with them. Does it seem like too much of a sacrifice?"

"Not at all," Mr. Poline said. "At first I thought I would not like to cut down on meat, but now I don't notice it. Kim is happy about the improvement in her skin since we aren't eating so many rich foods, too."

(Continued on page four)

WORDS OF GOLD



The Blessing Of The Holy Spirit

This lesson is a review of the twelve previous ones. The following Scriptures should help you remember the different lessons. As you read, be thinking of the lessons you have already studied.

John 14:26 But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things. . . .

Acts 2:1 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come. . . .

4 . . . They were all filled with the Holy Ghost. . . .

14 . . . Peter. . . lifted up his voice, and said unto them. . . .

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

37 Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said . . . what shall we do?

38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized. . . .

41 Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.

Acts 3:7 And he [Peter] took him [a lame man] by the right hand, and lifted him up: and immediately his feet and ancle bones received strength.

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

23 And it shall come to pass, that every soul, which will not hear that prophet [Jesus], shall be destroyed from among the people.

Acts 4:12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

29 And now, Lord behold their threatenings: and grant unto thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word.

Acts 5:9 Then Peter said unto her, How is it that ye have agreed together to tempt the Spirit of the Lord? behold, the feet of them which have buried thy husband are at the door, and shall carry thee out.

16 There came also a multitude out of the cities round about unto Jerusalem, bringing sick folks, and them which were vexed with unclean spirits: and they were healed every one.

41 And they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name.

Central Thought: From the time of the first Pentecost until now, God has glorified His son, Jesus, by sending the Holy Spirit into the hearts of surrendered believers.

Questions:

1. What did Jesus promise His disciples?
2. What important thing happened on Pentecost?
3. What great change had come over Peter?
4. How many people were saved after Peter's first sermon?
5. What happened to the lame beggar?
6. What prophet must every person hear?
7. In whose name can we find salvation?
8. What did the Church pray for?
9. What happened to the dishonest man and his wife?
10. Was everyone healed who was brought to the Apostles?
11. How did the Apostles feel about suffering for Jesus?

MEMORY VERSE

But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you. Acts 1:8.



Let's Talk

This lesson is a review of the twelve previous lessons. Each lesson told something about the Holy Spirit. In the first one we read about Jesus promising to send the Holy Spirit to comfort, teach and bring to remembrance all that Jesus had taught them.

Jesus kept His promise and sent the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost. On that day the Spirit came in a miraculous way. With the Holy Spirit came the ability to speak in languages unknown to the speaker. The Apostles were able to witness to people that spoke different languages who were visiting at Jerusalem that day. There are two other places in the book of Acts which describe the Holy Spirit coming in this same way accompanied by people being able to speak in unknown tongues. The other times when the Holy Spirit came into men's hearts, they did not speak in tongues.

How does a person know if the Holy Spirit has come into his heart? The Holy Spirit in the heart makes changes in attitudes and behavior. It can also be felt, but depending only on feelings is not good.

You probably remember how wonderfully clean you felt when Jesus forgave your sins, but you were still saved after the brightness of that wonderful feeling had faded away. Although the peace and assurance still remained in your heart, the "high" was not there, but you were still forgiven and saved.

Noting changes in behavior is a surer way of knowing if the Holy Spirit is in a heart. In your own self you will also note changes in your thoughts, and your desire to please God will be stronger. Peter had boldness and courage to never again deny Jesus. Peter was naturally a strong man, and the Holy Spirit gave him strength to be the person he really was cut out to be. It will make you the person God has

designed you to be. It will make you able to use the talents and strengths that God has given to you, and that is another reason why it is so important.

You have probably heard people say about someone, "He's all mixed up." When children refuse to listen and obey the Holy Spirit of God when it tries to guide them, they get confused. At first the confusion within the mind may not affect the person's behavior very much. The confusion, however, can and many times will become more dense as the person grows older until his or her behavior gets farther and farther away from God, and sometimes more and more mixed up. Some turn to alcohol or drugs to escape the tormenting confusion in their mind.

Listen to the Holy Spirit when it speaks to you and you can save yourself a lot of problems.

The Apostles listened to Jesus' instructions when He told them to wait at Jerusalem until the Holy Spirit came upon them. He said they would get power that they needed when it came. They really did get power—enough power to speak the truth always even when it could have meant suffering! They had power to share with the poor, and to overcome bad attitudes. They received power to be happy even when they were persecuted. What wonderful power they had!

The Holy Spirit will do the same for you. Why don't you seek God for it?

—Sis. Charlotte



(Answers: 1. The Holy Spirit. 2. The Holy Spirit filled the disciples. 3. He changed from an unstable person to a bold, stable one. 4. 3000. 5. He was healed. 6. Jesus Christ. 7. Jesus Christ's Word. 8. For boldness to speak God's Word, and that healings, signs and wonders be done through Jesus' name. 9. They dropped dead. 10. Yes (Acts 5:16). 11. They rejoiced that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for His name.)

"I am really glad that I have learned which foods to eat, so I won't gain weight. I've always had a weight problem, but these last eight weeks, I haven't gained a pound, and I have saved about \$30.00 by not buying diet foods. They are expensive, you know. I found out I can make my own diet food at home at a great savings."

"I am learning the same thing," Mrs. Wilshire said. "I think I have my weight problem licked for good."

"Maybe I should ask for the person to speak who thinks it has been too much of a sacrifice," Mrs. Powell said, when Mrs. Wilshire finished telling how she had licked her weight problem.

No one spoke.

If no one objects, then we had better help the Juniors decide how to best use the \$1909.47 that they have collected.

"What did you have in mind when you started this?" Mr. Spoor asked.

"To help the hungry brethren in the Philippines, was my desire."

"Then let's do that," he said.

"I believe the Juniors have some ideas of their own. Jim, would you tell everyone what you told me last Sunday?"

"I think Jesus would want us to spend some money on getting His Word to people. Some have food, but no Bibles. I know of a gospel publishing house who sends used Bibles and gospel literature to Africa, but since the postage rates have gone so high, they need help to pay for the postage. I think it costs \$2.30 for a large Bible and \$1.34 for a New Testament. We could give money to several, and if anyone has old Bibles, please bring them, and I will take them over there."

"I think that is a good idea," Sid said. "My friend, Mike that goes to another church, was also telling me that he is sending three New Testaments to Russia. He told me of a place where we could get some. I think it would be great to send one to somebody in Russia. They would probably appreciate it, because they have not been able to buy Bibles in their country for a long time."

"The brethren in some country of Africa, I forgot which one, are suffering

from famine. They are surely hungry, but we'd have to send food, not money to them, I guess," Kathy said.

"That reminds me," Jeannie said, "of a missionary I heard talk about a plan to buy a special kind of sheep for the people in Ghana, West Africa. She said a family with a few sheep could make enough to buy their own food. Maybe we ought to buy some of these special sheep for a minister or a poor family."

"I'm glad Jeannie spoke about ministers. I wish we could send money every month to Kerala, India so someone can work among the Hindu people and teach them about Christ," Sandy added.

"I think Sandy's idea is a very good one," Hoel said. "I read in the May issue of the *National Geographic* about Kerala, India. The Communist party won the last election by less than 1%, but that's enough to be the ruling power. The privilege to teach about Jesus may not last long. Maybe we should help someone now, while they have the opportunity."

"The privilege to send Bibles into Russia may not last long either," Hoel added.

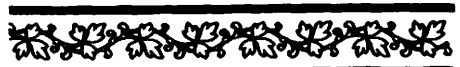
"We have a lot of different ideas about how to use the money," Mrs. Powell said. "I believe we can do all of these. Let's hear from your parents now. They can help us to know how to put the money where you want it to go."

A long discussion followed.

When all plans were finished, Sid's father, Mr. Speaks spoke, "I'd just like to say, that I didn't think much of this project, but I sure have changed my mind."

When he had finished, Mrs. Gray said, "I see that Nancy, Mrs. Meed and Mrs. Wilshire are having good success with this plan. If they can do it, God will help me also. I will be helping from now on, by denying myself of unneeded calories, saving the money and giving to the work of God and the poor."

(To be continued)



TEACHER'S NOTES



October 2, 1988

Stephen Is Chosen To Help The Apostles

Scriptures references: Acts 6:1-15.

The poor of Bible times, were a destitute people. The early Christians voluntarily gave to the poor and, as in every work in dealing with people, some problems arose. Racial problems: the Grecians against the Hebrews.

Another problem was that it was taking the Apostles away from the study and preaching of God's Word. Although helping the poor is a Christian's duty, it must not occupy time which God has designed for the ministry of His Word. It is easy for loving people to spend too much time in the administration of bodily comforts and neglect the Word and its life-giving effect on everlasting souls. There are those whose calling is to help the body and those who are ordained to help souls.

Stephen's work was to administer food to the widows. He knew his place in the Church and filled it well. His example has inspired men and women in all parts of the world throughout the years since his death.

October 9, 1988

Stephen's Defense

Scripture references: Acts 6:15; 7:1-7; Genesis 15:13, 14; Exodus 12:40, 41.

Stephen is being accused of blasphemy and of speaking against Moses. He starts his defense by telling about God's dealings with their father Abraham, to which the Jewish leaders so often referred as justification of who they were.

The Jewish leaders believed in God and the patriarch. They believed that God had promised a Saviour, a king to sit on the throne of their favorite King David, but they did not expect that the reign of the king would be a spiritual reign. They did not understand that all God's dealings with their forefathers were to bring people into a better spiri-

tual relationship with Himself. It was all connected with worshipping Him. Paul says, it was a schoolmaster to bring us to Christ. The Jews did not understand this, they thought only about temporal kings and ceremonial worship.

Stephen begins with Abraham to help them understand that God kept His promises to Abraham and He has also kept the promise of sending a Saviour, Jesus Christ.

The next four Sundays will be more about Stephen.

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October 16, 1988

Stephen Tells About Joseph And Moses

Scripture references: Acts 7:9-23.

Stephen continues his defense before an angry council. He speaks to them about Joseph and Moses being used of God to fulfill God's promise to Abraham. As God fulfilled His promise to Abraham, so He was keeping His promise to their nation and also to the whole world by sending His Son Jesus to be the Saviour.

As Joseph's brothers were used by the Providential hand of God to send Joseph into the land of Egypt to later be their saviour, so were the wicked men who killed Jesus part of God's divine plan. The Egyptian slavemasters and the evil king who ordered the babies to be killed, each fit into God's plan, although it was unknown to them. Everything is in His hands and He moves, places and qualifies persons whom He chooses to fit into His divine plans, although the persons are unaware of it.

It is important that children know God has a plan for each life. Encourage them to submit to God's plan for their lives by being obedient to His Word and also to the impressions of His Spirit on their conscience.

October 23, 1988

Stephen Tells About Moses' Problems

Scripture references: Acts 7:3-36; Exodus 2:11-25; 3:1-22.

Stephen is giving his defense before the council which accused him of blasphemy. This lesson is like the one we studied last Sunday in that it is a continuation of Stephen's defense and also shows that God has plans for all people, although He cannot fulfill these good plans unless the persons are willing.

It is also an example, showing that something more than education is necessary in being chosen by God as a leader. Moses was learned in all the ways of the Egyptians, who were at that time the most intelligent and best instructed people in the universe. Philo said that Moses was taught in arithmetic, geometry, poetry, music, medicine, and the knowledge of hieroglyphics. Moses, however was not qualified for God's use until he had returned from forty years of hard and humiliating work in the land of Madian.

Children need education. But it is far better to choose, as did Moses, to endure afflictions with the people of God than to enjoy the pleasures which come from education and good jobs for a season, if these would draw them away from God. Young people who are strong in their faith need to get a good education from god-fearing instructors and then use their education to the glory of God.

October 30, 1988

Stephen Tells of Moses' Leadership

Scripture references: Acts 7:37-50. Some other related texts are: Exodus 16:2, 3; 19:4-6; 32:8; and Amos 5:25-27.

Stephen seems to be comparing the religious people of his day with those men of Israel who would not follow Moses and obey the commandments of God, but turned away and insisted on worshipping idols, even carrying them as lucky charms in time of war or travel.

They were never willing to be different from the people around them. That is the hardest thing our children have to do also. Human nature seems to hate standing alone, but take one look backward into history and we will readily

see that anyone who has accomplished anything in life worth noting was different from the normal people of their time.

Encourage your children to be different, even in their attitude toward holidays such as Halloween.

Teachers should study the origin of Halloween and be able to give logical answers to questions children ask.

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November 6, 1988

Stephen Gives His Life For The Truth

Scripture references: Acts 7:51-60; 8:1-3.

Starting at a young age children need to be taught courage to suffer for righteousness. "Which of the prophets have not your fathers persecuted?" Men, women and children who choose to obtain an inheritance in the world to come have suffered. Others with such goals will suffer until the end of time.

The source of the Kingdom of God is good, the kingdom of this world stems from evil. These two kingdoms have always been, and always will be at variance with each other. Anyone choosing to be in the kingdom of God will suffer at the hands of evil men. This should not be hidden from children. The pay-off for suffering is great enough to override the suffering. It is our job as teachers to also present the pay-off just as it really is: Glorious!

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November 13, 1988

Philip Preaches In Samaria

Scripture references: Acts 8:1; 3-14.

Philip shows the same attitude toward people as Steven and Jesus. Jesus when dying said, "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do," (Luke 23:34). Steven, when dying, said, "Lord, lay not this sin to their charge." Philip crossed over centuries of prejudice to minister to the Samaritans, and it wasn't done out of pride to prove it was God's plan as some things are done today. NO, only pure love for their bodies and souls caused Philip to work with them.

Children must be sometimes educated to love all other children. The unclean, ungroomed child is sometimes hard to

love. Some poor children find it hard to love children who "have everything." Many times when parents have criticized or ridiculed certain kinds or races of people, it becomes hard for children to love those people. Through prayer and instruction let us help the students to develop an attitude like that of Philip.

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November 20, 1988
Peter And John Help Philip

Scripture references: Acts 8:13-25; Isa. 52:3; 55:1.

God sends the Holy Spirit on the Samaritans. Simon, one of the believers, wants to buy power from Peter to also be able to lay hands on others that they may receive the Holy Spirit. He is told that he must repent, for his heart is not right.

Not one of your students would think of offering money for the gift of God, but many times they are tempted to seek God's and man's approval by doing good, instead of admitting guilt. Sad to say, many, both young and old, yield to this temptation. If such yielding would be continued, it would lead into being dishonest with oneself and God. This is a very dangerous state because God cannot deal with a person who is not honest with Him.

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November 27, 1988

Philip Baptizes a Queen's Treasurer

Scripture references: Acts 8:26-38.

Philip preached in Samaria and many people were saved, healed and baptized. Peter and John came down to help him and many, many more were saved. Also, the Holy Spirit came on them as it did the Jews in Jerusalem. (They did not speak in tongues, possibly because all the people in this place spoke the same language.) After this, they preached in many more villages of Samaria before going back to Jerusalem.

God's next assignment to Philip was to go into the desert and testify to an Ethiopian. This man was traveling through the country on his way back home from worshipping in Jerusalem. Philip was just as faithful to preach to

this one man as he was to the hundreds in Samaria.

Let us teach the children to be faithful in the small, unnoticed tasks that God has for them to do. Jesus may want them to witness to their smaller brother or sister, maybe a neighbor, or a friend at school. It might be a friendless child that Jesus wants someone to befriend and in this way show Jesus through their actions. Whatever the job that God has for us to do, it should be done faithfully, even if no one except God, the person, and ourselves knows what was done.

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December 4, 1988
Apostle Paul Is Saved

Scripture references: Acts 9:1-13; 26:9-18.

Saul (later called Paul) is convicted on the road to Damascus as he is going with authority to put in prison all who worship Jesus. On the way, Jesus appears to him in a light. The brightness of that light causes blindness. He fasts and prays for three days until Ananias comes to pray with him. After receiving the new birth and his sight, he is baptized. He begins at once doing the job Jesus gave him to do.

Some people wish for God to convict them in a "knock down" manner just as he did Saul, but God does not deal with many in that way. Children need to realize that a soft convicting experience from the Lord makes them just as responsible to repent and change as Saul's "knock down" experience. Saul was responsible to do what Jesus told him to do. Every child of God is responsible to do what Jesus wants them to do. Those who will not, are soon away from God and back in sin and trouble.

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Dec. 11, 1988
Saul Reaps What He Sows

Scripture references: Acts 9:17-20, 22:30; 22:1-21.

Soon after Paul is baptized, while he is still in the city of Damascus, he begins receiving persecutions. Saul (later called Paul) held the coats of those who stoned Stephen.

This lesson clearly shows God's truthfulness to His Word: "Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution." 2 Tim. 3:12. "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." Gal. 6:7.

Children should always remember that when they do cruel, unkind things to others, someday others will be cruel and unkind to them. Apostle Paul said of himself: "... in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequent, in deaths oft. Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes save one. Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep; In journeyings often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils by mine own countrymen, in perils by the heathen, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren; In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness." 2 Cor. 11:23-27.

It seems that he suffered more than any other apostle.

Dec. 18, 1988

Peter Works In Lydda

Scripture reference: Acts 9:32-43.

Peter was visiting the saints in many cities. On his way he went to Lydda where he found Aeneas who had been paralyzed for eight years. While in this place the brethren from Joppa called for him because Tabitha had died. Peter went to Joppa and God raised Tabitha from the dead.

In both of these marvelous miracles, Peter seemed to have an assurance that God had healed the person. He said to Aeneas, "Jesus Christ maketh thee whole, arise, and make thy bed," and he lifted Tabitha by his hand to her feet.

Peter expected action. He asked for action. He got action.

Children need to be taught to act in faith after they are prayed for. Encourage the children to be ready to get out of bed after the "Amen" is said. That is what Peter asked Aeneas to do.

Dec. 25, 1988

Review Of Previous Twelve Lessons

Scripture references: Acts, chapters six through nine.

This lesson is a short summary of Stephen's ministry, trial, and death; Philip's and Peter's ministry; and Paul's conversion.

Stephen's death was the beginning of severe persecution for the believers. The persecution drove the Christians away from Jerusalem to find more protected environments in which to live. New congregations were raised up in those places as the Holy Ghost-filled refugees shared the gospel with their new neighbors and friends.

Philip and Peter were used by God to perform miracles which witnessed of Jesus' power in new areas, causing many people to believe.

Jesus heard the cries of His persecuted children and struck Paul down with conviction which brought rest to the Church. Paul became the persecuted instead of the persecutor.

Reaping

While the years are swiftly passing,
As we watch them come and go,
Do we realize the maxim,
We must reap what'er we sow?

When the past comes up before us,
All our thoughts, our acts, and deeds,
Shall they glean for us fair roses,
Or a harvest bare of weeds?

