

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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## Foolish Freddy

The Vanderfeldt family had long anticipated the arrival of a new member. One Sunday afternoon, Mr. John Vanderfeldt told his three children, "It won't be long now."

Five-year-old Cynthia, whom the family called Cindy, clapped her hands with glee. Russell, a hefty boy of ten, gave a partial smile, although he couldn't imagine why all the fuss was being made over a new baby, and suppose it was another girl. He already had two sisters to worry with. Carla, his older sister, was a quiet studious girl of twelve. She had excitedly helped mother make a mint-green baby quilt with appliqued teddy bears on it. This quilt, the bumper pads, and sheets, they had also made, were placed neatly inside the little white crib. In the nursery above the crib, Carla hung the sign she had just finished. It read, WELCOME TO THE FAMILY.

Moments later, Aunt Naomi came. She stepped out of her 1984 blue Skylark and hurried into the house. "Hi Sis," Mr. Vanderfeldt said, giving her a big hug. "I'm so glad you came. The children love to have you, and I know they will be in good hands while we are away. Here are some phone numbers in case you must reach us. There is plenty of food in the fridge." Then, turning to the children, he said, "Have a good time with your Auntie."

He helped Mrs. Vanderfeldt into their car and as they drove away, Russell unloaded Aunt Naomi's luggage.

"Did you come to stay a whole week?" questioned Cindy excitedly.

"A whole week," answered Auntie. Cindy did a little welcome chant.

"Will you teach me how to cook while you are here?" asked Carla.

"And will you teach us how to sing 'How Great Thou Art'?" inquired Russell, as he sat another suitcase down in Carla's room, which Auntie was to share with her.

"Oh, yes, please do, I've almost learned the words," Carla added.

"Maybe if we learn it really well, we could sing it in church!" exclaimed Cindy.

"Then Mother and Daddy might go to church," Cindy said clapping her hands again. She always clapped her hands when she was happy.

"Maybe. But only to listen to us," Russell remarked.

"Carla, why are you so interested in cooking?" Auntie teased, "Do you have a boyfriend, already?"

Carla blushed. Then answered, "Nope, it's because I want to be a preacher's wife, like you. Don't they have lots of guests to cook for, and sometimes cook for camp meetings, too?"

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## WORDS OF GOLD



### God's Plan For Children

**New Words:** *Replenish:* To fill or make complete. *Heritage:* Inheritance; Something passed down from preceding generations.

Gen. 1:26 "...God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

28 And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

29 And God said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat.

31 And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

9:1 "...God blessed Noah and his sons, and said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth.

3 Every moving thing that liveth shall be meat for you; even as the green herb have I given you all things.

5 And surely your blood of your lives will I require; at the hand of every beast will I require it, and at the hand of man; at the hand of every man's brother will I require the life of man.

6 Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made he man.

7 And you, be ye fruitful, and multiply; bring forth abundantly in the earth, and multiply therein.

Deut. 6:5 "...Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.

6 And these words, which I [God] command thee this day, shall be in thine heart:

7 And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.

Psalms. 127:3 Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord: ...

4 As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth.

5 Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them: they shall not be ashamed, but they shall speak with the enemies in the gate.

**Central Thought:** God designed for children to be born to parents who would care for them and teach them righteousness.

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*"Children, obey your parents."*

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#### Questions:

1. In what way was man created different from animals?
2. What was man given dominion over?
3. When God blessed man and woman, what did He tell them to do?
4. How did God feel about everything He had made?
5. When God blessed Noah and his sons, what did He tell them?
6. Why didn't God create children before adults?
7. What Words should parents teach children?
8. When should parents teach children?
9. Who is an heritage of the Lord?

#### Memory Verse

**"Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord."  
(Ps. 127:3)**



# Let's Talk

God in His great wisdom planned for children during the creation. He set in order the world. He then created plants and animals to bring forth after their kind. After everything was created that was necessary for sustaining man's life, then God formed a man and a woman. They were made in God's image and likeness. He breathed into Adam's nostrils and he became "a living soul."