Are we sowing seeds to blossom?
We shall reap someday, — somewhere,
Just what here we have been sowing,
Worthless weeds or roses fair.

All around us whispering ever,
Hear the voice of Nature speak,
Teaching all the self-same lesson,
"As you sow so shall you reap."

Though there's pardon for each sinner
In God's mercy vast and mild,
Yet the law that governs Nature,
Governs e'en fair Nature's child.

—Selected

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 1 Oct. 2, 1988

Sandy

(Continued from last week)

The dismissal bell rang! All the other students rushed from the Social Studies room. Sandy walked slowly to the front and laid the list of questions she had just answered on Mr. Sheldon's desk. "I'm tired of this anti-God material," she said. "We're not allowed to write decent articles about God in the school paper because you say we must keep church and state separate. However, North Kitsap, the author of these books we have been studying, talks about God. He drags---drags---God 'through the mud' all the time. I'm sick of it. They seem to have a right to say whatever they wish about their godless standards. Why can't we speak our standards?"

"The men and women who wrote our school textbooks are great educators. They are teaching you how to think for yourself, and not to believe everything your parents tell you," Mr. Sheldon answered.

"I already know how to think for myself," Sandy vehemently replied. "I don't need any of this trash to help me."

"You must not be critical of the books, or you will not learn properly."

"I don't want to learn any of that junk!"

"Sandy," Mr. Sheldon said very calmly, "tell me what you dislike about the material."

"I don't like any of it! We have to decide all these horrid questions about what we want written on our tombstone and which person will be thrown over into the sea because the life boat is overfilled and sinking. I'm tired of deciding who will die, or which would be hardest, to cheat, steal, or lie? I wouldn't do any of them."

"Now Sandy, you may have to make that decision some day. You must think of the future and be prepared."

"I am prepared. I promised to do what Jesus would do and that's what I plan to do!" Sandy picked up the questionnaire she had just laid down. "Right here it says, 'Who wants to be like God? Nobody likes a master.' I want to be like God, but that question somehow makes me feel like it's silly to be like God and to serve Him."

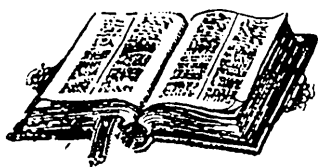
"You may not really want to serve God, Sandy. It may be that you are wanting it that way now because your parents told you it was best for you. However, when you begin thinking for yourself, you will see that parents didn't always know best."

"Oh," Sandy said and kept reading over the questions.

"Your parents' values are different from yours. They grew up at a different time and have a different field of experience. You are now beginning to take risks, that is, making decisions that your parents might not approve. This will cause conflicts with them. Until

(Continued on page four)

WORDS OF GOLD



Stephen

Acts 6:1 And in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplied, there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministration.

2 Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples unto them, and said, It is not reason that we should leave the word of God, and serve tables.

3 Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business.

4 But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word.

5 And the saying pleased the whole multitude: and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost. . . .

6 Whom they set before the apostles: and when they had prayed, they laid their hands on them.

7 And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly; and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith.

8 And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and miracles among the people.

9 Then there arose certain of the synagogue. . . .

11 . . . which said, We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses, and against God.

12 And they stirred up the people, and the elders, and the scribes, and came upon him, and caught him, and brought him to the council,

13 And set up false witnesses, which said, This man ceaseth not to speak blasphemous words against this holy place, and the law:

14 For we have heard him say, that this Jesus of Nazareth shall destroy this place, and shall change the customs which Moses delivered us.

15 And all that sat in the council, looking stedfastly on him, saw his face as it had been the face of an angel.

Central Thought: Stephen, a man full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, is chosen as helper of the Apostles. He works miracles and for envy is brought before the council and accused of blasphemy.



Questions:

1. Why were the Grecians murmuring against the Hebrews?
2. How was the problem solved?
3. What was one qualification of the chosen men?
4. What were the Apostles planning to do after the men took their jobs?
5. What happened that showed the plan was successful?
6. What happened to the priests?
7. What were some of Stephen's outstanding activities?
8. Why were the synagogue leaders angry at Stephen?
9. What unusual thing did the people of the council notice about Stephen?

MEMORY VERSE

Pure religion . . . is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world. James 1:27



Let's Talk

God is love. Because His love filled the hearts of Jesus' disciples, those disciples, who had more goods than they needed divided what they had with other believers who were poor. Acts 4:34, 35 says, "Neither was there any among them that lacked: for as many as were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the prices of the things that were sold, And laid them down at the apostles' feet: and distribution was made unto every man according as he had need." This was a big job! There were thousands of Christians in Jerusalem! Acts 2:41 says there were 3,000. In Acts 4:4, there were 5,000. After that, it is recorded in Acts 5:14, that "believers were the more added to the Lord, *multitudes* both of men and women." (Let's estimate that there were 10,000 disciples at this time.)

In a group of 10,000 persons, there would be many poor, a few rich and others who were neither rich nor poor. In Bible times a poor person, was very, very poor. He had no land on which to raise food for his family, and just barely enough clothing to keep warm. It was against the Jewish law to take clothing from a widow in exchange for food. Why? Because she had no other clothing. The Jews were to loan or give food to widows or orphans without any security. If they were not a widow, the lender could take clothing as a security that they would be repaid. However, if the person was very poor, the lender had to return the clothing each evening so the poor could be warm at night. The poor were so very poor, they had nothing else with which to cover themselves at night.

Many of the poor were widows, so the Apostles worked out a plan to see that the widows and their children had food. Everyday the Apostles went from house to house taking food to the hungry. The Apostles soon found that it was taking

too much of their time to get this job done. When some people complained that the Grecian widows were being neglected, the Apostles decided to choose seven men to do the job. The men chosen had to be full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom.

Stephen was one of the men chosen. Stephen was full of the Holy Ghost and faith. God gave him power just as He had given to the Apostles. Stephen "did wonders and miracles among the people." He also preached that Jesus was the Son of God and that Jesus' death put an end to the old way of worshiping God which Moses had taught to them. Some men from a synagogue heard him say that Jesus would change the customs that Moses gave as laws to them. They did not want to lose their followers so they stirred up the people against Stephen. They hired evil men to witness lies and took him before the elders, where they accused him of blasphemy.

Stephen had done evil to no one. He had only done miracles that were a blessing to people. He was so innocent of the accusations that when he stood to be judged, his face shone. Those who saw him said, "He has the face of an angel." Stephen had helped the poor widows, now he was also in trouble.

—Sis. Charlotte

Ingredients Used in Making Bread
wheat milk eggs salt yeast butter corn

How many kinds of bread can you name using the letters from these words?
(Answers on page 4)

(Answers: 1. Because the Grecian widows were being neglected. 2. The Apostles appointed seven men to take food to the widows. 3. They must be full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom. 4. They would spend their time in prayer and the ministry of the Word. 5. The Word of God increased and the number of the disciples multiplied. 6. A great many became obedient to the faith. 7. He did great wonders and miracles. 8. They thought he was speaking blasphemy when he said that Jesus would destroy their form of worship and change Moses' laws. 9. His face seemed to be the face of an angel.)

now, your parents have 'got away with' controlling you."

Sandy remembered all the conflicts she had with her mother when she decided to do only what Jesus would do. Those were hard times, but God had been her comfort and strength, and she had obeyed her mother which helped her mother to also make a promise to do what Jesus would do. "Maybe you're right about thinking for myself," she told Mr. Sheldon, "but I don't really think Jesus would read those books and I don't plan to read them either."

"Then you will get a pink slip and be sent to the office."

"You just told me to think for myself. When I do, you punish me."

"Well, there are certain rules that we all must follow. Remember the *Effecting Change* decision-making workshop you took in the Gifted and Talented class last week?"

"Yes, I remember."

"Did you enjoy it?"

"Yes, it made me feel great when he said that we would be the world leaders of tomorrow. But he also taught us to air our gripes and not be restricted by parents or society. He said that we were smart enough to make our own decisions, so I will decide not to read the books," she said, and started toward the door.

Mr. Sheldon quickly stepped between her and the door. "Sandy, you will make the decision between reading or a detention; that's an absolute!"

"According to Mr. Lawrence Kohlberg, nothing is absolute," she answered. "He said his truth changed every day. He even proved by a math problem that there is no absolute truth."

"What is your decision, little Miss Smarty?"

"I will take the detention."

"Then report to the office tomorrow and I will knock five points off your grade this quarter."

Sandy left the room. "Mr. Sheldon knows that lowering my grade would hurt me more than anything else," she muttered as she fought back a flood of tears.

"I've been waiting forever," called Mrs. Wilshire cheerfully to Sandy.

Sandy jumped into the car and burst into tears.

"What happened?" asked her mother.

"Mr. Sheldon's lowering my grades because I won't read those filthy books. It doesn't make any sense. They tell us to think for ourselves and when we do, we are penalized. I wish I could be excused from his class."

"I'll go and see Mr. Taylor and get you excused."

"Would you, Mother? It would be so nice!"

The next day Mrs. Wilshire went to the principal and got Sandy excused from Mr. Sheldon's class during this social studies project called "Reach." Sandy would report to class each day and after roll call was checked, she could go to the library during that hour.

"Remember that this will lower your grades considerably," Mr. Sheldon said.

The next day when it was time for Sandy to leave the room, Mr. Sheldon said, "Sandy must leave now because she's her mother's little puppet."

Every day Sandy had to listen to sarcastic remarks made by Mr. Sheldon and the other students. Sometimes she felt so all alone that she was tempted to just stay in class, but she couldn't do that and do what she felt Jesus would do.

At the next *What Would Jesus Do?* meeting, Sandy told the others about her decision. Kathy, Jeannie, and Sid, who took Mr. Sheldon's social studies class in the morning, decided that they, too, would try to get excused. "We won't get to be in the library with you, but we will be doing what we believe Jesus would do," Kathy said. "I hope this will change Mr. Sheldon's mind about having 'Values Clarification' classes, as he calls them."

(To be continued)

(Answers from page three: corn cakes, wheat bread, corn bread, yeast rolls, egg rolls, yeast bread, hot rolls, salt bread, rye bread, black rye, corn pone.)

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 2 Oct. 9, 1988

Visiting The Senior Citizens' Home

(Continued from last week)

"I have good news for you," Mrs. Smith said. "Mr. Murphey, the new manager at the Senior Citizens' Home, has invited us over for next Thursday night. He says that the senior citizens have a program ready for us."

"I wonder what kind of program they will have?" Sid asked.

"Maybe they have a 'wash tub' band all set up and will play 'The Wash Tub Blues' for us," Hoel answered.

"Some might even try to dance!" answered Tony.

"Mr. Murphey seems to be a really sincere Christian, so I'm sure it will be a nice program," Mrs. Smith assured them.

Before the next Thursday, word about the trip to the Senior Citizens' Home got around. Some of the young people and several parents decided to go, too.

On Thursday, when everyone was seated, Mr. Murphey started off the evening by asking blind Mrs. Stout to play "Amazing Grace" on the piano. After she played the verse through, everyone joined in singing the chorus and the first two verses. After the song was finished, she played and sang as a solo, "The Old Rugged Cross." Then she gave her testimony of how God stood by her during the time, soon after

her blindness, when she had felt like life was hardly worth living.

"How old were you when you became blind?" David asked.

"I was 56, just old enough to quit working and do some fun things I had always wanted to do. Then I became blind, but I found out that there were more fun things in my dark world than I had ever dreamed."

"What kind of fun things do you enjoy?" Jim Meed asked.

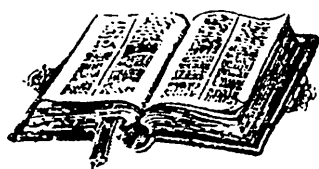
"Oh, fun things? Well, like talking to God. I do enjoy those beautiful times we spend together," she said, as she was helped back to her seat by Mr. Murphey.

"Now Mr. Peabody will tell an unusual experience in his life," said Mr. Murphey.

Mr. Peabody tottered up toward the piano and sat in a chair where he could face the crowd. "Say, when I was a little boy, just half-pint size, about five years old, I became very seriously ill. My grandfather was a doctor, yea. Old Doc Tailhorn was his name. That was my mother's dad. He tried everything to cure me, but I kept getting worse. After weeks of taking all kinds of awful tasting medicines, I was just about to die. One Sunday morning my grandfather said, 'Nothing more we can do for that child except pray.' My mother was more than glad to do that, but Dad didn't believe in prayer. He left the room while Doc Tailhorn and Mother knelt by my

(Continued on page four)

WORDS OF GOLD



Stephen's Story About God's Men

Acts 6:15 And all that sat in the council, looking stedfastly on him [Stephen], saw his face as it had been the face of an angel.

7:1 Then said the high priest, Are these things so?

2 And he said, Men, brethren, and fathers, hearken; The God of glory appeared unto our father Abraham, when he was in Mesopotamia, before he dwelt in Charran,

3 And said unto him, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and come into the land which I shall shew thee.

4 Then came he out of the land of the Chaldaeans, and dwelt in Charran: and from thence, when his father was dead, he removed him into this land, wherein ye now dwell.

5 And he gave him none inheritance in it, no, not so much as to set his foot on: yet he promised that he would give it to him for a possession, and to his seed after him, when as yet he had no child.

6 And God spake on this wise, That his seed should sojourn in a strange land; and that they should bring them into bondage, and entreat them evil four hundred years.

God's Appearance to Abraham

Genesis 15:13 And he said unto Abram, Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them four hundred years;

14 And also that nation, whom they shall serve, will I judge: and afterward shall they come out with great substance.

Abraham's Seed (family), Leaving The Land Of Bondage

Exodus 12:40 Now the sojourning of the children of Israel, who dwelt in Egypt, was four hundred and thirty years.

41 And it came to pass at the end of the four hundred and thirty years, even the selfsame day it came to pass, that all the hosts of the Lord went out from the land of Egypt.

Central Thought: Stephen proved from history that God always keeps his promises.



Questions:

1. To whom was Stephen speaking?
2. Of whom was Stephen speaking?
3. What did God say to Abraham?
4. What did God promise to Abraham?
5. What did God say would happen to Abraham's seed?
6. In what country did Abraham's seed become bondmen?
7. Were they released from bondage in the time that God said they would be?
8. Why do you think Stephen know about Abraham and the people of Israel in Egypt?
9. Is it important for us to study history from the Bible as Stephen did?

MEMORY VERSE

... It came to pass at the end of the four hundred and thirty years ... that all the hosts of the Lord went out from the land of Egypt. Exodus 12:41



Let's Talk

Stephen stood facing the council of angry men. The men who formed the council were men who taught the people that God expected them to obey the Mosaic law, and that God expected those to be punished who dared to disobey. They had been told that Stephen said, "God has destroyed the Mosaic laws, and it is no longer necessary to obey them."

They were so angry with Stephen for turning the people away from Moses' law that they accused him of blasphemy.

Stephen knew the law; he would be killed if proven guilty. He knew he was innocent, but would the men believe what he had to say about himself?

"Are these things true that you are being accused of?" the high priest asked.

Stephen became his own defense by saying, "Men, brethren, and fathers; God appeared many years ago to our father Abraham and told him to get out of his home country and go into another land where he could more perfectly worship God. Our father Abraham obeyed and followed God, even though he did not know where he was going. After our father Abraham followed God into a strange land, God said to Him, 'You will have children, and they will leave this land and go into another land where they will be bondmen. During this time they will become a nation of people. But I will bring them again into this land and they will worship me as I have taught you.'

"Abraham had no child when God gave him this promise but all of you knew that later he had a son and his family became a great nation. God brought this nation out of the land of Egypt, after they had been in bondage many years.

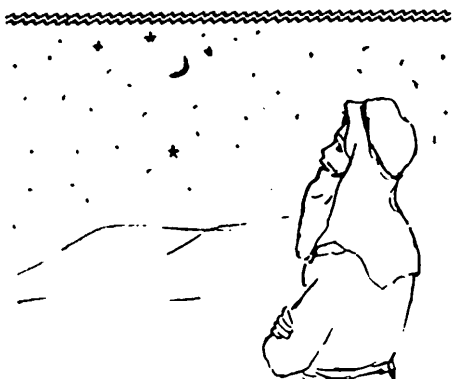
"God made other promises to our fathers and many of them have happened just as God promised," Stephen said as he continued talking about the history of their people.

Stephen wanted to help the council to see that God is faithful to keep all His promises, and that He had also kept his promise of sending a Saviour. Thousands of people had come to believe that Jesus was this Saviour. Stephen wanted them to also believe. They would not. They continued to say that Stephen had blasphemed because he said that Jesus was greater than Moses.

Will Stephen get them to understand? Acts 6:7 says, that "a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith." Maybe Stephen can convince some more priests to become believers in Jesus and they will not kill him. What do you think?

We know of one thing keeping some of these men from becoming believers. It is that they will have to admit that they agreed with those who put Jesus, the Son of God, to death. Therefore they are guilty of His death. It would be mighty hard to admit such a deed. On the other hand, if Jesus isn't the Son of God, and He said that He was, then they have helped God by cleansing the land of anyone who would do such a wicked thing. Will they admit that killing Jesus was wrong?

Next Sunday, we will study more about Stephen's testimony. —Sis. Charlotte



(Answers: 1. The council of the Jewish elders, who were Abraham's seed. 2. Abraham. 3. "Get out of thy country and come into the land which I shall shew thee." 4. That his seed would inherit the land through which Abraham was travelling. 5. They would be in bondage to another people. 6. In Egypt. 7. Yes. 8. He had studied the Old Testament. 9. Yes.)

bed and prayed. A couple hours later, I was no better. Dad decided he had to choose between praying and losing me, his only child. He knelt and prayed. Then he called a neighbor and asked if they would take a message to Mr. William Adams, who was at that time pastor of Madison Square Church.

"He took the message, and asked the usher at the door to ask special prayer for John Peabody (that's me), who'd be dead in minutes if God didn't change things. Pastor Adams was already in the pulpit preaching and the usher did not want to disturb him, but seeing it might mean life or death, he took a note up and laid it on the pulpit. Pastor Adams read the note and right then, at fifteen 'til eleven, had prayer for me. By the time the neighbor got home, I was much improved. 'He suddenly got better at fifteen 'til eleven,' my dad told the neighbor.

"That is the very time they prayed for him!" said the neighbor. "I remember looking at that big clock that hangs on the south wall."

"I got well, as you all know, for I'm here with you today, and that was 84 years ago. That made a believer out of my dad and he was a good Christian the rest of his life.

"Not long after that experience, I got a baby sister. She wasn't very strong, though, and when she was two years old she had terrible spasms. They were so bad that she would almost die during them. I hated to see her suffer. One day I felt like praying for her, for I remembered being healed in answer to prayer. I went away to my room and prayed for her. She was healed of those spasms! Children, don't ever underestimate the power to be found in prayer."

Next, Mr. Murphey took Mrs. Rexson by the arm and led her to the speaker's chair beside the piano.

"My story took place in 1864. My mother was ten years old that year. It was during the time of the Civil War. My grandparents were Southerners but they did not believe in slavery, nor did they believe the United States should

divide. For this reason, they left everything and fled from the South, ending up in Charmberburgh, Pennsylvania. My grandfather, Mr. Jackson, was the superintendent of the Sunday school there. It was well known that they had escaped from the South.

"One day, the Confederate soldiers marched into the village. My Grandpa Jackson and his family hid out in the mountains to keep from being captured. They were there for many days without food finding only leaves, grass, and a little bark to chew. My Grandpa was sure his family would starve to death as they wandered in the woods looking for an isolated family with which to hide.

"One day my mother took out her little Testament she had brought along to the woods, and was reading. She read the Lord's Prayer. Running to my Grandpa, she said, 'Jesus taught His disciples to pray for their daily bread! These are His own words. It is therefore not possible that He will allow any person to starve, who asks Him for food in His own words. Dear father, He will surely hear our prayers for bread.'

"My grandfather clasped my mother in his arms and fervently prayed the Lord's Prayer. Before they arose from their knees, a dog barked very near them. A farmer was searching for some lost cattle. The kind-hearted man immediately led my granddad and his family to his own comfortable home and provided for their needs. You see, God always hears the prayer He taught people to pray."

"I am sorry the evening has passed so quickly," Mr. Murphey said. "Several others want to share the story of their lives with the children. Can you come again?"

"Yes, we will come again. Would next Thursday be a good time?" Mrs. Smith asked.

"It will be fine."

They all said, "Thank you for the nice songs and stories. We will come again next Thursday!"

(To be continued)

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 3 Oct. 16, 1988

Another Visit To The Senior Citizens

(Continued from last week)

The following Thursday, the Juniors met again at the Senior Citizens' Home. At 7:00 p.m. sharp, Mr. Simmons played his banjo while everyone sang, "The Church in the Wildwood," and "Tell Mother I'll be There." Mr. Murphey knew the songs well and did a great job of leading.

Mr. Murphey then said, "Miss Amy Southerland, 75 years young, will tell you her version of 'Little Red Riding Hood.'"

Miss Southerland was a tall, thin lady with long hair wrapped around her head. "My story took place in a place called Platterville, Colorado. I was about nine years old. One cold, November evening about five o'clock, my father realized that the cows and calves were missing. He knew if they were left out over night, the wolves might kill one or even several of them. He asked me to help him find them. We went into the forest back of our log home and soon spotted some calves. Although I wasn't far from home, the trees all looked the same to me. When my father told me to take the calves home, I did not know which way to go. 'Which way to the barn?' I asked.

"The calves know the way home," he answered. "Just follow them. I will be home as soon as I find the cows." He

disappeared into the deeper forest and I trailed after the calves.

"I kept close to the calves, as I was afraid of getting lost. After walking until darkness was falling, I realized that the calves had misled me. We were still in deep woods; there was no clearing, no barn, no house; only trees, trees, trees.

Soon I heard some barking. At first I thought it was dogs; then I realized it to be the barks of wolves! My blood seemed to chill. Soon, however, a great calmness came over me when I remembered that Mother always said, 'If you are good, God will take care of you.' I knew I had been good, so I asked God to keep the wolves from hurting me.

"On and on I walked. First I kept following calves and then they seemed to disappear. 'Maybe they fell asleep,' I thought, but I didn't want to sleep. I wanted to find my home. The cold wind cut through my clothing and whipped up under my dress. Each time I stopped I felt colder and more weary. I did not know where I was going, but I kept walking, thinking any minute I would walk out of the woods and see our barn and house in the moonlight.

"Time and time again, the wolves snapped at my heels. Sometimes I felt like screaming, but at those times a sweet, calm feeling would come down over me. I know now it was because my mother was at home praying for my protection. My father was roaming the

(Continued on page four)

WORDS OF GOLD



Stephen Tells About Joseph and Moses

New Words: *Dearth:* Scarcity of food, famine.

Patriarchs: Founding fathers of a nation.

Subtily: Mysterious, tricky, crafty.

Acts 7:9 And the patriarchs, moved with envy, sold Joseph into Egypt: but God was with him,

10 And delivered him out of all his afflictions, and gave him favour and wisdom in the sight of Pharaoh king of Egypt; and he made him governor over Egypt and all his house.

11 Now there came a dearth over all the land of Egypt and Chanaan, and great affliction: and our fathers found no sustenance.

12 But when Jacob heard that there was corn in Egypt, he sent out our fathers first.

13 And at the second time Joseph was made known to his brethren; and Joseph's kindred was made known unto Pharaoh.

14 Then sent Joseph, and called his father Jacob to him, and all his kindred, threescore and fifteen souls.

15 So Jacob went down into Egypt, and died, he, and our fathers,

16 And were carried over into Sychem, and laid in the sepulchre that Abraham bought for a sum of money of the sons of Emmor the father of Sychem.

17 But when the time of the promise drew nigh, which God had sworn to Abraham, the people grew and multiplied in Egypt.

18 Till another king arose, which knew not Joseph.

19 The same dealt subtilly with our kindred, and evil entreated our fathers, so that they cast out their young children, to the end they might not live.

20 In which time Moses was born, and was exceeding fair, and nourished up in his father's house three months:

21 And when he was cast out, Pharaoh's daughter took him up, and nourished him for her own son.

22 And Moses was learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, and was mighty in words and in deeds.

23 And when he was full forty years old, it came into his heart to visit his brethren the children of Israel.

Central Thought: God works through the hand of His Providence to guide and qualify the men He knows He will need to use in the future.



Questions:

1. What caused the patriarchs to sell Joseph?
2. Name some things God did for Joseph.
3. What did Joseph become?
4. Why did Joseph's brother come to Egypt?
5. How did Joseph show a compassionate heart?
6. Why do you think Joseph had a compassionate heart?
7. How many years was it before Abraham's family became a great multitude?
8. When did they start having trouble in Egypt?
9. Who was the Israelite leader after Joseph?

MEMORY VERSE

And God sent me before you to preserve you . . . So now it was not you that sent me hither, but God . . .

Genesis 45:7, 8

Let's Talk

Stephen was accused of blasphemy and brought before the council. This same thing happened to Jesus. The punishment for blasphemy was death. Will Stephen be proven guilty as Jesus was, or will he prove himself innocent? In the lesson last week, Stephen began his defense by showing how God's promise to their father Abraham was kept.

He continued his defense by telling how God worked with Abraham's great-grandson, Joseph, and his posterity. Joseph was a good boy, obedient and greatly beloved by his father. Why was he hated and mistreated by his brothers? He was first put in a pit to die, later he was taken from the pit and sold as a slave to be taken into the foreign country of Egypt. In Egypt he lived true to God's commandments, yet he suffered much injustice. He was put in jail and almost forgotten. Why should a good boy have to suffer so much? He suffered mistreatment because God was preparing him to be an understanding ruler, although Joseph did not know he was to become a ruler. He may have wondered why all these things were happening to him. He may have wondered too, about his childhood dreams about his brothers and parents bowing before him. Do you think Joseph would have understood sorrow if he had not suffered? Without understanding sorrow, would he have been a good understanding ruler? No.

Stephen said, "We can see why God let these things happen to Joseph. It was to place Joseph as a good leader in Egypt. If Joseph hadn't been a leader in Egypt at the time of the severe dearth, the family of our father Abraham could not have become the great nation it is today. God has to let things happen to people to get them to want to do His will. God let an Egyptian ruler and his people treat Joseph's family as slaves so they would hate the land and be willing to risk losing what they had for

a better life. They had grown to become a great nation with 600,000 men, besides, women and children. The people soon grew to hate Egypt and began crying to God to let them leave. God caused Moses to be adopted by the princess so he would know how to deal with the Egyptian king. God was working out all these things to keep His promise to Abraham. He caused many things to happen that were not easy to understand; but they were necessary to keep the promise. God has always kept His promise to men. He has caused things to happen in our own city that have been the fulfillment of one of His important promises to us," Stephen told the men of the council.

The angry men glared at him, they knew he was referring to Christ.

Stephen wanted the men to understand how God had worked in the history of their nation so they would see that He was also working that very day, through Jesus Christ.

Will the Jewish council understand and accept Jesus, or will they get even more angry and have Stephen killed as they did Christ? —Sis. Charlotte



(Answers: 1. God caused Joseph's brothers to sell him to the Egyptians, because God wanted him in Egypt. 2. God delivered him out of afflictions, gave him favor and wisdom, and caused Pharaoh to like him. 3. The governor over Egypt. 4. They came for food because of a great dearth. 5. By helping his family move to Egypt where they could have food. 6. Because he had suffered many times. 7. 400 years. 8. When it was time for God's promise to Abraham to be fulfilled. 9. Moses.)

forest looking for me and praying for my protection, too.

"I walked on and on until light came into the trees. I knew it was daylight. The wolves left me soon after daylight. I saw little paths among the trees and would follow them until they vanished. Then I would find another one. I was hungry, cold, and thirsty, but I kept on walking.

"About 8:00 the next morning, I found a path that led to a trail. Following it, I was led out of the forest. There, before my eyes, was a strange farm. I hurried as fast as my weak legs would carry me. I was afraid the house would disappear before my eyes.

"Mr. John Beebe lived in the house. I told him what had happened and he took me into the nearby town of Evans where my folks picked me up. Evans is 25 miles from where I lived! I had wearily wandered for 18 hours through the forest with the wolves snapping at my heels."

"How is that for a 'Little Red Riding Hood'?" Mr. Murphey asked.

"That was better than 'Little Red Riding Hood!'" Mr. Smith said.

"Mr. Shulth has a money story for you," Mr. Murphey said, as Mr. Shulth wiggled out of his seat and came to the front. "We'll name his story, 'Nickels for Missions.'" Nancy smiled at Sandy. She was sure Sandy was thinking, as she was, about their "Nutrition for Mission" project.

Mr. Shulth was a German, and his words sounded a little loud and harsh as he spoke. "When I was about ten years old, I began giving a nickel to the missionary offering every Sunday. The nickels I gave had a Liberty Head on the front and a V (Roman numeral five) on the back. It was a lot of money for me to give; maybe like you giving two or three dollars.

We lived on a farm a mile from the school. I arose early each morning to feed and water the farm animals, and sometimes I chopped and carried wood before walking to school. After school, when the days were long, I could work

a little for someone before coming home to do the chores. This is how I earned money for the offering. I saved it faithfully because during the winter, when the days were short, there was no time to earn money.

"One winter Sunday, I dropped my last nickel into the offering. I hated the thought of having nothing for the next Sunday, so I began praying for God to help me. All the way home I thought about having nothing to give.

"After dinner I said a special prayer, asking God to supply me with money to give.

"The next morning when I was almost at school, I found a handkerchief in the road. A knot was tied in one corner. I untied the knot and there was a silver quarter and a silver dime! God had supplied me money for the next seven Sundays! By that time, spring would be breaking, and I could make some more money.

"As suddenly as my joy had come, it faded away when I remembered that someone had lost the money, and might need it even worse than I. I was honest, so I took it to the teacher to see if the owner could be found. No one claimed the money! It was indeed God-sent to me!"

Mr. Murphey helped Mr. Shulth back to his place and said, "We will have time for just one more. Mr. Wilson will play 'Old Black Joe' and 'Lord, I'm Coming Home,' on his violin.

"The people enjoy sharing their stories," Mr. Murphey said, "Can you come again?"

"Shall we come again?" Mr. Smith asked Mrs. Smith.

"Yes, please do!" the children begged. "We like to hear the stories."

"I think it is all right if the children enjoy it," said Mrs. Smith.

"We do, we do!" they chorused.

"Then we'll come again!"

(To be continued)



THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 4 Oct. 23, 1988

More Stories

(Continued from last week)

It was the third time the Juniors had met at the Senior Citizens' Home to listen to true stories from the lives of the senior citizens.

The meeting began with blind Mrs. Stout playing the piano and leading the group in singing 'The Old Time Religion' and 'Blest Be The Tie That Binds.' Mr. Smith led in prayer.

"We will call our first story, 'The Giving Robber', by Mrs. Keithstone," Mr. Murphey said. "She is a little shy and needs a little boost. Let's all give her a hand."

They all clapped.

Mrs. Keithstone scooted her tiny feet over the floor as she made her way to the same chair by the piano in which all the other speakers had sat.

"This happened to my mother when I was a baby. We were living in Berlin at the time. My father had died, leaving her a widow. She was forced to work at whatever she could to make a living. She always prayed and trusted God to supply our needs. She had a small apartment rented. It was not very secure, so the robber had little trouble entering. My sister and I were already asleep in our little bed when Mother realized she must leave the house for a short while. She checked us carefully and then left the house.

"Upon returning, she found a note laying on the table. In shaky hand-

writing, as if written in fear and haste, were these words:

" 'Madam, I came here with the intention of robbing you. But the sight of this little room with the religious pictures hanging around in it, and those two sweet-looking children quietly sleeping in their little bed, have touched my heart. I cannot take anything of yours. The small amount of money lying on your desk I leave untouched, and I take the liberty of adding fifty dollars besides.'

"My mother kept this note for a long time in her Bible. You know the Bible tells that 'The king's heart is in the hand of the Lord, as the rivers of water: he turneth it whithersoever he will.' He turned the heart of this robber from his wicked purpose, and in this way He protected my widowed mother, my sister, and myself."

"Mrs. Keithstone scooted back to her place, and Mr. Hidden stood up.

"Mr. Hidden will tell us about a back- ing horse," Mr. Murphey said.

Mr. Hidden hobbled up to the chair and fell down into the seat. He adjusted one pant leg and left the other caught between his leg and the chair, making it end three inches above his sock.

"When I was a boy," he said in a shaky voice, "we lived in Rhode Island. We had a good, gentle horse we called Blackie. She was our only means of transportation.

(Continued on page four)

WORDS OF GOLD



Stephen Tells About Moses' Problem

Acts 7:23 And when he [Moses] was full forty years old, it came into his heart to visit his brethren the children of Israel.

24 And seeing one of them suffer wrong, he defended him, and avenged him that was oppressed, and smote the Egyptian:

25 For he supposed his brethren would have understood how that God by his hand would deliver them: but they understood not.

26 And the next day he shewed himself unto them as they strove, and would have set them at one again, saying, Sirs, ye are brethren; why do ye wrong one to another?

27 But he that did his neighbour wrong thrust him away, saying, Who made thee a ruler and a judge over us?

28 Wilt thou kill me, as thou diddest the Egyptian yesterday?

29 Then fled Moses at this saying, and was a stranger in the land of Madian, where he begat two sons.

30 And when forty years were expired, there appeared to him in the wilderness of mount Sina an angel of the Lord in a flame of fire in a bush.

31 When Moses saw it, he wondered at the sight: and as he drew near to behold it, the voice of the Lord came unto him,

32 Saying, I am the God of thy fathers, the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. Then Moses trembled, and durst not behold.

33 Then said the Lord to him, Put off thy shoes from thy feet: for the place where thou standest is holy ground.

34 I have seen, I have seen the affliction of my people which is in Egypt, and I have heard their groaning, and am come down to deliver them. And now come, I will send thee into Egypt.

35 This Moses whom they refused, saying, Who made thee a ruler and a judge? the same did God send to be a ruler and a deliverer by the hand of the angel which appeared to him in the bush.

36 He brought them out, after that he had shewed wonders and signs in the land of Egypt, and in the Red sea, and in the wilderness forty years.

Central Thought: God had a plan to move the Israelite people out of slavery in Egypt, but it took many years to get the people and Moses, His chosen leader, ready to make the move.



Questions:

1. What was God's plan for Moses?
2. How old was Moses when he went to visit his brethren?
3. What happened on this first visit?
4. Where did Moses hide?
5. How long was Moses in the land of Madian?
6. Where did God say He would send Moses?
7. Had the people refused Moses as their leader?
8. How long did God use Moses as leader of Israel?
9. Why does it sometimes take God a long time to complete His plans?

MEMORY VERSE

And, behold I am with thee . . .
and will bring thee again into
this land; for I will not leave
thee, until I have done that
which I have spoken to thee
of.

Genesis 28:15



Let's Talk

Stephen is still on the witness stand, giving his defense for being accused of blasphemy. He is trying to explain that saying God is going to destroy the temple and set up a new kind of worship is not blasphemy, but it is part of God's plan for them.

"When our fathers were slaves in the land of Egypt," Stephen said, "God wanted to bring them out. He chose Moses as the person to lead them. He caused Moses to be saved from death at a time when the baby boys were being killed at birth. He arranged everything so the Egyptian princess would adopt Moses and educate him as an Egyptian ruler. When Moses was forty years old, he thought he was ready for the job! He went out to visit his people and found a slave master beating one of them. His temper flared! He was called by God to deliver his people. 'When would be a better time to start?' he thought. He struck the slave master and killed him. His brethren fled. Seeing the man lying dead, Moses was fearful of what might happen to him, so he dug a hole in the sand and buried the man.

"The next day, he visited his people again. This time, two of them were fighting. Hoping to make peace between the two, Moses said, 'You should not hurt each other.'

"To his surprise one of the men shouted back, 'Who made you a ruler over us? Are you going to kill us like you did the Egyptian yesterday?'

"Moses was surprised that these men knew what had happened yesterday. He was afraid and discouraged. His people did not want him as their ruler. When King Pharaoh heard what Moses had done he planned to kill Moses. Moses ran away.

"Moses hid away in the land of Madian. In the summer, instead of bathing in the Nile river and resting in the shade, he worked hard tending sheep in

return for shelter and food. Winter came, he tended sheep outside during the months when cold wind, rain, snow and ice sent chills through his body. Year after year Moses worked hard and learned about God. During these forty years while God was preparing Moses' to be a spiritual leader, He was also preparing the Israelite people to accept Moses as their leader.

"Finally the day came that God, through a message from a burning bush, sent Moses back to Egypt. He was now prepared for the job of getting the people out of bondage. Forty more years of severe suffering as slaves had made the people ready to accept this same Moses whom they had rejected before. Eighty years had passed since Moses birth, but God had been working all this time to get everyone ready for the escape.

"When the people were ready, God caused ten miraculous plagues to come upon the Egyptians. After the tenth plague, the Egyptians were wishing to run the Israelites out of their land.

"As God worked in the land of Egypt and sent them a leader, so He has sent us a leader; but, as they refused the leader, so you have refused the leader which God has sent," Stephen said.

Who is the leader that the council had refused? Do you think they know who Stephen is talking about?

—Sis. Charlotte



(Answers: 1. To be a leader of His people. 2. Forty years old. 3. He became angry and killed a slave master. 4. In the land of Madian. 5. Forty years. 6. Back to the land of Egypt. 7. Yes. 8. Forty years. 9. People are not willing to do what God wishes.)