God blessed Adam and Eve and instructed them to bear children. This same instruction was given to Noah's family after the destruction of the world by water.

It is God's divine will that children be born to two married parents. This instruction was also given in the New Testament. "I will that younger women marry, bear children, and guide the house." 1 Tim. 5: 14. God planned for marriage to come before children, then the mother and father are to work as a team to raise the children in the fear of God.

Here in the United States of America, every seven seconds a new baby is born into the world. This is almost four million children every year. Some people have the wicked thought that infants are not important until they reach a certain age or size. They consider them only like animals, until shortly before they are born. Human babies are never like animals. Each human has a soul and animals do not. Every baby is precious in the sight of the Lord.

God desires that children have parents to care for them by providing food, clothes, and shelter. He wants them to love their children and to teach them the ways of the Lord. Some people abandon or abuse their children. This is very evil in the sight of the Lord, and God does not forget the cries of these, His little ones.

Do you have parents who love you? Are they teaching you the laws of God? If so, you are richly blessed. Perhaps you have parents who have daily devotions with you and take you to church services every time the chapel doors open. This is wonderful. They are obeying God's Word to teach you all the day long. The Devil may try to make you feel bored or tired of going to church so much.

You must resist him. Your parents are giving to you a rich treasure.

Some young people and children ask questions like: "Why was I born?" or "What is my purpose here?" You were born to serve and glorify the Lord. Bud Chambers, in his song, "Born to Serve the Lord," wrote, "From the dust of the earth, My God created man, His breath made man a living soul. For God so loved the world, He gave His only Son, And that is why I love Him so. I was made in His likeness, Created in His image, For I was born to serve the Lord. And I can't deny Him, I'll always walk beside Him, For I was born to serve the Lord." God created man that He might have a people who would choose to serve Him willingly. Children and young people are special in the sight of the Lord. You are an heritage and a gift from God.

—Alfina Cox

## BIBLE EXERCISE

On what day of creation did the following events occur? Place the number of the day by each. (Hint: See Genesis 1.)

- The herb yielding seed and the fruit yielding tree
- Signs, seasons, days, and years established
- Winged creatures
- God called the light day and the darkness night
- Man and woman created
- The greater and lesser lights
- Dividing of the waters
- Great whales
- God rested
- Beasts and cattle; things that creep
- Creation of heaven and earth
- Man given dominion over all things

(Answers: 1. He was made in God's image and likeness. 2. Over fish, fowl, and every living thing. 3. To be fruitful, multiply and replenish the earth. 4. That it was very good. 5. To be fruitful, multiply and replenish the earth. 6. So that children would have parents. 7. The Words of God. 8. When they are sitting in their houses, when they are walking, when they are laying down, and when they are getting up. 9. Children.)

"Well, what a family of children, all wanting to do right!" Auntie exclaimed.

After the excitement of Auntie's arrival was over, each one settled down to do their own thing. Carla tried to pass the time reading her book, *Little House on the Prairie*, but she just realized she had read the same page for the third time. "Do you think everything is all right?" she asked her Aunt Naomi.

"Yes, Carla, but some things take time, we must be patient."

"If the baby is a girl, do you think her name will begin with the letter C?" Cindy inquired.

"I don't know," answered Naomi.

"If we named her Candance, we could call her Candy," Cindy said, "I'd like that!"

"How about Claudette or Christina, or at least something with a little more class?" suggested Carla.

"Talk about class," exclaimed Russell, "how much class do you think is in a name like Carla?"

"I'd say about the same amount as in Russell," replied Carla.

"Children, perhaps you've said enough about names. Besides, it may not be a girl."

"You're right Auntie," said Russell. I hope it will be a boy, because we've got too many girls already."

The telephone rang. Aunt Naomi answered it. "A boy! . . . Wonderful!"

"All right!" Russell shouted, holding up his arm in victory.

"You say everything is fine? . . . Okay. Good-bye." Aunt Naomi hung up the phone.