"Mother was about out of flour for bread baking, so one morning my dad put two large sacks of rye grain in the wagon and started to the mill to have it ground into flour. Between our farm and the mill was a river. The bridge across the river had no railings. When we were about half-way across this bridge, the horse stopped. He would not go forward, only backward. My dad cracked the whip. The horse would stop a short while and begin again to back up. Back, back, back he came. I jumped out. He kept coming back until the hind wheels of the wagon went off the bridge. Before anyone could catch it, one sack of grain tipped out and fell into the river below. After a while, some men came and helped my dad lift the wagon back up onto the bridge. Then the bag of grain was fished out of the water and put back on the wagon. However, it was then wet and could not be ground into flour.

"My dad had prayed that morning that God would protect and help him through the day. He wondered why this accident had happened. When he got home and spread out the wet grain to dry, he found several pieces of a broken bottle in the grain. God had protected him from grinding the glass up into the flour by causing the accident in the morning.

"Children, when we ask God to do something, just remember He will do it; but not always the way we may think it should be done."

Mr. Hidden tried three times to get out of the chair, before Mr. Murphey

got there to help him. On the fourth try he was out. He hobbled back to his place while Mr. Murphey announced Mrs. Mary Wagner as the next one to share a life experience.

Mrs. Wagner was short and broad with a perpetual smile. She said, "My mother loved watermelon and I love watermelon. I guess I get that from her. Anyway, when they lived in Danville, Kentucky, while my grandfather was teaching in the college there, she was eating some watermelon and got a seed caught in her windpipe. Grandpa and Granny did everything they knew to do to get it out, but it would not come. Then they rushed her to the doctor who also tried in vain to remove it.

"They waited a few days, hoping the seed would some way come out, but it did not. The seed made her breathing so very difficult that they decided she must be taken to the hospital in another city to have an operation to remove the seed. Mother was afraid; she hated the very thought of having an operation. She began begging for them to try something else. 'Do anything! Just don't let them cut my throat open!' my mother wailed. 'There is no one else to help you; only God,' Granny told her.

"Mother went into the next room and began praying for God to take the seed out. While still praying, she started coughing very hard and out came the seed. It dropped on the floor. She picked it up and ran to show Granny."

(To be continued)



THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 5 Oct. 30, 1988

Black Magic

(Continued from last week)

The *What Would Jesus Do?* group met at Mr. and Mrs. Shoor's house on Thursday night, October 28. Everyone was there. Some dressed in occupational costumes, or costumes of the olden days; other came in regular dress.

"Let us play a game call 'Black Magic', and then I will read a true story about John G. Paton's experience with black magic," Mrs. Shoor said. "It is a true story about people who use the powers of evil to trouble others. Have you ever wondered if a person with black magic powers could harm you? There are many people in the world who are afraid of black magic. Do we need to be fearful of it? Let's see if this story will answer some of these questions."

When the game was finished, Mrs. Shoor started reading the story.

"John Paton worked as a missionary on Tanna, one of the Hebrides Islands. The Hebrides Islands are a group of beautiful scenic islands on the west side of Scotland which are also known as the Western Isles. Here is a map, so you may see where these islands are located. There are 500 islands in this group, but three-fourths are uninhabited. The lifestyle of the natives has changed little in hundreds of years.

"Early one morning Paton heard gun shots. Moments later, a wild-eyed native mission teacher burst into his house

shouting, 'The tribesmen are being murdered at the command of the Sacred Men. The next victims are to be the mission teachers and you.'

"Paton knew what the teacher said was true. It had happened before. The priests of black magic, or Sacred Men, as they were called, had great power, but Paton knew his God had more power. He fell to his knees and began praying for protection and that the mission teachers would not fear but have faith in the real God.

"They locked up the mission house doors and windows and waited anxiously to see what would happen. Several times they saw armed killers slinking around the house. Toward sundown the killers, constrained by God's hand, went away to join other warriors and priests to feast on those killed in the morning.

"For many days Paton and the gospel teachers were in constant danger. Killers armed with huge war clubs constantly prowled in the brush near the mission.

"Afterward, when things seemed to have died down, Paton was conducting a worship service in a local village when three of the Sacred Men jumped to their feet. These men kept the island terrorized with their black magic. 'We do not believe in God!' they shouted. 'We have the power of life and death, rain and drought. We have the power to kill you by Nahak (witchcraft).' The older one

(Continued on page four)

WORDS OF GOLD



Stephen Tells Of Moses' Leadership

Acts 7:37 This is that Moses, which said unto the children of Israel, A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear.

38 This is he, that was in the church in the wilderness with the angel which spake to him in the mount Sina, and with our fathers: who received the lively oracles to give unto us:

39 To whom our fathers would not obey, but thrust him from them, and in their hearts turned back again into Egypt.

40 Saying unto Aaron, Make us gods to go before us: for as for this Moses, which brought us out of the land of Egypt, we wot not what is become of him.

41 And they made a calf in those days, and offered sacrifice unto the idol, and rejoiced in the works of their own hands.

42 Then God turned, and gave them up to worship the host of heaven; as it is written in the book of the prophets, O ye house of Israel, have ye offered to me slain beasts and sacrifices by the space of forty years in the wilderness?

43 Yea, ye took up the tabernacle of Moloch, and the star of your god Remphan, figures which ye made to worship them: and I will carry you away beyond Babylon.

44 Our fathers had the tabernacle of witness in the wilderness, as he had appointed, speaking unto Moses, that he should make it according to the fashion that he had seen.

45 Which also our fathers that came after brought in with Jesus into the possession of the Gentiles, whom God drave

out before the face of our fathers, unto the days of David:

46 Who found favour before God, and desired to find a tabernacle for the God of Jacob.

47 But Solomon built him an house.

48 Howbeit the most High dwelleth not in temples made with hands; as saith the prophet,

49 Heaven is my throne, and earth is my footstool; what house will ye build me? saith the Lord: or what is the place of my rest?

50 Hath not my hand made all these things?

Central Thought: God wanted His people to worship Him with pure love, but they wanted to be like the heathen people. God left them alone and they worshipped idols and evil spirits; however, they suffered severely for this disobedience.



Questions:

1. What important message did Moses give to the children of Israel?
2. Name the person who Moses called a prophet like himself.
3. Can you name some ways they were alike?
4. Was He present when God gave Moses the commandments?
5. What were the "living oracles" which the fathers received?
6. How did God's people treat Moses?
7. What seemed to be the main temptation of the Israelites?
8. What did God do when he became discouraged with the rebellious people?
9. Did the Israelites continue to worship God in a form?

MEMORY VERSE

... Fear God, and give glory to him ... worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.

Revelation 14:7

Let's Talk

Stephen continues explaining that it is not blasphemy to call Jesus the Son of God, for even their leader, Moses, prophesied about Him. "Moses said that this special prophet would be like him, and we know that Moses and Jesus had many things in common. They were both preserved in childhood, contended with masters of evil, fasted forty days, controlled the sea, fed a multitude, had radiant faces, endured murmurings, were discredited in their families, made intercessory prayers, spoke as God to men, had 70 helpers, established rituals of memorials, and reappeared after death.

"Just as the Israelites rejected Moses and wished to return back into the bondage of Egypt from which they had been delivered, so people today like to stay under the bondage of the law of Moses, although God has made a plan for our freedom" Stephen told them. "You all remember how Aaron and the people were worshipping a golden calf when Moses returned from speaking with God on the mount. Moses was only gone forty days, but in that forty days, their hearts had turned again to the old ways of Egypt. God had performed many miracles during the plagues in Egypt, dried up the Red Sea, and given them water and food in the wilderness. These were all forgotten in a moment of desire for excitement.

"God reprov'd, and forgave them many times for similar actions, but they repeatedly turned to idol worship, until God quit troubling them and let them worship the sun, moon, planets and stars. This brought much trouble on them," Stephen said.

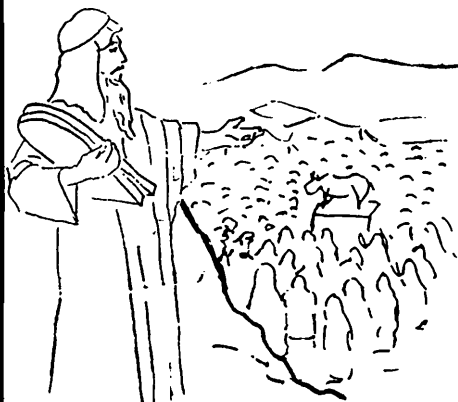
"There is just one more point," he added, "Many people have been blessed through worshipping God in this temple. But there have been times when people worshiped God under the sky at home or in strange places, and God blessed

them also. "The most High dwelleth not in temples made with hands," for the sky is His throne and the earth is His footstool."

Do you think Stephen has said some things that might make the council more angry at him or will they see his point of view?

I can hardly believe that the Israelite people could worship a golden calf after seeing all the miracles that God's invisible Spirit had done in delivering them from slavery. But worshipping a golden calf was what they had seen other people do, and it's really easy to do what we see others do.

Should we be like the Israelites and do the same things others around us are doing?
—Sis. Charlotte



(Answers: 1. That God would raise up a prophet among them, who was like Moses. 2. Jesus. 3. They both were saved from death in childhood, contended with evil spirits, fasted 40 days, controlled the sea, fed a multitude, had radiant faces, made intercessory prayers, had seventy helpers, reappeared after death, etc. 4. Yes. (verse 38). 5. The laws of God which live throughout the ages of time. 6. They rejected him and his teachings. 7. To be like the nations that surrounded them. 8. He quit dealing with them, and let them enjoy worshipping the host of heaven. 9. Yes, they worshiped idol gods to their worship.)

said, 'All we need is a piece of fruit or food from which you have eaten.'

"Paton knew the islanders were careful to destroy all scraps of food and peelings of fruit, lest they be used for Nahak against them. Nahak was the cause of much bloodshed and terror and now Paton asked God's help to fight it. Spying a woman with some plum-like fruit in her hand, he asked, 'May I have some?'

"Paton chose three. From each he took a bite. Then he announced, 'You have seen me eat of this fruit. I will now give the remainder to your Sacred Men. They say they can kill me with Nahak. I challenge them to kill me with black magic or witchcraft, without arrow, spear, or gun. I deny that they have any power against me or against anyone, by their sorcery alone.'

"The natives gasped! They could not believe their brave leader could be so foolish. Everyone hurried away, leaving Paton alone to witness the ritual of the three sorcerers. First they strode to a 'sacred' tree, to roll the pieces of fruit in its leaves. Shaping the rolls like candles, the magicians kindled a fire. Then, waving their arms and chanting words to cast a magic spell, they began burning the candles; blowing on them, whirling them above their heads, and glaring wildly at Paton, as though angry because he had not yet dropped dead.

" 'We will call all our priests together,' they threatened. 'We will kill you before your next Sabbath.'

" 'Very good. If on the next Sabbath I come to this village in health, you must admit your gods have no power over me, and that the living God has protected me from your black magic.'

"During the next week, Paton heard the sea shell trumpets sounding all over the island, summoning the Sacred Men together to brew their black magic. Messengers came daily to inquire about his health. Bewilderment and disappointment showed on their faces when they learned he was feeling well!

"The following Sunday, Paton and his native assistants found an excited

crowd waiting for them in the village. The savages stared at the missionary and in awed whispers, said, 'He is not dead!' Others whispered back, 'He will drop dead any moment.'

"Paton stood upon the trunk of a fallen tree, and addressed the awe-struck crowd. 'Truly my God is stronger than your gods. Your gods do not hear prayers, but my God does. He will hear and answer you if you will love and serve Him. Will you come near and listen to a story about my God?' he invited. The men drew near and sat on the ground. Two of the Sacred Men meekly sat by him. The third, the highest in rank, ran away. Soon he was back, brandishing his spear, and screaming insults at Paton.

"As he leaped at Paton, the missionary appealed to the crowd. 'Of course he can kill me with his spear; but he agreed to slay me by his magic and not with weapons of war.'

"A few days later as Paton was working, the Sacred Man suddenly appeared with his spear poised to throw. Toward the end of the week he appeared again. For many weeks, Paton knew that the Sacred Man was still thirsting for his blood. Everywhere he went, the magician would pop up with his spear poised to throw.

" 'Only God kept that spear from being thrown,' Paton wrote in a letter to his friend. 'I never underestimate the cunning, cruel cannibals who fiercely oppose my evangelizing the New Hebrides Islands. But God has helped me to never give way to panic in the face of constant danger. With courage born of faith in Him, I challenged those enemies of the Lord Jesus Christ, and God gave the victory.' "

"Now we know that black magic is not just a game or demonstrations of tricks, but it is a powerful force of evil and God wants us to treat it as powerful, but trust Him for protection and not be afraid of it," David said.

(To be continued)

"An idle brain is the devil's workshop."

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 6 Nov. 6, 1988

The Beautiful Snow

(Continued from last week)

Mr. Powell was reading the morning newspaper when David came down for breakfast. "There was a story in yesterday's paper you might like to share with your friends," he said.

"What happened?" David asked.

"There it is," he answered, pointing to Sunday's paper in the magazine rack beside his chair. "Read it for yourself. It's on page nine."

David checked the time by his watch and hurriedly read the article. "How sad!" he exclaimed. "But the poem sure is good."

"Yes, I think the girl must have had real talent and some education, too. It's sad she wasted it all. Take the paper along with you today. It would be good to get it printed in the school paper."

"Probably impossible, though. It gives hope in Christ. You know that can't be mentioned anymore in school."

"Good luck," Mr. Powell said. "It's time for me to go to work. See you tonight!"

At school David showed the newspaper to Jim and Sid in their English class. "Miss Dennis might like this," Sid said. "I'll take it to her."

Sid, Jim, Sandy, Jake, and Jim met David after school. They wanted to see the paper. "What did Miss Dennis say about it?" David asked Sid.

"She doesn't want to print anything serious."

"Read it in Junior's meeting on this Thursday night," Jim suggested.

"Okay. Here's Mom. See you later," David answered.

David called Mr. Smith and arranged to read the story and poem in *What Would Jesus Do?* meeting.

After they sang "Whiter Than The Snow" on page 117, in the *Evening Light Songs*, they knelt and prayed. Then Mr. Smith asked David to read the newspaper article.

David stood up and read:

"Another victim is claimed by the sub-zero weather in Ohio. An unidentified woman was found unconscious on the snow behind an apartment house in the 900 block of West Broad, 11:45 p.m., Saturday.

"An ambulance, dispatched to the scene, transported the woman to the Cincinnati County Hospital, where she died at 1:39 a.m., Sunday. Hospital examination showed death from abuse and lengthy exposure to freezing temperatures.

"Hospital reports say she is probably in the early twenties, very attractive, blue eyes, fair skin, and black hair. The body will be transported to the Smith Funeral Home to await burial arrangements. Sergeant John Arms of the Cincinnati police department is asking for information which could lead to the identifying of the body. Please call 241-8690 to volunteer information.

(Continued on page four)

WORDS OF GOLD



Stephen Gives His Life For The Truth

Acts 7:51 Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost: as your fathers did so do ye.

52 Which of the prophets have not your fathers persecuted? and they have slain them which shewed before of the coming of the Just One; of whom ye have been now the betrayers and murderers:

53 Who have received the law by the disposition of angels, and have not kept it.

54 When they heard these things, they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed on him with their teeth.

55 But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up stedfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God,

56 And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God.

57 Then they cried out with a loud voice, and stopped their ears, and ran upon him with one accord,

58 And cast him out of the city, and stoned him: and the witnesses laid down their clothes at a young man's feet, whose name was Saul.

59 And they stoned Stephen, calling upon God, and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.

60 And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

Acts 6:8 And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and miracles among the people.

9 Then there arose certain of the synagogue . . . disputing with Stephen.

12 And they stirred up the people, and the elders, and the scribes, and came upon him, and caught him, and brought him to the council.

Central Thought: Stephen kept a right attitude through his persecution and death, and Jesus stood by him to the end.



Questions:

1. What did Stephen say about their attitude toward the Holy Spirit?
2. What question did he ask about their fathers?
3. Was this question in the form of an accusation?
4. What gross sin had Stephen's accusers done?
5. How did the council respond to the truth that Stephen told them?
6. How did Stephen react to their cruelty?
7. How did the council react when Stephen said he saw Jesus with God?
8. Who took care of the men's coats, as they were stoning Stephen?
9. What were Stephen's last words?

MEMORY VERSE

... He kneeled down and cried with a loud voice, Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. . . .
Acts 7:60



Let's Talk

Stephen gave his life for the TRUTH! He could have backed down and told the council that they were wonderful godly men, like their fathers Abraham, Joseph, and Moses; that Jesus whom they crucified was really a blasphemer and that they were doing good to remove Him from their society. Stephen, however, did not liken them to their holy fathers, but he likened them to their fathers who had rejected, stoned and killed the prophets which God had sent unto them.

Hostility and anger showed in every face. The doctors and lawyers gritted their teeth like animals baring their fangs. They clenched their fists in an attempt to subdue the anger that boiled within. They wanted to kill him that moment but they were considered to be holy men of God. They should stay in control, finish the trial, and pronounce the death sentence in a dignified manner. At Stephen's next words about seeing Jesus at the right hand of God, the mob spirit broke loose! The dignified men slapped their hands over their ears and cried out that they would hear no more! In a fanatical frenzy of hate they bore down upon him. Hurrying him outside the city, they proceeded to stone him without a legal verdict of being guilty.

Those who had witnessed against Stephen were required by Jewish law to throw the first stones. Tearing off their outer garments, they laid them for safe-keeping at the feet of a young man named Saul. Grabbing the nearest large stones, they hurled them with all their fury of hate. The others satisfied their murderous anger in the same manner.

On his knees, bruised, bleeding and battered, Stephen turned his face toward heaven and prayed, "Lord, lay not this sin to their charge."

Nathan Hale was only 21 years old when he was hanged by the British as an American spy. His last request for a

Bible was denied and a letter he had written was destroyed. Hale faced his execution with calmness of mind and spirit which gave him the ability to give a speech. His speech included these words: "I only regret that I have but one life to lose for my country." Noble Nathan Hale chose to give his life for his country.

Patrick Henry in his great speech said, "I know not what course others may take; but as for me, give me liberty, or give me death!" He was never called upon to give his life for liberty, but these words show his willingness to do so.

Thousands of uncelebrated soldiers have given their lives for their country.

Thousands of others have given their lives for less noble causes; some choose to do so, others are by accident. Think how many thousands of people die each year accidentally because of drugs, including alcohol. Many deaths are due to overdoses; these have chosen to take the risk of death rather than do without drugs and accidentally take too much. Others die of disease and sickness related to the use of such drugs. Many people each day are giving their lives for one cause or another.