"I still won't have anybody to play dolls with," Cindy said, a little disappointedly.

"Now, Cindy," Aunt Naomi said, taking Cindy on her lap. "You'll enjoy having a little brother. Just wait and see. There are plenty of things you'll enjoy doing with your new brother."

"Children, I think we should bow in prayer and thank God for this wonderful gift."

"Really?" questioned Cindy. "We only pray sometimes when we eat."

"Yeh, at Thanksgiving dinner, or Easter and sometimes when we have special requests," Russell remarked.

"And last year, Daddy read the Christmas story from the Bible and said a prayer," Carla reminded them.

"Well this is a very special time, so let us pray," Aunt Naomi said again. The children all knelt quietly while she thanked God for the safe delivery of the new baby. After prayer, she asked Carla to find the Bible.

Carla said, "It's a large black book on the top of the bookshelf."

Aunt Naomi carefully took the Bible down and began dusting it off. "Do you all read it much?" she asked.

"No Ma'am," replied Carla, "We normally just record family births or deaths in it. I'm sure Mother or Father will be getting it down in a few days to record the birth of our new baby."

Aunt Naomi read the twenty-third Psalm to the children. She then helped them prepare for bed.

After they were in bed, she sat by the fireplace, silently reading the Bible. She thought about the years when she and John were children. Every day their father would gather the family and read to them from the Bible. She remembered how worn that Bible was from its daily usage, compared to this one which was rarely opened. She wondered why John had neglected to bring his children up in the way they had been taught. John was a lawyer, and out of the many books in the bookcase, he had forsaken the most important one. Naomi knelt in prayer again. This time she asked God to help her brother return to the paths of righteousness.

(To be continued)



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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## Foolish Freddy

(Continued from last week)

Mother brought the new baby home, wrapped in the quilt she and Carla had made. "May I hold him, Mother?" Carla asked. Mother carefully placed the bundle in Carla's arms. Cindy leaned over Carla's lap and peeked at the baby.

"He's so tiny!" she exclaimed.

"But cute," Carla added.

"What's his name?" asked Russell, who was standing away as if afraid to get close.

"I thought you'd never ask!" replied Father. "It's Fredrick Marshall Vanderfeldt," said Father proudly.

"I can't say that," said Cindy with a pout.

"Maybe we can call him Freddy," said Russell.

"That's fine, if you wish," replied Father.

"Not Freddy," protested Carla, "Fredrick Marshall sounds much more . . . uh . . ."

"Classy, right?" added Aunt Naomi smiling at Carla.

"Yes," said Carla bashfully.

Fredrick Marshall was a happy little baby and much fun for the whole family, although he was much more work than the children had imagined. Cindy loved to hold his bottle for him. Carla liked dressing him in cute little boy's clothes. Russell just watched the girls mother him, but once in a while when no one was looking, he would talk to Fredrick Marshall. He always called him Freddy, and Freddy seemed to know that was a special name for him.

Freddy loved the abundance of attention he received from the whole family, and soon began to demand the attention of everyone. He loved toys and little baby games, like peek-a-boo, but most of all he loved to make people laugh. He began to do the silliest things to gain a smile or two. "He is such a ham," folks would say, or "What a clown that youngest Vanderfeldt is." Freddy loved it. These remarks and the attention seemed to only fuel him more. Mr. and Mrs. Vanderfeldt and the children were thrilled to have such a cute little clown, at least for the first couple of years.

It wasn't long before Freddy was pushing Russell's cars around and making m-m-m-m sounds with his mouth. Next, he was toddling and soon Russell was hiding the toys he didn't want Freddy to chew on. One day Cindy came home to find three pages torn from her favorite book.

On Carla's fourteenth birthday, she received a bouquet with fourteen red roses. She put them on the table beside her bed. Two days later when she returned home, her roses were torn apart, petal by petal, and scattered over the carpet. Even the bow was torn and had been chewed and wrinkled up. She screamed and ran to shake Fredrick Marshall. "You naughty baby," she stormed, "you've destroyed my beautiful bouquet!"

"Don't do that," Mother called to Carla. "He's just a baby. All babies do things they shouldn't."

"Then I'm going to lock my room so he can't get in. He's always tearing up my things. Just last week, he tore up Vance's

(Continued on page four)

## WORDS OF GOLD



### Jealousy Between Brothers

**New Words:** *Firstling:* The firstborn of a flock of animals. 2. *Jealousy:* A resentful hateful feeling towards another person.

Genesis 4:1 . . . Adam knew Eve his wife: and she conceived, and bare Cain, and said, I have gotten a man from the Lord.

2 And she again bare his brother Abel. And Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground.

3 And in process of time it came to pass, that Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an offering unto the Lord.

4 And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof. And the Lord had respect unto Abel and to his offering;

5 But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect. And Cain was very wrath, and his countenance fell.

6 And the Lord said unto Cain, Why art thou wroth? and why is thy countenance fallen?

7 If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door. And unto thee shall be his desire, and thou shalt rule over him.

8 And Cain talked with Abel his brother: and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him.

9 And the Lord said unto Cain, Where is Abel thy brother? And he said, I know not: Am I my brother's keeper?

10 And he said, What hast thou done? the voice of thy brother's blood crieth unto me from the ground.

11 And now art thou cursed from the earth, which hath opened her mouth to receive thy brother's blood from thy hand;

12 When thou tillest the ground, it shall not henceforth yield unto thee her strength;

a fugitive and a vagabond shalt thou be in the earth.

13 And Cain said unto the Lord, My punishment is greater than I can bear.

14 Behold, thou hast driven me out this day from the face of the earth; and from thy face shall I be hid; and I shall be a fugitive and a vagabond in the earth; and it shall come to pass, that every one that findeth me shall slay me.

15 And the Lord said unto him, Therefore whosoever slayeth Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold. And the Lord set a mark upon Cain, lest any finding him should kill him.

Hebrews 11:4 By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh.

James 3:14 But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth.

16 For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work.

1 John 3:15 Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him.

**Central thought:** If envy is allowed to stay in the mind, it will cause great harm.

#### Questions:

1. Who were the first two children born?
2. What was Cain's occupation?
3. What was Abel's occupation?
4. What offerings did they bring to God?
5. Whose offering was accepted?
6. How did Cain feel?
7. What did Cain do to Abel?
8. What caused Abel to offer a more excellent sacrifice?
9. What does the Bible call a person who hates his brother?

#### Memory Verse

**"Wrath is cruel, and anger is outrageous; but who is able to stand before envy?"**

(Prov. 27:4)



# Let's Talk

When Adam and Eve disobeyed God, it plunged the whole world into sin. Psalm 51:5, reads, "*Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.*" As a result of Adam's sin, every person is born in sin and of trouble. God's punishment to Adam and Eve was sorrow in bringing forth children and trouble in tilling the ground, so until this day, "Man is born unto trouble."

Cain was the first child born. Surely this brought great joy to Adam and Eve. Their second child was also a boy; they named him Abel. We do not know much about the childhood of the world's first children, but we do know that as they grew, sin caused trouble between them.

Cain's occupation was in agriculture. Abel was a shepherd. The two brothers brought an offering to the Lord, as they had been taught to do. Cain had no faith in God, so he simply brought some fruit he had. Abel had faith in God, so he took great care in choosing the best animal of his flock. He offered this living sacrifice by faith, and God accepted it. Cain's offering was without faith, so God rejected it, "for without faith it is impossible to please God."

Cain became angry with Abel and with God. God spoke to Cain, and Cain had an opportunity to change, but he did not. Instead of changing, he allowed envy and anger to overtake him. When he got a chance, he killed his brother.

The spirit of envy and jealousy still exist today. It often affects families just as it did the first family. Have you ever heard of a term called "sibling rivalry"? It refers to competition between brothers and sisters. It often begins when a child is very small. A new baby comes into the family, and often another child in the family has feelings of dislike, jealousy, and even hatred towards the new baby. He may do all kinds of things to get his parent's attention, and even go back to babyish ways or habits.