Just how much do you love righteous principles? Are you willing to suffer for these? Do you love Jesus enough to give your life for Him if you should have to choose between Jesus or death?

—Sis. Charlotte



(Answers: 1. That they always resisted the Holy Spirit. 2. "Which of the prophets have not your fathers persecuted?" 3. I don't believe it was. It was to help them see the truth. 4. They betrayed and murdered the Just One [Jesus]. 5. They gnashed on him with their teeth. 6. He looked steadily up toward heaven and said, "I see the Son of Man [Jesus] standing on the right hand of God." 7. They put their hands over their ears and dragged him out of the city and stoned him. 8. Saul, (who became Apostle Paul). 9. "Lord, lay not this sin to their charge.")

"Tucked inside the woman's gray shirt was a crumpled paper on which was written, in cursive, this poem:

The Beautiful Snow

Oh, the snow, the beautiful snow,
Filling the sky and earth below.
Over the housetops, over the street,
Over the heads of the people you meet;
Dancing—flirting—skimming along.
Beautiful snow! It can do no wrong.

Oh! the snow, the beautiful snow,
How the flakes gather and laugh as they go,
Whirling about in maddening fun;
It plays in its glee with everyone.
Chasing—laughing—hurrying by,
It lights on the face, and it sparkles the eye;
And e'en the dog, with a bark and a bound
Snap at the crystals as they eddy around.

Once I was pure as the snow, but I fell,
Fell like the snowflakes from heaven to hell:

Fell to be trampled as filth on the street,
Fell to be scoffed, to be spit on and beat.

Pleading—cursing—dreading to die,
Selling my soul to whoever would buy;
Dealing in shame for a morsel of bread,
Hating the living and fearing the dead.
Merciful God, have I fallen so low?
And yet I was once like the beautiful snow.

Once I was fair as the beautiful snow,
With eyes like a crystal, a heart like its glow;

Once I was loved for innocent grace—
Flattered and sought for the charm of my face!

Father—mother—sister—all—
God and myself I have lost by my fall.
The veriest wretch that goes shivering by,

Will make a wide sweep lest I wander too nigh.

For all that is on or above me, I know
There's nothing as pure as the beautiful snow.

How strange it should be that this beautiful snow

Should fall on a sinner with nowhere to go!

How strange it should be when night comes again

Fainting—freezing—dying alone—
Too wicked for prayer, too weak for a moan,

To be heard in the streets of the crazy town

Gone mad in the joy of the snow coming down;

To be and to die in my terrible woe,
With a bed and a shroud of the beautiful snow!

Helpless and foul as the trampled snow,
Sinner, despair not! Christ stoopeth low
To rescue the soul that is lost in sin,
And raise it to life and enjoyment again.
Groaning—bleeding—dying for thee,
The Crucified hung on the accursed tree!

His accents of mercy fell soft on thine ear.

"Is there mercy for me? Will He heed my weak prayer?"

Oh God! In the stream that for sinners did flow,

Wash me and I shall be whiter than snow!"

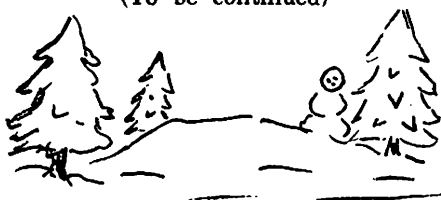
David folded the paper and sat down.

"That poem is sad; yet it has hope. It reminds me of John 3:16. 'For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.' " Sandy said. "God is ready to help and forgive those who are sorry that they have fallen."

"I would like to take that story to our new neighbors. The girl who lives there is depressed most of the time. Maybe that poem would give her some hope," Sarah added.

"We should all let this be a warning to us," Mrs. Smith said. "None of us would like to die from the cold, because of no place to go. Doing what Jesus would do will keep you from falling and suffering like that woman did."

(To be continued)



THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 7 Nov. 13, 1988

True Worth

(Continued from last week)

"Hi, Sid!" Kathy called as Sid came from the journalism room. "Miss Dennis on you again?"

"Yes, she is all upset because I wanted to print that article called 'The Beautiful Snow'. I told her I would rewrite it, but she says it might offend someone who doesn't believe in Christ; a Jew, a Hindu, or someone like that. She never considers how offensive dirty jokes, curse words in articles, and jokes ridiculing God are to the Christians. Almost every paper has more than one such offensive thing, but she thinks that's all right. It just isn't fair!"

"I thought she was going to change after she realized she had lung cancer from smoking so much," Kathy said, as they walked down the hall toward their lockers.

"She did change her attitude a little last spring when she thought she might die, but now that she's feeling better, she is as mean as ever. Maybe I ought to quit the class, but I've always wanted to be a journalist, and I thought I could learn a lot in her class. After all, she does know a lot about editing."

At the next corner, Kathy stopped at her locker. "Hope things don't get any worse," she said.

Sid walked on with his head down. "Thank you," he called back.

It was Tuesday, the day for Kathy, Kim, and Jeannie's evening voice les-

son. They were waiting for Mrs. Shoor to pick them up when Sandy came out of the building crying. "What happened?" the girls asked, almost at the same time.

"That new Home Ec. teacher gave me an 'F' for today and is making me write a 200 word essay on 'Being More Cooperative.' I wish Mrs. Smith was still our teacher! Last year we got to cook, sew, study child behavior and do a lot of fun things. This year all we do is make imaginary decisions. And like today, I couldn't decide."

"Couldn't decide what?" Kim asked.

"Oh, she read this story and we were supposed to rate the characters. I said, 'Ms. Stone, they all did something bad. I can't decide who is better or worse.'"

"Don't you think the girl was being thoughtful and kind to sacrifice that much to help the boy who couldn't see without his glasses?" Guy asked.

"Not if she stole to do it," I said.

"Then the teacher said, 'But that is the only way she could get across the river to help the almost-blind boy.'"

"There is no good reason to steal," I said. "It is better for the boy to be without glasses than for her to steal."

"Then the whole class told me I was mean and cruel. I'm not cruel!"

"We know you aren't," Kathy said, putting her arm over Sandy's shoulder to comfort her.

"She didn't even scold those who said I was cruel and mean! Besides that,

(Continued on page four)

WORDS OF GOLD



Philip Preaches in Samaria

Acts 8:1 At that time there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judaea and Samaria, except the apostles.

3 As for Saul, he made havock of the church, entering into every house, and haling men and women committed them to prison.

4 Therefore they that were scattered abroad went every where preaching the word.

5 Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ unto them.

6 And the people with one accord gave heed unto those things which Philip spake, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did.

7 For unclean spirits, crying with loud voice, came out of many that were possessed with them: and many taken with palsies, and that were lame, were healed.

8 And there was great joy in that city.

9 But there was a certain man, called Simon, which beforetime in the same city used sorcery, and bewitched the people of Samaria, giving out that himself was some great one:

10 To whom they all gave heed, from the least to the greatest saying, This man is the great power of God.

11 And to him they had regard, because that of long time he had bewitched them with sorceries.

12 But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.

13 Then Simon himself believed also: and when he was baptized, he continued with Philip, and wondered, beholding the miracles and signs which were done.

14 Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John:

Central Thought: Persecution has proved a blessing in getting the gospel spread to other cities and countries.



Questions:

1. What caused the people to scatter throughout the regions of Judaea and Samaria?
2. What was Saul doing to the Church?
3. What did the scattered Church do?
4. Where did Philip go?
5. Did the people of Samaria like what they heard?
6. How do we know the people liked the gospel?
7. What unusual person did Philip baptize?
8. Why do you think the people believed Philip's preaching?
9. Who did the Apostles send to help Philip?

MEMORY VERSE

... They that were scattered
... went every where preaching
the word. Acts 8:4



The Jews and the Samaritans had been enemies for many, many years but Jesus ministered to the Samaritan people when He taught them at Jacob's well. Now the Apostles are doing the same. Not only did the Jews hate the Samaritans, but the Samaritans also hated the Jews. Luke 9:51-56 records an account of the Samaritans not wanting Jesus and His disciples to stay overnight in their villages.

The Jews would not obligate themselves to any business or religious dealings with the Samaritans. They would not borrow, nor would they drink from the same cup or from the same well, they would not eat at the same table nor use the same cooking dishes as the Samaritans. The most unmerciful wish of the Jews for the Samaritans was that they might have no part in the resurrection; in other words, that they would be annihilated.

Philip, being filled with the loving Holy Spirit of God, had no such desires. He wanted them to hear about Jesus and have a part in the resurrection. He left Jerusalem and went into their country and preached. He had compassion on those who were sick, lame, or possessed with devils and through God's power delivered them. The Samaritans were happy to accept the teaching of Philip. They believed that Jesus was the Saviour and were baptized.

These people had for many years believed a man named Simon to be a great man of God, for he had bewitched them by doing magic things using witchcraft. After they heard the truth, they saw the difference and were baptized. Simon also believed and was baptized. He then followed Philip around and saw the miracles and wonders which God did through Philip.

Do you think Philip could have worked miracles among the Samaritans if he had kept any of the old Jewish ideas of

intolerance toward the Samaritans? A worker for God must have a great love and compassion for those with whom he is working. He must have so much compassion that he hurts when they hurt.

Moses had that kind of compassion for the people he was leading. One time God was angry with them for building and worshipping a golden calf. Moses prayed for them, saying, "If thou wilt forgive their sin . . . and if not, blot me, I pray thee, out of thy book." Of course God would not do that, but it shows Moses' love.

How much love do you have? Do you have enough to not hold old family prejudice against races? God needs workers who will love people for what they can become and not for what any of their relations have been or what they are at this time. The divine love of God sees what a person can become after salvation has washed away all their sins.

God help us to become like Philip and be able to love anyone, even an enemy.

—Sis. Charlotte

INASMUCH

"Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." (Matthew 25:40).

We cherish forever in heart and mind
This message the Saviour taught;
A privilege daily for we who serve
Is carried within the thought.

For all that we do in Jesus' name,
Whenever a need we see,
We hear Him say in words so clear,
"Ye do it as unto me."

We'll follow the Saviour from day to day
And count it a privilege true
That as we serve in His blessed name
"Tis service for Him we do. —Sel.

(Answers: 1. Persecution. 2. He was making havoc of the Church and putting both men and women in prison. 3. They went everywhere preaching the gospel. 4. To Samaria. 5. Yes. 6. They were happy (verse 8) and they were baptized (verse 12). 7. Simon, the sorcerer. 8. Because God healed the sick, the crippled and those possessed with evil spirits. 9. Peter and John.)

Mom gives me \$5.00 for every "A" I get on my report card. That is how I have money to give for feeding the hungry. I use most of my allowance buying little things for the poor children who come to Sunday School. Mr. Sheldon has lowered my grades in social studies, and now Home Ec."

"Just one "F" may not keep you from getting an "A" on your report card."

"She's given me a "D" lots of times when I wouldn't do other things that I thought Jesus wouldn't do. She says that I am too judgmental when I say that drugs, alcohol, and immorality are wrong. But it's all right for her to judge me and let the others in the class do it, too!" She wiped tears from her cheeks and covered her face just as her mother turned into the school driveway.

"Here's your mother," Kim said. "Be strong, please! We're praying for you."

Mrs. Shoor was right behind Mrs. Wilshire. On the way to their voice lesson, they told her what had happened to Sandy that day. "I wonder why she is having so much more trouble than the rest of you?"

"I had my troubles last year when I dropped swimming class," Kim reminded her.

"And remember those movies," added Jeannie.

"Jim had lots of trouble with Miss Dennis; and Sid's had trouble with her just today. He wanted to print that poem about the girl who went wrong and died with a paper tucked inside her shirt, on which was written the poem of her life. Oh, Mrs. Shoor, you should have heard that poem! It was bitter sweet."

Jeannie laughed. "How can a poem be bitter sweet?" she asked.

"It told about the bitter unhappiness that the girl had because of her fall into sin, and then it told of the sweetness of Jesus' saving grace. Isn't that bitter sweet?"

"I guess it is."

"I hope you girls and your friends will not let these troubles cause you to quit trying to do what Jesus would do. There is nothing better than doing the

right. I remember a poem I memorized when I was a girl. It goes like this:

True worth is in being, not seeming—
In doing, each day that goes by,
Some little good—not in dreaming
Of great things to do by and by.
For whatever men say in their blindness
And in spite of the fancies of youth,
There's nothing so kingly as kindness,
And nothing so royal as truth.

"We get back our mete as we measure—
We cannot do wrong and feel right,
Nor can we give pain and gain pleasure
For justice avenges each slight.
The air for the wing of the sparrow;
The bush for the robin and wren;
But always the path that is narrow,
And straight for the children of men."

"You girls have not been dreaming of doing good; but you have been doing good like Jesus would, and that's one of the reasons I am saved today," Mrs. Shoor said. "Remember, 'always the path that is narrow and straight for the children of men.'"

(To be continued)

Today's Furrow

Sow the shining seeds of service
In the furrows of each day,
Plant each one with serious purpose,
In a hopeful, tender way.
Never lose one seed, nor cast it
Wrongly with a hurried hand;
Take full time to lay it wisely,
Where and how thy God hath planned.

This the blessed way of sharing
With another soul your gains,
While though losing life, you find it
Yielding fruit on golden plains;
For the soul which sows its blessings
Great or small, in word or smile,
Gathers as the Master promised,
Either here or afterwhile.

—Selected

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 8 Nov. 20, 1988

For What Are You Thankful

(Continued from last week)

"See you tonight," Jim said to Sid as they left wood-shop and headed for their lockers.

"What's going on tonight?"

"Remember? *What Would Jesus Do* meeting will be tonight because we missed the Thursday of Thanksgiving."

"Glad you reminded me, but if it keeps on snowing I may not get to come. Mother doesn't like to drive when the roads are slick."

"Give me a call if she won't and Mom will come and get you."

Later, at the meeting, Mr. Smith suggested opening the service by kneeling to pray. David led in prayer.

When they finished praying, Mr. Smith asked that each one thank God for something. Jeannie was first to offer thanks. She said, "I am thankful for many things. First of all that God has given me strength to do what I believe Jesus would do. Last year I had lots of trouble at home, because Daddy and Mother were not saved, but this year my biggest problem has been headaches, but thank God for healing the tumor that caused the headaches. I also want to thank each of you for praying for me. I am sure that I am well today, partly because all of you prayed so earnestly for me. I am also thankful God helped Daddy to do what he thought God wanted him to do.

"We had Thanksgiving with his family and you should have heard Uncle Bill, Grandpa, and Aunt Lissa telling him he was crazy for selling his business and putting the money into printing Bibles. But I'm real happy he did. Dad told them, 'Reading the Bible has helped me so much that I want others to have a chance to read it too.' Uncle Elvie laughed and said, 'Anyone who wants to read the Bible can buy one at the secondhand store.'"

"Dad said, 'How about the languages in which the Bible has never been printed? Also, many countries have only a few Bibles; there sure aren't any to be bought in a thrift shop in those countries.' I'm so glad my dad will be printing Bibles this year." Jeannie finished talking and sat down.

Kim stood up. She said, "I thank God that He has helped me to hold a decent moral standard this year. It has been hard, especially with so many 'decision making' classes in which standards are discussed. Most of the students and the teachers seem to think that everyone will lie, cheat or steal once in a while. I know they think I'm proud when I say I don't, and they really are watching to see if I will. God has helped me to be true, for which I am very thankful. I am also thankful He helped me to learn how to live without chocolate."

Everyone laughed about the chocolate, they knew how much she loved it. Jim Meed unwrapped his legs from the chair

(Continued on page four)

WORDS OF GOLD



Peter and John Help Philip

Acts 8:14 Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John:

15 Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost:

16 (For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.)

17 Then laid they their hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost.

18 . . . he [Simon] offered them money.

19 Saying, Give me also this power, that on whomsoever I lay hands, he may receive the Holy Ghost.

20 But Peter said unto him, Thy money perish with thee, because thou hast thought that the gift of God may be purchased with money.

21 Thou hast neither part nor lot in this matter: for thy heart is not right in the sight of God.

22 Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee.

23 For I perceive that thou art in the gall of bitterness, and in the bond of iniquity.

24 Then answered Simon, and said, Pray ye to the Lord for me, that none of these things which ye have spoken come upon me.

25 And they, when they had testified and preached the word of the Lord, returned to Jerusalem, and preached the gospel in many villages of the Samaritans.

Isaiah 52:3 For thus saith the Lord, Ye have sold yourselves for nought; and ye shall be redeemed without money.

55:1 Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.

Central Thought: The gifts and the blessings of the Spirit can not be bought with money.



Questions:

1. Where did Peter and John go?
2. What did they pray about?
3. Did the Christians at Samaria receive the Holy Ghost?
4. Had they been baptized?
5. What did Simon notice?
6. What did Simon try to buy?
7. How did Peter rebuke him?
8. What was Simon's second request?
9. In what places did the Apostles preach before returning to Jerusalem?

MEMORY VERSE

. . . Thy money perish with thee because thou hast thought that the gift of God may be purchased with money.

Acts 8:20



Let's Talk

Simon watched Philip as he cast out devils and healed the sick and lame. "There is power in the name of Jesus," he thought. "I believe Jesus is the Son of God. There could not be this much power in His name if He was not God's Son." So Simon believed on the Lord Jesus Christ and was baptized by Philip. As Philip went from place to place healing and helping, Simon went along with him.

The Apostles heard about Philip working with the people of Samaria and they sent Peter and John down to help him. Peter and John found out that none of the Samaritans had received the Holy Spirit. They prayed, then laid hands on the people and God sent the Holy Spirit. Simon was amazed at what he saw!

"Take this money," he said to Peter, "and give me power that on whomever I lay hands, they too will receive the Holy Spirit."

"Your heart isn't right with God," Peter said. "You have no part with us in this. Repent and perhaps God will forgive you."

With fear, Simon cried, "Please, pray for me."

Peter said that Simon was wrong, although he may not have realized it until Peter told him. Simon believed on Jesus and was baptized, but his heart was not right.

There are many believers whose heart is not right with God. They need to repent of wrong thinking and actions. Some believers like to dress up and look proud. But Proverbs 6:16, 17 states that God hates a proud look so we know they are doing things God hates. Some believers are living in adultery. God's law says, "Thou shalt not commit adultery," so we know they are not obeying God's laws. Jesus said, "If you would enter into life, keep the commandments." Yes, there are many who believe that

Jesus is the Son of God, and are baptized, but they are like Simon, they have some repenting to do if they are to have a part in eternal life.

Each of us needs to be very careful that we do not begin thinking wrong and be led away from God also. It is easy to have an attitude like Simon's, not that we would try to pay money for the gift of God, oh no, we know better than that! But how about doing good things to cover up for some mean thing, instead of admitting guilt for the wrong. We are trying to pay with our good deed for the bad one. It may make the person wronged feel better toward you, but it will never gain us favor with God. Only a sorrowful heart for wrongs will bring again God's favor.