As children grow older, their reactions to envy may be a little more subtle, or hidden. One child may get a new bike, and envy

would cause the other child to say, "It's ugly," or "So what, if you got a new bike."

Maybe your brother or sister can sing well or run fast. Perhaps they get better scores on their school work, or are good at sports and you aren't. How does it make you feel, towards them? If you have little unhappy feelings of resentment or an unkind attitude towards them, it may be caused by envy or jealousy. Ask the Lord to help you conquer these feelings while you are young.

The Bible says that whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer. Envy mixed with anger can lead to hatred. That is why it is so important not to let envy or anger abide in your heart. You may never physically harm a person, but envy will cause you to do or say hurtful things to or about that person. It may also cause you to try to injure their friendship with others.

If the Lord pricks your heart about envy, go to prayer and clear it up. He can bless you so that you will be able to rejoice instead of feel bad when others are blessed.

—Altina Cox

## BIBLE EXERCISE

Here is a list of brothers in the Bible. Match the brothers on the right with the brothers on the left, by placing the appropriate letter in each blank.

- |                |            |
|----------------|------------|
| — 1. Cain      | a. Abishai |
| — 2. Peter     | b. Esau    |
| — 3. Ham       | c. Hophni  |
| — 4. Jacob     | d. Lahmi   |
| — 5. David     | e. John    |
| — 6. Joab      | f. Ephraim |
| — 7. James     | g. Aaron   |
| — 8. Goliath   | h. Andrew  |
| — 9. Phinehas  | i. Eliab   |
| — 10. Manasseh | j. Abel    |
| — 11. Moses    | k. Shem    |

(Clues: Gen. 4:1-2; Matt. 4:18; Gen. 5:32; Gen 25:23-26; I Sam. 16:6-13; I Sam. 26:6; Matt. 4:21; I Chron. 2:5; I Sam. 1:3; Gen. 48:1; Ex. 4:14.)

(Answers: 1. Cain and Abel 2. He was a tiller of the ground is farmer 3. He was a keeper of sheep 4. Cain brought fruit, Abel brought the best animals of his flock 5. Abel's 6. He was angry 7. He slew him 8. Faith 9. A murderer.)

picture and you know I wouldn't ask for another. Two days before that, he ripped the lace off my new housecoat, and before that, he had thrown my shoes all over the room. I finally found my sandal way under the bed. He completely ruined my school annual. I'm tired of it," and Carla and stormed into her room and shut the door.

Cindy didn't mind so much if he played in her room. He loved her toys, and she enjoyed letting him throw them across the room for her to retrieve. She even imagined he was playing dolls with her. But things changed. One day he threw a ball that hit her china doll. The doll teetered and fell to the floor, breaking the doll's delicate fingers off and cracking her face down the forehead and across the nose. "You can't come in my room again," Cindy shouted and pushed him out, closing the door behind him. He screamed and beat his chubby little fists on the door. Mother came to settle the fuss. She calmed Freddy by giving him an ice cream bar. This he tore apart and threw over the kitchen floor.

"He's nothing but a spoiled brat," Russell stormed when he saw what had happened.

One evening shortly before Freddy turned four, a client was visiting Mr. Vanderfeldt in his home. They were discussing a serious case in the study. Freddy crept into the room and in behind his father, placing a paper wad on top of his head. Mr. Vanderfeldt did not notice Freddy nor feel the paper on his head. He did notice, however, his client laughing at what seemed to be a very inappropriate time. As Mr. Vanderfeldt turned to see what had caused the laughter, and found the little paper wad that had rolled down into his chair, needless to say, he was a little embarrassed, but he just smiled and said, "That Freddy."

One afternoon, Mrs. Vanderfeldt heard a commotion in her formal dining room. As she walked in, she saw Freddy swinging from her chandelier. "Freddy!" she shouted in surprise.

Freddy grinned and said, "I'm a monkey, Mother." Mrs. Vanderfeldt laughed and shook her head, then she carefully took Freddy down.

Mealtimes seemed to be Freddy's favorite time for performing. He'd make the most awful mixtures and messes with his food.

Sometimes he blended different colors of foods or gravies to create new colors. He used some of these to print his face. Sometimes, before his soup or cereal bowl was empty, he would put the bowl on his head, for a hat. After he got older, he invented new casseroles, by mixing his entree's together. He tried anything that he thought would give him an audience.

One evening, while the family was enjoying a pleasant meal together, Freddy began his usual performance. Cindy began to giggle. "Quit playing with your food," snapped Russell. "It's not time to play. Can't you eat decent like the rest of us?"

Freddy made a face at Russell, then Carla laughed. "What's your problem, Russell?" inquired Mr. Vanderfeldt.

"I think Freddy's gross," Russell replied.

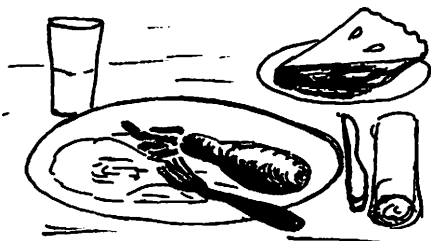
"Russell Vanderfeldt, how dare you say that about your baby brother," said Mrs. Vanderfeldt.

"I'm sorry, Mom, but he's not a baby any more. You guys think everything he does is funny, but sometimes he's sickening when he does such stupid stuff. He thinks he's performing in a circus all the time. When he starts school, the kids will probably think he's crazy. He may be called 'Foolish Freddy.'"

"Russell, you have said enough. Now if you will excuse yourself from this table, you may go to your room," commanded Mr. Vanderfeldt.

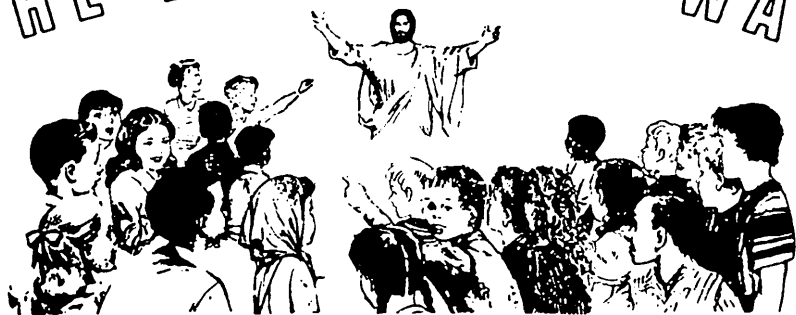
Russell wiped his hands and face on his napkin and left the table. His stomach groaned for the fried chicken and mashed potatoes on his plate, and he eyed the apple pie that would have been topped with ice cream for his desert. He wouldn't be eating it though, for he had gotten upset with his little bratty brother.

(To be continued)





# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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## Foolish Freddy

(Continued from last week)

After Carla, Russell, Cindy, and Freddy had gone to bed, Mr. and Mrs. Vanderfeldt talked. "John, what do you think about Russell's comment? He said that Freddy was gross, and that he will have trouble with the other children when he goes to school. I wouldn't want our little Freddy to have trouble."

"Dear, I believe Russell was just overreacting. He's a teenager and doesn't have much tolerance for his little brother," replied Mr. Vanderfeldt. "Maybe you should tell Russell about the time he took carrots out of the refrigerator and planted them in the flower garden. He was already in school when he did that."

"But John, that was about the only real silly thing Russell ever did."

"No it isn't. Remember the time he snipped off Carla's long braid. He said he needed it to make a horsehair rope. He was pretty old when he did that, too."

"But Freddy does something every day. I think he is about to turn me gray."

"Then keep your hair dyed," he said laughing. "Freddy is just an active little boy. When he starts school, he will have an outlet for some of his energy. He'll outgrow it, so don't worry so much," he told his wife.