—Sis. Charlotte

GIFTS OF JESUS

What does Jesus give to you?
What does He give to me—
Let's be thoughtful now and peek
Into our hearts to see!

Jesus gives us BLESSINGS
Of the very finest worth,
Parents, relatives, and friends
To make glad our days on earth.

Jesus gives us JOY
Because He loved us so
He gave His life upon the cross
Many years ago.

Jesus gives us PEACE
For we can trust in Him
We know then He will take
Away our every sin.

There's no friend like Jesus,
No better friend to know;
He will guide, and safely lead us
Wherever we may go.

—M. N. Freeman

(Answers: 1. To Samaria to help Philip. 2. For the Samaritans to receive the Holy Spirit. 3. Yes (but they did not speak in tongues). 4. Yes, by Philip. 5. That the Holy Ghost was received when the Apostles laid on hands. 6. Power. 7. He said, "You and your money perish. Your heart is not right and you have no part in this. 8. He said, "Pray for me!" 9. In many villages of Samaria.)

on which he was sitting and stood his full six feet. "I thank God He has blessed me to discipline myself to read and pray each morning. Dad keeps me busy after school and I had a battle making time to meet my friend, Jesus, every day. Last year those problems at school over the newspaper kept me praying. This year I'm not in that class and without all those problems, I wasn't praying like I should. I also thank God that He gave Mrs. Powell courage to get us started saving and giving."

Sandy thanked God for giving her courage to accept a lower grade in Social Studies rather than read something Jesus would not read; and for helping her overcome bitterness against Ms. Stone and the students in the Home-Ec class who were hurting her. "I also brought a poem to share," she said. "The name of this poem is:

Manners

"Do you wish the world were better?
Let me tell you what to do,
Set a watch upon your actions,

"Keep them always straight and true.
Rid your mind of selfish motives,
Let your thoughts be clean and high,
You can make a little Eden,
On the earth you occupy."

"I thank God that He is helping each of us to make the world better by doing what Jesus would do."

David spoke next. "I guess I have thanksgiving and a little confession to make. At first I didn't like having to eat the nutritious, economical foods that Mom served. But I thank God He has helped me learn to enjoy them. I believe it is what Jesus would do, but doing what Jesus would do isn't always easy. I think this has helped Nancy a lot too. You want to tell them?" he said looking at her.

"Yes, I thank God He helped me to overcome poor eating habits that were causing me to stay fat. I was beginning to hate myself, but now I feel much better. I thank God too that He has helped others who were discouraged about living for God because of their

weight. They have learned that God plans for some people to be fat because of the way He made their body. If each of us will do what we believe Jesus would do, then we can be happy the way God made us."

Bert White was next to stand and give his testimony. "I will read from Psalms 100 'Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness: come before his presence with singing. Know ye that the lord he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and praise his name. For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations.' "

"Now I want to thank God for helping me keep a standard of holiness in the school where I go. . . . I know most of you do not understand that I, too, have to stand alone many times for Bible standards. I have found that many who say they are Christians believe that all men are bound to sin, and that doing what Jesus would do is impossible! Remember, some of us and our parents thought it was impossible too. When I do what I believe Jesus would do, the other students and teachers think I am odd. I am also thankful that God helps me to see the error in the way they explain the scriptures. I enjoy going to a Christian school, it is like heaven compared to where most of you go."

"I am glad you can go to a Christian school. I think next year we may put Hoel in that school too," Mrs. Smith said.

Hoel spoke up, "I have a better plan. Let's just have our own Christian school."

"Yes, let's do!" they all shouted.

"Well, it's something to think about," Mr. Smith added. "Mrs. Smith and I could be teachers, if I could get this house paid off so we could get by on a low income. But right now, how about dismissing so you all can play in the snow awhile before your parents come."

(To be continued)

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 9 Nov. 27, 1988

Feeding the Hungry

(Continued from last week)

Mr. and Mrs. Jones (Sid's parents) sat down to eat a roast beef dinner. "Where is Sid?" Mr. Jones asked.

"He's gone to the *What Would Jesus Do* meeting," Mrs. Jones answered.

"It's awfully stormy for him to be out!"

"I know, but he just didn't think he could miss. They are planning a Christmas gathering for the needy children of our town."

"Well, I'm surprised you took him on these icy streets!"

"I didn't! Mrs. Meed came after him. She said she would bring him home. She was driving Mr. Meed's front wheel drive pickup with those heavy snow tires."

"She'll make it alright. You know, Linda, since Sid's got mixed up with that *What Would Jesus Do* group, he's a different boy. It sure has had a good effect on him."

"I just hope he doesn't go too far, and let pleasing Jesus be on his mind so much that he can't be a normal happy boy."

"I know what you mean. I think his convictions are playing on my mind, too. I was just thinking, while we are enjoying all this good food there may be people right in our own town that are hungry and cold tonight. How can we be so unconcerned about other's needs."

"But we can't let other's trouble get us down. We have our own family to

take care of. I always have more to do than I can get done. How can we find time to help others? And we can barely pay our bills now."

"I know. Just today Mr. Davis told me that Hank Badgerrow has been off work for over two months. It seems he's had a heart attack, but he has no insurance and can't get any disability because the heart attack wasn't job related. I think his wife has gotten a job, but she can't make enough to help his dad and mom too."

Mrs. Jones didn't answer. She went on washing dishes. Mr. Jones picked up the newspaper and sat in his favorite recliner and read.

Sid came home at 10:00 p.m. and they all went to bed.

At midnight Mr. Jones woke up. Mr. and Mrs. Badgerrow (Hank's parents) were on his mind. He got up and looked out the window. Snow covered the ground and was falling from the tree branches as the sharp wind lashed the branches. "It must be cold out there," he mused, then went back to bed. He lay still, trying to fall asleep again, but Mr. Badgerrow was heavy on his mind. He turned over and began counting sheep as he heard people did when they couldn't go to sleep. The wind whistled around the house. Mr. Jones covered his head to keep out the noise. The wind seemed to say, "Your neighbor needs help." He rolled to the other side and hunted for sleep.

(Continued on page four)

WORDS OF GOLD



Philip Baptizes A Queen's Treasurer

New Word: *Ethiopian*: A person from Ethiopia, a country in northeastern Africa.

Acts 8:26 And the angel of the Lord spake unto Philip, saying, Arise, and go toward the south unto the way that goeth down from Jerusalem unto Gaza, which is desert.

27 And he arose and went: and, behold, a man of Ethiopia, an eunuch of great authority under Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who had the charge of all her treasure, and had come to Jerusalem for to worship,

28 Was returning, and sitting in his chariot read Esaias the prophet.

29 Then the Spirit said unto Philip, Go near, and join thyself to this chariot.

30 And Philip ran thither to him, and heard him read the prophet Esaias, and said, Understandest thou what thou readeest?

31 And he said, How can I, except some man should guide me? And he desired Philip that he would come up and sit with him.

32 The place of the scripture which he read was this, He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and like a lamb dumb before his shearer, so opened he not his mouth:

33 In his humiliation his judgment was taken away: and who shall declare his generation? for his life is taken from the earth.

34 And the eunuch answered Philip, and said, I pray thee, of whom speaketh the prophet this? of himself, or of some other man?

35 Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus.

36 And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized?

37 And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.

38 And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him.

Central Thought: Philip was directed by God to teach Christ to a stranger who desired to know about Him.

Success

"Set yourself earnestly to see what you were made to do, and then set yourself earnestly to do it." —Selected

Questions:

1. Who called Philip to go into the desert?
2. Who did Philip meet there?
3. What was the Ethiopian doing?
4. Can you quote some of what he was reading?
5. Of whom do you think he was reading?
6. Of whom did Philip preach?
7. What did the man do after believing in Christ?
8. What seemed strange about finding water for baptizing?
9. What shows that the baptism was not just a ceremony of sprinkling water?

MEMORY VERSE

And he [Jesus] said unto them,
Go ye into all the world, and
preach the gospel to every
creature. Mark 16:15

Let's Talk

Philip was directed of God to go into the desert where he met the treasurer of Queen Candace of Ethiopia. Philip was able to explain the Scriptures to the Ethiopian who believed and was baptized by him. If Philip had not followed the leadings of the Holy Spirit, he would not have been near the beautiful chariot in the desert to hear the man reading. The man had come a long way from Ethiopia to Jerusalem to worship under the form of the Mosaic Law, but had not yet heard that God, through Jesus the Saviour, had come with a much better plan for worship. This man who was so very interested in salvation could have easily returned to his country and never heard of Christ. What a slim chance he had to hear the truth.

What if Philip had not gone to the desert? What if he had taken a long look at the plush chariot and thought to himself, "This man is a dignitary, he has fame, riches and honor, He will not want to become a humble follower of Christ. Besides that, I am just a poor uneducated nobody. He won't listen to me."

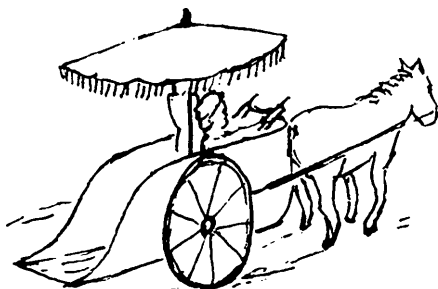
The devil likes for Christians to think that the rich have all they want and do not wish to hear the gospel. But some rich people are very unhappy and need and want to hear of this happy way of living that we know about.

The devil also likes for us to think that people who are famous do not want to hear about Jesus. But, I just recently read about a boy who learned to play the guitar very well. He studied hard and worked long hours mastering it. Finally the time came for him to perform. It was a great success! Calls came from all over the country and foreign countries. Instantly he became famous and rich, however, he was not very happy. After a few years of gathering all the money he would need for the rest of his life, he bought a large ranch

in the mountains, thinking he would hunt, fish and enjoy the great outdoors. He couldn't find lasting happiness doing only the things he liked best. One day someone offered him a New Testament and told him that knowing Jesus would bring satisfaction. He began reading the New Testament and praying. He found real happiness and now his desire is to sing and play gospel songs. What if the man had not shared Jesus with him?

People with authority in elected government positions also have a great need of knowing Jesus so they can have wisdom for decision making. The Holy Spirit is still leading persons, as He did Philip, to share Jesus with those whom God is already talking to. Are we willing to be directed by the Holy Spirit?

—Sis. Charlotte



Courage

Mortals, that would follow me,
Love Virtue; she alone is free;
She can teach you how to climb;
Higher than the sphery clime;
Or, if Virtue feeble were,
Heaven itself would stoop to her.
—From *Comus* by John Milton, a blind poet.

(Answers: 1. An angel from God. 2. An Ethiopian who was the queen's treasurer. 3. Reading a portion of the Old Testament. 4. "He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and like a lamb dumb before his sheers, so opened he not his mouth: In his humiliation his judgment was taken away: and who shall declare his generation? for his life is taken from the earth." 5. Jesus. 6. Jesus. 7. He was baptized. 8. They were in a desert. 9. Both men went down into the water.)

Two sleepless hours later, he shook Mrs. Jones, "I can't sleep for thinking of Mr. Badgerrow. He must be in great need, or else I'm going crazy!"

"What did you say?" she questioned sleepily.

"I said, 'I think I'm going crazy,' because I have this notion in my head that Mr. and Mrs. Badgerrow are starving to death. I haven't slept for hours."

"You're all right, you just had a bad dream that you can't shake."

"I didn't have any dream," he muttered.

"Then maybe you'd better go see about them. If you really want to go, I'll get a bag of groceries ready for you. I can send some cooked food too."

"Get it ready! I'm going," he said as he began dressing.

He started the car to let it warm up while Mrs. Jones put pancake mix, eggs, milk, dry beans, canned green beans, tomatoes, frozen corn, hamburger meat, two chickens, a loaf of bread and some butter in a sack. She set a ten pound bag of potatoes beside the sack. In a cardboard box she put roast beef, potatoes, carrots, gravy, and half a cake.

Putting these in the car, Mr. Jones backed out of his drive. He turned his car to the left to straighten it up and the car started sliding. Off a little bank it went and he was stuck! He tried and tried to get it out. Finally he came back into the house. "Where are those insulated fur-lined boots I bought last year?" he asked. "I'm going to walk. I just can't give up now."

"Walk a mile in this storm?"

"Yes, it's either walk or go crazy. I'll just take the cooked food. We can take the other tomorrow."

When he knocked on the door, Mrs. Badgerrow opened it. He could see old Mr. Badgerrow on his knees. The old man, hearing the noise, looked around and got up. Then, holding up both hands, he shouted, "You are God sent! We have not one mouthful of food in this house. I know God answered prayer."

"Sit down and eat while I visit with you. Tomorrow I will bring more." Mr. Jones urged. They visited until it was

getting light. Mr. Jones didn't want to walk back in the dark.

On his way home he went by Sid's grandparents's house. He stopped in. "What brings you here so early?" his mother asked. "And where is your car?"

"It's stuck in the driveway at home."

"Do you need help to get it out so you can go to work?"

I'm calling in for the day off, so I can 'feed the hungry' today. I've been over to see about old Mr. and Mrs. Badgerrow, and found them without a bit of food in the house."

"You walked over there?"

"Yes, and I am ashamed that I didn't go sooner. It's terrible that these good neighbors have suffered so."

"It surely is. If we had known we would have gone over. I wonder why his son hasn't called us."

"They probably don't have a telephone. He's had a heart attack and not had work in a long, long time."

"I'd better be going. Linda will think I froze to death along the way. Bye now."

Mr. Jones told Mrs. Jones and Sid about the condition he had found Mr. and Mrs. Badgerrow in. After eating a hot breakfast, he called Mr. Meed and asked for the day off, then went to bed.

Sid brought in the groceries from the car. The warmth of the car had kept them from freezing. The phone rang. "Hello," Sid answered. "Oh, Grandpa? Yes. You say all the neighbors are going to have a grocery shower for them? And bring wood, blankets and anything? That's great! I'll tell all the *What Would Jesus Do* gang, too. They will be glad to 'feed the hungry!'"

As they were getting ready for bed after the shower, Mr. Jones said, "This experience has taught me some lessons. I want you to know that I am a Christian now."

(To be continued)

"No one is useless in this world who lightens the burdens of another."

—Selected

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 10 Dec. 4, 1988

Gifts For Giving

(Continued from last week)



The *What Would Jesus Do* group met at the Smith's home for their usual Thursday night meeting. Mr. Smith led the group in a lesson about giving. "It is more blessed to give than to receive," he read from Acts 20:35. Each of you have been doing great, saving money for the poor. You have taken this responsibility and duty like grown men and women. Your offerings to India, Africa and the Philippines have been received with thankful hearts. You may never be able to go to any of those countries and see for yourself how the money has been a blessing; but you will be rewarded just the same. Mrs. Smith has a letter from Africa in her hand right now. Would you like to read it?"

Mrs. Smith read the letter.

Dear Brethren,

This letter is sent to you in regard to the Bibles received as of the day 27 of Oct. They were greatly welcomed, as some of the brethren do not have a Bible from which to read. The Bibles will be carefully distributed to those who will the most appreciate them.

Again I wish to say 'Thank you' and will you please thank those lovely young people who made this wonderful gift to us possible.

Your brother in Christ,
Philip De John

"I think it's neat to get letters from people in foreign countries," Jeannie said.

"Yes, it is good. We give a blessing, and we get a blessing. That's the way the Christian life is; giving and getting blessings all the way," Mr. Smith said.

"Is the *Nutrition for Missions* worth the effort you had to put into it?" Mrs. Smith asked.

"I think it is the greatest thing we have done since we decided to do only what Jesus would do," David said.

"Me too," Sid agreed. "Just look what could have happened to Mr. and Mrs. Badgerrow if we hadn't started feeding the hungry. Dad said he went over there that night mostly because his attitude about the poor had changed so much since we started our project of helping others. It's so different around home now that Dad is a Christian too!"

Jim Meed unfolded his long legs and stood up. "Things are really swell around our house, too. Everything is centered around doing what Jesus would do and helping others. Dad was afraid that Mom would lose control of her weight if she quit *Weight Watchers*, but she hasn't. You know I believe everything we give to God, we are repaid more than we give." He folded his legs back up and sat down.

David said, "I think the Bible says, 'If we give we will get again 100%, and that our basket will be full to running over.'"

(Continued on page four)

WORDS OF GOLD



Apostle Paul (Saul) is Saved

Acts 9:1 And Saul, yet breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord, went unto the high priest,

2 And desired of him letters to Damascus to the synagogues, that if he found any of this way, whether they were men or women, he might bring them bound unto Jerusalem.

3 And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven:

4 And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?

5 And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks.

6 And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do.

7 And the men which journeyed with him stood speechless, hearing a voice, but seeing no man.

8 And Saul arose from the earth; and when his eyes were opened, he saw no man: but they led him by the hand, and brought him into Damascus.

9 And he was three days without sight, and neither did eat nor drink.

10 And there was a certain disciple at Damascus, named Ananias; and to him said the Lord in a vision, Ananias. And he said, Behold, I am here, Lord.

11 And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the street which is called Straight, and enquire in the house of Judas for one called Saul, of Tarsus: for, behold, he prayeth.

12 And hath seen in a vision a man named Ananias coming in, and putting his hand on him, that he might receive his sight.

13 Then Ananias answered, Lord, I have heard by many of this man, how much evil he hath done to thy saints at Jerusalem:

14 And here he hath authority from the chief priests to bind all that call on thy name.

Central Thought: Saul is convicted by the Holy Spirit and becomes obedient to Jesus.



Questions:

1. What was Saul doing?
2. Where was Saul going?
3. What did Saul see?
4. Who spoke to Saul?
5. In what ways did Saul's attitude change?
6. How many days did Saul fast and pray?
7. Who in Damascus had a vision?
8. What did God tell Ananias to do?
9. How did Ananias answer God?

MEMORY VERSE

And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?

Acts 9:6



Let's Talk

The fury of the persecution in Jerusalem increased. Saul (later called Paul) spoke cleverly and shrewdly in the synagogues against the beliefs of the disciples.

Accompanied by a strong-armed squad, Saul set out for Damascus. He had been working at such a mad pace that thus far he had not let himself think seriously. But on the long journey his active mind could not be kept in leash and his conscience could not be stilled. The lash marks across bare backs, and dying Stephen's shining face as he asked forgiveness of God for his executioners must have haunted him. He battled stubbornly against the unwelcome thoughts that he might be in the wrong! On and on he pressed on the long desert road that led to Damascus. (Read the story in Acts 26:9-18.)

In the middle of the day, as they were nearing Damascus, suddenly there flashed around them a flame of brilliant light. It struck Saul to the ground and distinctly a voice called him by name.

"Saul, Saul," the voice said, "why persecutest thou me? It is hard for thee to kick against the pricks."

Instantly Saul realized he was kicking like a stubborn ox against his conscience. But who was this mysterious speaker who revealed to him the secret of his inner struggle?

Without raising his face, nor opening his eyes, Saul asked, "Who art thou, Lord?"

"I am Jesus of Nazareth, whom thou persecutest," answered the voice.

"It is true then!" Saul thought. This Jesus who had been put to death upon a Roman cross is alive. He is risen from the dead, as his disciples claim. All of Saul's arguments were shattered. He was wrong! Those whom he had hounded to prison and death were right! He knew the truth now, for he had seen

the risen Lord and was talking with Him.

Saul was trembling. He surrendered! Humbly he asked, "Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?"

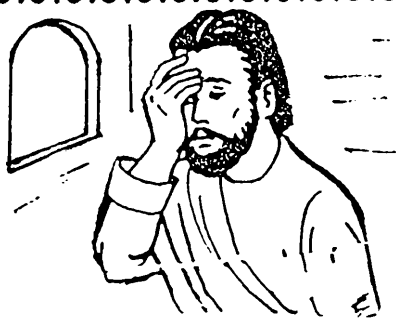
He was told to go into Damascus to Judas' house and there he would learn what to do. Saul opened his eyes. He could see nothing! His companions, who had also seen the light, led him by the hand into the city.

Straight Street ran through Damascus from east to west. It was thronged with camels, donkeys, and people, but Saul saw none of them. His strong-armed men guided his groping steps to the house of Judas, who lived on that street.

There he stayed all the rest of that day and the two days following. Saul lay there in total darkness, refusing both food and drink. During those long hours of blindness, he was thinking and praying. He felt remorse for how he had treated Jesus' followers.

He would now give up the career he had planned for himself as a great rabbi; the career for which he had studied and dreamed. He would become a humble follower of Jesus whom he had persecuted.

(Adapted from *Youth Explores The Bible*, by David R. Piper)



(Answers: 1. Persecuting Jesus' followers. 2. To Damascus. 3. A light from heaven. 4. Jesus. 5. His hateful cruel feelings toward Jesus changed into awesome respect. 6. Three. 7. Ananias. 8. To go lay hands on Saul that he would regain his sight. 9. He said that he had heard of the evil Saul had done to the saints at Jerusalem and that Saul came with authority to do the same in Damascus.)

"I have that Scripture right here," Sandy said. "It's found in Luke 6:38. It reads like this: 'Give and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together,' Jesus has a lot to say about giving, but I'm sorry, David, you go ahead and talk."

"That's all I had to say, glad you had the Scripture handy."

"If we are ready to change the subject, I think Mrs. Smith has some suggestions about Christmas," Mr. Smith said.

The Juniors nodded their heads in approval.

"Okay, Mrs. Smith," he said.

"I have thought about doing something for the Senior Citizens who shared their stories with us, as well as for those who have no family near them. Mrs. Drake and Mr. Moon are two of those; then there is Miss Cottrel, John Berch, and Foster Hill. That is fifteen persons and there are fifteen Juniors. We could each take one person and make a gift for them, if possible."

"Will this be in place of drawing names to buy each other a gift like we did last year?" Kim asked.

"That is what I thought, if that is alright with each of you. Do you all like this idea?"

"I do," Tony said, "I want to get a black horse pulling a wagon for Mr. Hidden."

"That's a good idea!" Hoel agreed. "Maybe you could build a bridge and have the wagon falling off."

"What do the rest of you think?" Mrs. Smith asked.

"I like it," Kathy said, "but I wonder if the other old people will feel badly if we take gifts to only certain ones."

"Yes, I had thought of that. Each one will need to take their gifts to the home individually. If some of your parents can't take you out, I will take you as I take Hoel. Yes, we will need to be careful and not offend anyone. Are there other questions? Will this work a hardship on anyone?"

"My mother is already making little quilts for them to put over their legs while they are sitting," John Hardin

said. "She says they feel warmer with something over their laps."

"How wonderful!" Mrs. Smith exclaimed. "That will make a good gift."

"I think we all agree this is a good idea. Will we draw names to decide for whom we will be responsible?"

"That will be fine," Mrs. Smith said.

"But I want to buy for Mr. Hidden," Tony said.

"Maybe you will get his name or can trade with someone for it."

Mrs. Smith put the names on small pieces of paper and put them in a box. She held the box above the eyes of the person who was getting a name.

Sarah drew Mr. Hidden's name, so she traded Tony for Mrs. Rexon's.

"What are you going to get for Mrs. Raxon?" Sandy asked Sarah as they left the Smith home.

"I don't know," Sarah answered. "I don't have much money right now. I'm having to help Mom because she has to get new car tags and save to pay the house taxes."

"I can make something for her," Sandy offered. "I would love to."

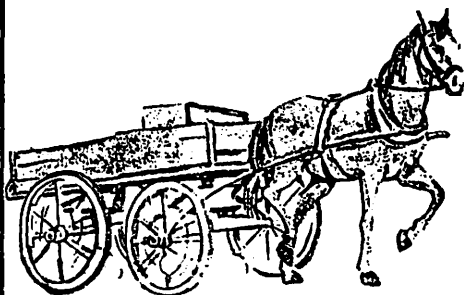
"What could you make?"

"I might crochet a lap robe, or some shoes," Sandy said.

"What would I do without you, Sandy? You've been a real friend to me."

"Just doing what Jesus would do," Sandy answered with a smile.

(To be continued)



THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 11 Dec. 11, 1988

That Beautiful Christmas Gift

(Continued from last week)

Sandy and David were standing by the flag pole in front of the Junior High School waiting for their mothers to pick them up. "I think Mrs. Smith's idea of letting us Juniors have a party for the needy children was a great idea," David said. "I've had lots of fun finding a Christmas story that is really different, interesting, and good. My problem right now is to know which one to read; I have so many good ones. How are you getting along with decorations, etc.?"

"Well, not so good, I need some more, but I've spent all my money," Sandy answered.

"I'll help you. I have some money at home that I earned working in the yard for Mom."

"Good, bring it tomorrow," she said, as she slipped into her mom's black Lincoln. "See you later."

Riding home from school, David decided he would give \$25.00. "Keeping a yard that's covered with snow doesn't earn much, but I can spare it and still have five to give to Pastor White," he said to himself. "Dad will soon be giving me some for buying Christmas gifts."

He took \$25.00 out of the bank that set in the corner of his roll-top desk and put it into an envelope. Laying it on the six books that stood on the flat part

of the desk top, he began looking up word definitions in the dictionary for his English homework.

The next Tuesday Sandy handed him a note. It said, "David, I'm still waiting for the money to buy decorations."

He'd forgotten about the money. The first thing he did when he got home was look for the envelope containing the money. He looked on the desk, in his note book, and in his coat pockets. He picked up his bank to be sure he had taken money from it; \$25.00 was missing. He sat down on the bed to think and then knelt and asked God to help him find it. While still on his knees, he remembered placing the envelope on the books. He arose and looked on top of the books. No envelope! He pulled out the desk and looked behind it. No money! Next he moved all the books. There it was, stuck between *What the Bible Teaches* and the dictionary he had been using last Wednesday night.

The next day, when Sandy, Jeannie, Kim and Kathy were eating lunch in the cafeteria, David walked up to the table and handed Sandy the envelope. "I'm very sorry I forgot to bring this to you sooner," he said.

Sandy opened the envelope and exclaimed, "I can't take this much! It is too much for you to give."

"I don't want it back! It is God's money, for I promised it to Him."

"But I don't need it all. Here, you take this five back right now," she said,

(Continued on page four)

WORDS OF GOLD



Saul Reaps What He Has Sown

Acts 9:17 And Ananias went on his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost.

18 And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized.

19 And when he had received meat, he was strengthened. Then was Saul certain days with the disciples which were at Damascus.

20 And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that he is the Son of God.

22 But Saul increased the more in strength, and confounded the Jews which dwelt at Damascus, proving that this is very Christ.

23 And after that many days were fulfilled, the Jews took counsel to kill him:

24 But their laying await was known of Saul. And they watched the gates day and night to kill him.

25 Then the disciples took him by night, and let him down by the wall in a basket.

26 And when Saul was come to Jerusalem, he assayed to join himself to the disciples: but they were all afraid of him, and believed not that he was a disciple.

27 But Barnabas took him, and brought him to the apostles, and declared unto them how he had seen the Lord in the way, and that he had spoken to him, and how he had preached

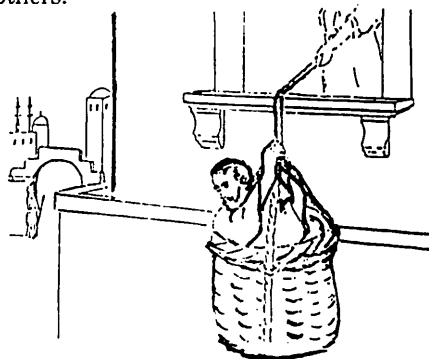
boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus.

28 And he was with them coming in and going out at Jerusalem.

29 And he spake boldly in the name of the Lord Jesus, and disputed against the Grecians: but they went about to slay him.

30 Which when the brethren knew, they brought him down to Caesarea, and sent him forth to Tarsus.

Central Thought: Saul is reaping persecutions because he persecuted others.



Questions:

1. Who came to pray for Saul?
2. What happened when Ananias prayed?
3. How did Saul confirm his faith in Jesus?
4. What happened to Saul after he preached?
5. How did the disciples protect Saul?
6. What did the disciples in Jerusalem think of Saul?
7. In what way did Barnabas help Saul?
8. Why did the Grecians want to kill Saul?
9. What happened to Saul when the Grecians tried to kill him?

MEMORY VERSE

Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

Galatians 6:7



Let's Talk

Saul was fasting and praying in the house of Judas, a disciple in Damascus, when Ananias entered the room. This good man had been greatly disturbed by the news of Saul's arrival. Nothing except the vision which God gave him would have persuaded him to come into Saul's presence. Should there be a mistake, Ananias would be walking into real suffering. But he knew God could change the worst enemy into a powerful defender.

"Brother Saul," Ananias said, "the Lord, even Jesus . . . hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight and be filled with the Holy Ghost."

Immediately something like scales fell from Saul's eyes and he could see again. Then he arose and was baptized.

For several days Saul visited with the disciples in Damascus. Some were questioning if he were the same man who persecuted them, for he astounded even the Jews by declaring his belief that Jesus was the Son of God. Before the Jewish rulers could overcome the shock, Saul went into the Arabian desert for long months of prayerful meditation. When he returned, he proved by the Scriptures that Jesus was the promised Saviour. This so infuriated the leaders that they plotted Saul's death. They posted assassins at all the city gates to watch for and slay him if he should pass through.

One night Saul's friends took him to a house that was built on the city wall. Through one of its windows, they let him down outside the city by means of a basket tied to a rope.

Saul made his way back to Jerusalem and went to the Church leaders. All the disciples, except Barnabas, were afraid of him. Barnabas, who had sold his land to help care for the poor, listened carefully to Saul's whole story, and then he persuaded the Apostles to believe Saul.

Saul could not keep quiet. He was soon preaching Jesus in the synagogues. Before long the same men whose coats he had held while they stoned Stephen were plotting his death.

The Apostles who learned of the plot might have said, "It serves him right for all he has done," but Saul was forgiven, even by those whom he had persecuted. They insisted that he must leave at once. Saul consented to leave, for as he was praying in the temple, Jesus appeared in a vision and said to him, "Make haste, and get thee quickly out of Jerusalem: for they will not receive thy testimony concerning me. Depart, for I will send thee far hence unto the Gentiles." (Read this account from Acts 22:3-21.)

Some of the brethren escorted Saul safely from Jerusalem to the port of Caesarea, where they saw him off to Tarsus. There in his home city, he quietly began his great work as an Apostle of Christ to people of all nationalities.

—Sis. Charlotte



(Answers: 1. Ananias. 2. Scales fell from Saul's eyes and he could see again. Also, according to verse 17, he received the Holy Spirit. 3. He was baptized. 4. The Jews made plans to kill him. 5. The disciples let him down in a basket outside the city walls. 6. They thought he was still a persecutor. 7. Barnabas presented Saul to the disciples and proved to them that he was a changed man. 8. Because he spoke boldly about Jesus. 9. The disciples took him to Caesarea and sent him to Tarsus.)

laying a five on the table. I'll get this twenty changed in the office and give you back ten more." Sandy hurried off to the office and came back with two ten dollar bills. "You must take this one," she said, forcing it into his hand.

"I feel badly taking this back," he said.

"I'll take it, if it makes you feel bad," Kathy said teasingly.

"It's just that I promised it to God, and I like to keep my promises."

"Maybe God wants someone else to have it," Sandy suggested.

"Maybe so," he said, walking away with a puzzled look on his face.

All afternoon David kept wondering to whom he should give the money. He was still thinking about it when he went to his room after supper, when he remembered Mrs. Taylor, an invalid whom he had visited with Mrs. White on visitation day. Hurrying downstairs he said, "Mom, I'll give you this fifteen dollars if you will write me a check to Mrs. Taylor for \$15.00."

"I'll be glad to," she answered. "Sending her a little offering?" she asked as she was writing the check."

"A Christmas present," he said. Back in his room again, he wrote a short letter and enclosed the check, then called Mrs. White for the address.

The following Tuesday was David's turn to go visiting with Mrs. White.

After passing out a tract called "A Christmas Gift in Prison" in the area near the Hardin's, they drove over to the small community where Mrs. Taylor lived.

David felt strange when he went in to see her. He wondered if she would mention the money. He hoped he wouldn't feel embarrassed if she did.

"Good afternoon, Mrs. Taylor," Mrs. White greeted her. "I have brought David Powell with me today. Do you remember him?"

"I most certainly do!" she exclaimed. "This young man wrote me a letter and sent me \$15.00 and I must say 'thank-you' to him and then tell about the money. First I want to say I was praying for God to supply we with money to

buy some warmer clothes for winter. After receiving the money I found everything I needed at that secondhand store called B & B's, and had money left! Then I bought some dress material for a friend. It seemed like the money grew. I still had five dollars left. The money seemed like special sacred money, so I wanted to use it all for God."

"But Mrs. Taylor, it was for you. I'm sure you have other needs," Mrs. White said.

"Yes, there are many things I could have bought for myself, but as I said, the money seemed to belong to God, not to me. Well, I had another friend who was completely broke. His wife and children were in the town of New Britain expecting him home; but he could not go. Can you believe it? There was just enough to get him home again. He didn't want to take it, but I said, 'The Lord has sent this to you.' He said he was going to pay me back, but I said, 'No, the Lord meant it for you.'"

"The money really did accomplish a lot, and blessed several people," Mrs. White agreed. "I'm sure David is happy he sent it to you."

David smiled and nodded, "Yes."

They read the Bible and prayed with Mrs. Taylor, but most of the time Mrs. Taylor wanted to talk about the money. She even showed them the things she had bought.

At the next *What Would Jesus Do* meeting, David told about the money. "And God gave Mrs. Taylor a much better house! A man who owned the house next to her was using it to store car parts. He's been having trouble with thieves, so he offered to let Mrs. Taylor live in his house, free of rent, if she will watch and call him if she suspects a break-in to her old house where he will now be storing his car parts."

God blessed Mrs. Taylor wonderfully for giving all that she had, but we must not expect Him to bless us in the same way every time we give. God always blesses, but hers was a very unusual blessing," Mr. Smith said.

(To be continued)

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 12 Dec. 18, 1988

The Children's Christmas

(Continued from last week)

Sandy waited anxiously at the entrance of the hall for Sarah, Kathy, Kim and Jeannie who were there, each dressed in long white dresses. David was there dressed like a farmer boy in bib overalls, blue shirt and red handkerchief tied around his neck. Jim, Sid, Bert and all the other Juniors were there, but not Sarah. There was no way the evening could be successful without Sarah. Sarah knew most of the poor children who had come. She had personally invited them; it was her idea to have this evening of fun for them.

Sandy went back into the rented hall. The decorations that she had worked so hard on looked beautiful. The food table that their mothers had prepared looked delicious and there would be plenty for everyone who came.

In one corner sat a thin hollow-eyed mother with two little girls clinging to her. "She must be the lady Sarah's been telling me about," Sandy thought. There was Vicky and Martha with their daddy, and Sarah's friends, Lissa, June and Tammy. Keith Johnston and his three younger sisters were there, and Old Joe, who lived down the street around the corner from Jake Hardin. Jake, yes Jake was missing too. Why would they be late on such an important night? Sandy just couldn't understand. She glanced at her watch; it was 6:00 p.m.

and time to start. She went back to the door and scanned the parking lot for Mrs. Jink's old rusty Ford. It wasn't there and neither was the Hardin's '72 Chevy wagon.

When she returned to the hall, everyone was standing with heads bowed while Pastor White asked the blessing for the food. The people filed around the table piling their plates high.

When everyone was about halfway through eating, Jake's family came. They had had car trouble. Sandy felt sorry for them.

When they finished eating, the program started. Bert and Pastor White played "We Three Kings" and "Little Town of Bethlehem" on their guitars accompanied by Mrs. White on the accordion. Kim, Kathy and Jeannie sang a version of "Silent Night" and "The Star of Bethlehem." It sounded the way Sandy imagined angels might sound. Sandy remembered when Jeannie's mother had been so angry because Jeannie wanted to sing religious songs. Now she enjoyed it.

Sandy kept watching the door for Sarah who was supposed to help her give the good repaired toys to the children right after David finished.

He was halfway through now. He was telling about Jake Jones who lived far up in the Cascade Mountains. Quoting Jake, he said, "I loved the farm, the mountains, fishing, hunting and the good life. My wife and I had no

(Continued on page four)

WORDS OF GOLD



Peter Works In Lydda And Joppa

Acts 9:31 Then [after Saul's conversion] had the churches rest throughout all Judaea and Galilee and Samaria, and were edified; and walking in the fear of the Lord, and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost, were multiplied.

32 And it came to pass, as Peter passed throughout all quarters, he came down also to the saints which dwelt at Lydda.

33 And there he found a certain man named Aeneas, which had kept his bed eight years, and was sick of the palsy.

34 And Peter said unto him, Aeneas, Jesus Christ maketh thee whole: arise, and make thy bed. And he arose immediately.

35 And all that dwelt at Lydda and Saron saw him, and turned to the Lord.

36 Now there was at Joppa a certain disciple named Tabitha, which by interpretation is called Dorcas: this woman was full of good works and almsdeeds which she did.

37 And it came to pass in those days, that she was sick, and died: whom when they had washed, they laid her in an upper chamber.

38 And forasmuch as Lydda was nigh to Joppa, and the disciples had heard that Peter was there, they sent unto him two men, desiring him that he would not delay to come to them.

39 Then Peter arose and went with them. When he was come, they brought him into the upper chamber: and all the widows stood by him weeping, and shewing the coats and garments which Dorcas made, while she was with them.

40 But Peter put them all forth, and kneeled down, and prayed; and turning

him to the body said, Tabitha, arise. And she opened her eyes: and when she saw Peter, she sat up.

41 And he gave her his hand, and lifted her up, and when he had called the saints and widows, presented her alive.

42 And it was known throughout all Joppa; and many believed in the Lord.

43 And it came to pass, that he tarried many days in Joppa with one Simon a tanner.

Central Thought: God's power manifested in healing and returning life helps others become believers.

Boomerang

When a bit of kindness hits ye,

After passing of a cloud,

When a bit of laughter gits ye,

An' yer spine is feeling proud!

Don't forget to up and fling it

At a soul that's feeling blue,

For the moment that you sling it,

It's a boomerang to you.

—Selected

Questions:

1. Why do you think the Church was still growing?
2. Where did Peter go?
3. Who did he find in Lydda?
4. In what way did Peter tell Aeneas to prove his faith?
5. What effect did Aeneas' healing have on the people?
6. Who was Dorcas?
7. What happened to her?
8. What showed they had confidence in Peter?
9. What effect did Dorcas' resurrection have on the people of Joppa?

MEMORY VERSE

... Grant unto thy servants,
that with all boldness they
may speak thy word . . . and
that signs and wonders may
be done by the name of thy
holy child Jesus.

Acts 4:29, 30



Let's Talk

Now the Church was not suffering severe persecutions. The wily old gray-beards who had used fiery young Saul as their cat's-paw seemed to be afraid to risk their prestige.

Peter set out from Jerusalem one day to visit the brethren in other cities. He came to Lydda in the rich plain of Sharon. While there he visited a man named Aeneas, who had been paralyzed for eight years. Peter told Aeneas, "Jesus will make you well, get up and make your bed." Aeneas got up and he was well! News of this marvelous healing swept across the country. People flocked into Lydda to see Aeneas. He was a living proof of Christ's power and they believed in Jesus.

Hardly had the excitement of this died away, when two men came from Joppa looking for Peter. They brought him an urgent message that the disciples in Joppa needed him to come without delay. He went at once. Arriving there, he was led to the upper room of a house in which a woman lay lifeless. Tabitha was her Jewish name, but she was known among the Greek-speaking Jews as Dorcas. She had been a very loving, kind-hearted person, who had helped those poor disciples.

When Peter entered the upper room, a lot of poor widows gathered around him. They were crying and showed him the coats and clothing that Dorcas had made for them and their children. Peter saw their need of Dorcas. He told the crying widows to go out. When he was alone, he sought God for an answer to this problem. God must have assured him that Dorcas would live again, for when he prayed, she opened her eyes and sat up. He took her by the hand and said, "Arise." She did. Calling the widows, and the other disciples, he presented to them a live Dorcas!

The miracle had the same effect on the people in Joppa as the miracle in

Lydda had on those there. Many people believed in Jesus because of it.

Peter remained in the city of Joppa for quite a long time. He stayed with a man named Simon, whose house was on the beach.

Next Sunday will be a review over the last twelve lessons. The following Sunday will be a story that took place at Simon's house.

Do you see how God used these miracles to help people believe that Jesus was really His Son? Do you think more people would believe in Jesus today if they saw miracles? Some might, but many distrust others and might possibly think the healed person was not really sick.

Jesus says that the hardness of hearts makes people need a sign in order to believe. He especially blesses those who will believe without seeing. Let each of us believe Jesus without having to see miracles.

Let us believe if we see healings or if we do not; but at the same time ask God to manifest Himself to unbelievers so that they will believe. The disciples prayed that God would stretch forth his hands to heal and that signs and wonders would be done by the name of Jesus. Let us pray the same way.

—Sis. Charlotte



(Answers: 1. Possibly because the disciples loved God so much they were willing to suffer rather than give up their faith. This attitude proved to others that it was very valuable. 2. To Lydda. 3. Aeneas, a man who had been sick in bed with palsy for eight years. 4. He said, "Arise and make thy bed." 5. "All that dwell at Lydda and Saron saw him, and turned to the Lord." 6. She was a woman who helped others, especially the widows, by making clothing for them. 7. She died. 8. They sent for him. 9. Many believed in the Lord because of it.)

children, so when there was no work to do we fished, hunted, hiked and enjoyed ourselves immensely. I was happy and never thought of things being different—that is, until the day my wife discovered she had cancer. It was a hard three months of watching her suffer, paying doctor and hospital bills, and staying alone when she was hospitalized. I kept myself going by hoping she would some day be well again. Well, she died.

"Life was all bitterness after that. I blamed God for her death. I sat day after day and pitied myself. It was fall, the summers' work was done and I had no real pressing jobs. Fall turned into winter and I closed the doors of my house to the world and all my neighbors who had tried so often to comfort me and take me into their friendship.

"Christmas was drawing near. I felt it had no meaning to me. I was alone and lonely. I sent no Christmas cards. The nearer Christmas came, the worse I felt. On Christmas Eve a terrible blizzard raged. From my window I could not see across the narrow ravine to the mountain on the other side. The road, my only route out, was soon impassible. My sister had begged me to come and spend Christmas with her family. Realizing how awfully lonely it would be to stay home alone, I had about decided to go in the morning; but with the increasing storm, those hopes faded.

"I sat alone in my recliner with head in hands, when I heard a knock at my door. I thought I was going crazy. No one could possibly be on the mountain in this storm. I parted the draperies and looked out. To my amazement, I saw a young soldier boy and a woman standing on my porch. I opened the door.

" 'Our car is stuck about a mile up the mountain,' he said. 'I brought my wife up to visit her uncle, Mr Wayfer, who lives another five miles up the road. We saw the storm was getting bad and tried to make it out. Just wondered if you could help us.'

" 'Sure I can,' I said, 'Come right in!' I opened my door and my heart to those strangers.

"There I was alone on the the mountain with strangers in my house and no way of getting help if I needed it; but I wasn't the least bit afraid, nor was I lonely anymore. I had opened my heart. That was the difference. Then I remembered that the inn keeper had opened his stable to strangers—Joseph and the mother of our Lord Jesus. It had turned out well, and I knew my opening was going to be alright, too.

The couple stayed with me four days until the roads were clear enough to travel. Helping them taught me of the Christ who cares for the needy and I opened my heart to Jesus just as I had opened it to them. I learned from this experience that submitting to Christ's way brings happiness."

David sat down. Mrs. Smith was talking when Sarah came in. Mrs Smith was saying, "Even though some of you children are very poor you can bring happiness to yourself by trusting Jesus and helping to cheer others. Now we will ask Sandy Wilshire and Sarah Jinks to hand out the toys."

After the program, as they were cleaning up, Sandy asked Sarah why she was so late. Sarah said, "Mother got a call to clean a house today, and she just had to go and do it 'cause she needs the money. I didn't have a way to get here until she came home."

"Why didn't you call me to pick you up?"

"Oh, Sandy, why do you ask?" she paused, then added, "We had the phone taken out. We couldn't pay the bill. The only neighbor who has a phone was gone."

Sandy knew Sarah had learned how to cheer others even though she was so very poor.

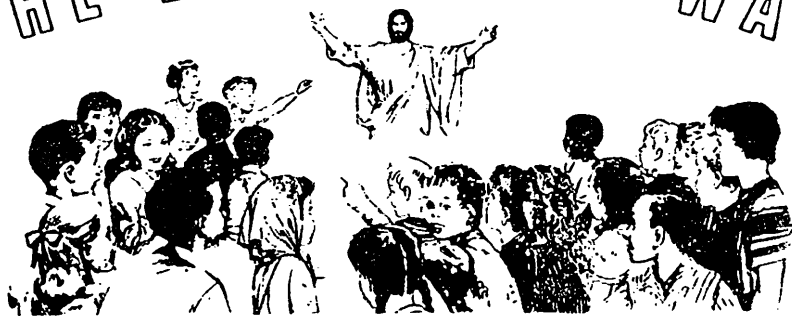
(To be continued)



"Every youth who wishes to become a noble man or woman must make up his mind at the start that he has got to be bigger than the things that are trying to 'down' him. If he doesn't, he will go down with them. —Selected



THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 13 Dec. 25, 1988

Praying The New Year In

(Continued from last week)

"Here comes Sandy," Edith called, as the yard light revealed Mrs. Wilshire's black Lincoln coming up the driveway at the Powell's estate. She ran to the door and waited impatiently.

"Why are you so excited?" David asked.

"We are planning a new game and we've got to get things ready for it." Nancy held open the massive oak door while Sandy came in carrying a filled sack. Mrs. Wilshire followed with dishes of nutritious food. She set them on the table, then turning to Mrs. Powell said, "I'll be back at 12:30 to get her and Sarah."

Before long all the Juniors and Young People were there. Nancy and Sandy had fun introducing the new game. Everyone seemed to enjoy it! Jeannie brought a Bible Trivia game which, after a little revision, they played in a large group. Mrs. Meed led them in playing some trick games. One was similar to the game called Black Magic which they used to play on Halloween. One person was the pointer; another went out of the room. While he was out, the group chose an object. When the person came back into the room, the pointer points to different objects in the room and asks, "Is this it?" (meaning the chosen object). The person who had left

the room answers, "No," on the wrong objects, and "Yes," on the right object. The group must figure out how the secret is revealed. They were playing and some thought they had it figured out when Mrs. Powell called, "Anyone hungry?"

It was 11:45 when everyone finished eating. "Now I think we should have prayer," Mr. Smith said. "It would be good to be praying when the New Year comes in. I suggest that we start right here at Jim and go all around the room, each one praying when the person next to him is finished." Everyone bowed and Jim Meed started praying. David, who was kneeling next to him prayed when Jim finished. Bert followed, then Sid. Lois, one of the Young People, got up and quietly slipped out into the family room before it came her turn. Jan and Kristin, who were not saved, went to the bathroom so that they would be skipped. Tony, Hoel and some of the older boys went out into the entryway. When the prayer circle was finished it was 12:13. The New Year was prayed in by those who wanted to please Jesus. Their faces were radiant as they sang; "Praise the Lord my heart with his love is beaming, I am a child of God; Heaven's golden light over me is streaming, I am a child of God. . . ."

When the song was finished Jeannie asked a question as she sang: "Who but the Christian is happy and free? Filled with glory of God, None in creation so

(Continued on page four)

WORDS OF GOLD



REVIEW

(Scriptures have been paraphrased)

Stephen

(Acts 6:1-13; 7:56-60) The brethren chose (to help the Apostles) Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost. The number of the disciples in Jerusalem multiplied greatly; and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith. Stephen did great wonders and miracles so that they (certain of the synagogue) were not able to resist the wisdom and the spirit by which he spake. Because of envy they stirred up the people, bringing him before the council, they set up false witnesses to accuse him. He looked up into heaven and said, "I see the Son of man standing on the right hand of God." And they cast him out of the city, and they stoned Stephen. He kneeled down, and cried, "Lord, lay not this sin to their charge."

Philip

(Acts 8:3) Saul made havoc of the Church, entering into every house, and haling men and women committed them to prison.

(Acts 8:5-38) Then Philip went down to Samaria, and preached Christ unto them. And the people gave heed, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did. The apostles sent Peter and John, who, when they were come, laid their hands on them and they received the Holy Ghost.

And the angel of the Lord spake unto Philip, saying, "Arise and go unto the way that goeth down from Jerusalem unto Gaza, which is a desert." And Philip ran thither to him [the Ethiopian] and said, "Understandest what thou reade?" And he said, "How can I,

except some man teach me?" Then Philip preached unto him Jesus. They went down both into the water, and he baptized him.

Saul

(Acts 9:1-31) Saul, yet breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples, journeyed near Damascus. Suddenly there shined a light from heaven. He fell to the earth and heard a voice. And Saul arose from the earth and they led him by the hand, and he was three days without sight, and neither did eat nor drink. Then Ananias went and entered into the house, saying, "Brother Saul, the Lord hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost." Immediately he received sight and was baptized. After many days the Jews took counsel to kill him, so the disciples took him by night and let him down by the wall in a basket. Then had the Churches rest.

Peter

(Acts 9:32-43) Peter came down also to the saints which dwelt at Lydda. And found Aeneas, which had kept his bed eight years, sick of the palsy. Peter said unto him, "Jesus Christ maketh thee whole." And he arose immediately and all that dwelt at Lydda and Saron saw him, and turned to the Lord.

Now there was at Joppa a certain disciple name Tabitha, this woman was full of good works and almsdeeds. She was sick and died. And as Lydda was nigh to Joppa, they sent unto him. When he was come, Peter kneeled down and prayed, and she opened her eyes. And when he had called the saints and widows, he presented her alive. And it was known throughout all Joppa; and many believed in the Lord.

MEMORY VERSE

And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

Romans 8:28



Let's Talk

Multitudes and multitudes of persons joined themselves to the group of Apostles. 3,000 were added to the original group of 120 on the day of Pentecost. Just days after that the number had grown to 5,000. The dishonesty of a man and his wife, Ananias and Sapphira, was revealed and another multitude was added.

People were pouring into Jerusalem bringing their sick, and demon-possessed for deliverance. Seeing these miracles made believers out of crowds.

This rapid increase created new problems of caring for the needy. More and more of the Apostles' time was taken up with this work. It was certain that oversight would occur. Soon some of the foreign-born Jews complained that the needy widows in their group were being neglected. The Apostles knew they could do no better, so they called a meeting of the disciples. In this meeting, seven men full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom were chosen to be over this work, that the Apostles might give themselves continually to prayer and to study of the Word. The plan worked well, and the number of the disciples multiplied again, also a great company of priests joined the faith.

Stephen was one man chosen for the job. He was filled with the Holy Spirit and highly gifted. Soon he was witnessing for his faith in the synagogues, and preaching his convictions persuasively.

Many leaders of the synagogues became jealous of him. They hired false witnesses and took him before the Sanhedrin which was the Jewish supreme court.

He was tried for blasphemy. During the trial, the council became so riled that they stoned Stephen without proving him guilty. Stephen's last words were asking God to forgive his murderers.

Saul, an ambitious young Jew, kept the coats of those who stoned Stephen and heard his dying words. This one death seemed only to whet Saul's thirst for more of the saints' blood. He obtained authority to persecute the Church as far as Damascus, which he did with all fury until God struck him blind.

During this time of severe persecution, Philip went down into Samaria and preached. Multitudes were saved under his ministry. Peter and John also came to help him. After that an angel led Philip to witness to a traveling man who took the gospel story to his country of Ethiopia.

Soon after Saul was saved, the Jews in Damascus plotted for his life and set watches at all the city gates. This was known to the disciples, who let him out of the city hidden in a basket. He came to Jerusalem but was not accepted. Later, however, the disciples accepted him and protected his life from other blood-thirsty Jews until they could take him to Caesarea, and send him back to his home in Tarsus.

Finally the Church had rest. The persecution had caused the Church to spread into many different lands and multitudes were saved in every place.

Peter went to Lydda and the whole region believed the gospel. At Joppa a woman was brought back to life after Peter prayed causing many more to believe.

—Sis. Charlotte

Adventures With the New King

Select the correct word and fill in the blank spaces.

1. One night _____ were out on the hillside watching their flocks when an _____ of the Lord appeared.
2. The _____ told them that a _____ had been born in Bethlehem, and they would find Him in a _____.
3. _____ came from the east, guided by a _____.
4. They brought gifts to the _____.
5. At Jerusalem the _____ asked _____ where the child was.
6. In the night an _____ warned Joseph to take the child and His mother and flee to _____.

happy as he, Washed and redeemed in the wonderful blood. Jesus the one who my sorrows hath healed, Thou art the one who my spirit hath sealed; Only thy glory from heaven revealed, Only thy favor can happiness yield."

Nancy thought it felt like heaven had come into the room.

Mr. Smith led the next song. He sang: "Some think this great salvation, will stop all their good times. We must not do a thing but sing and pray. We do just what we want to and go where 'ere we please; And that is what we're doing here today. Oh, the glory of Calvary's love story, Oh, the glory that fills my soul. . . ."

During the time the young people were singing, Mrs. Powell had been in the family room talking to, and praying with Lois. "Sometimes I try to do right," Lois said, "but at other times, I don't want to do what I believe Jesus would do. I just think it's too hard to always do what Jesus would do and never get to do what I want to do."

"Lois," Mrs. Powell said, "It is not in man to direct his own path. (Jeremiah 10:23.) God or the devil is directing what we do. If we do not let God lead our life, the devil does. It is impossible for any person to do what he wants to do without being influenced by good or evil. Don't you think it would be better to follow God than to let the devil drag you around and down to hell?"

While Lois was listening to Mrs. Powell, she heard Mr. Smith say, "While most of your faces are radiant, some look rather sad. Those who have sad faces, must not be doing what they want to."

"Yes," Lois answered Mrs. Powell, "I'm not really happy doing what I think I want to do anyway."

They knelt and prayed. When Lois got up she felt so-o-o good and clean inside. She said, "Now I know why the others act so happy."

Laughing and crying all at the same time she came out of the family room to rejoin the others. To her surprise, there were several young people praying in the corner of the room, and Jan and

Kristin came out of the bedroom where they had been praying with Mrs. Smith

Mrs. Wilshire was there to get Sandy and Sarah. While she got her dishes, both girls gave Lois a big hug. Sarah said, "This is what we have been praying for. We're both so happy for you, and all the others that were saved to-night." Then they ran to Jan and Kristen, hugged them, shook hands with some of the boys and left.

In the car Sandy said, "That was the best meeting we have ever had!"

"It sure was," Sarah agreed. "Everyone was so happy that the unsaved just couldn't resist any longer."

"Did you notice that even David, who thinks it's undignified to show emotions, was hugging Tony, Hoel and the other boys?"

"Yes, and Sid, who says it's girl stuff to cry, had been crying. I saw tears on his face!"

"I think he was praying with Tony, that's why," Sandy added.

"You girls must have had a very good time, how about telling me what happened," Mrs Wilshire asked.

"Okay, I will," Sandy answered and began telling about how they had prayed the New Year in.

(To be continued)

Alone With My Conscience

I sat alone with my conscience:

And I felt I should have to answer

The question it put to me,

And to face the answer and questions

Through all eternity.

And the vision of all my past life

Was an awful thing to face,

Alone with my conscience sitting

In that solemnly silent place.

Then I woke from my timely dreaming,

And the vision passed away,

And I knew that the far-off seeming

Was a warning of yesterday;

And so I have learned a lesson

Which I ought to have known before,

And which, though I learned it dreaming,

I hope to forget no more.

—Selected