The day finally came when Freddy started kindergarten. Mrs. Vanderfeldt was glad for a few hours of peace around the house.

When she asked his teacher about his behavior the teacher only replied, "He is the class clown. He may grow out of it, after all, he is a little younger than some in the class."

About halfway through the year, Carla turned eighteen. "Next Tuesday is your birthday," Mrs. Vanderfeldt told Carla. "You may invite your friends over for some games and snacks or even a dinner, if you would like. After all, you may not be home for many more birthdays."

"I'd love to, Mother. Well, — that is — well, if we could get someone to baby-sit Freddy."

"Oh, he's not that bad."

"It's not that I think he's so bad, but he will embarrass me in front of my friends. Remember last year? While we were hanging decorations, he put tacks in all the chairs, and when Shawn sat down, he jumped up immediately, knocking over his glass of punch. Shawn was so embarrassed. Sherry cried when she sat on the tack in her chair. Then he sprayed Vance with a mouthful of punch. You know he will do anything to get attention. Besides that, it's my birthday, and I would like to get the attention that day! If we can't have Freddy out of the house, then I will just go out to eat with my friends."

"I understand, but Freddy would cry if he thought he was missing a party."

"I know, but I will **NOT** invite my friends here, if he will be around," Carla said with determination.

(Continued on page four)

## WORDS OF GOLD



### A Forgiving Brother

Genesis 37:3 Now Israel loved Joseph more than all his children, because he was the son of his old age: and he made him a coat of many colours.

4 And when his brethren saw that their father loved him more than all his brethren, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably unto him.

5 And Joseph dreamed a dream, and he told it his brethren: and they hated him yet the more.

6 And he said unto them, Hear, I pray you this dream which I dreamed.

7 For, behold, we were binding sheaves in the field, and lo, my sheaf arose, and also stood upright; and, behold, your sheaves stood round about, and made obeisance to my sheaf.

8 And his brethren said to him, Shalt thou indeed reign over us? . . . And they hated him yet the more for his dreams, and for his words.

9 And he dreamed yet another dream, and told it his brethren, and said, Behold, I have dreamed a dream more; and, behold, the sun and the moon and the eleven stars made obeisance to me.

10 And he told it to his father, and to his brethren: and his father rebuked him, and said unto him, what is this dream that thou hast dreamed? Shall I and thy mother and thy brethren indeed come to bow down ourselves to thee to the earth?

11 And his brethren envied him: . . .

18 And when they saw him afar off, even before he came near unto them, they conspired against him to slay him.

26 And Judah said unto his brethren, What profit is it if we slay our brother, and conceal his blood?

27 Come, and let us sell him to the Ishmeelites, and let not our hand be upon him; for he is our brother and our flesh. And his brethren were content.

28 Then there passed by Midianites merchantmen; and they drew and lifted up Joseph out of the pit, and sold Joseph to the Ishmeelites for twenty pieces of silver: and they brought Joseph into Egypt.

42:3 And Joseph's ten brethren went down to buy corn in Egypt:

8 And Joseph knew his brethren, but they knew not him.

45:1 Then Joseph could not refrain himself before all them that stood by him; and he cried, Cause every man to go out from me. And there stood no man with him, while Joseph made himself known unto his brethren.

4 And Joseph said unto his brethren, Come near to me, I pray you. And they came near. And he said, I am Joseph your brother, whom ye sold into Egypt.

5 Now therefore be not grieved, nor angry with yourselves, that ye sold me hither: for God did send me before you to preserve life.

15 Moreover he kissed all his brethren, and wept . . . and after that his brethren talked with him.

**Central thought:** Although others may wrong us, we must forgive them just as Christ forgave us.

#### Questions:

1. What son did Israel love most?
2. What did he make for Joseph?
3. How did Joseph's brothers feel?
4. Why did Joseph's dreams anger his brethren?
5. Instead of killing Joseph, what did they do?
6. Did Joseph's brothers recognize him when they came to Egypt?
7. For what reason had God allowed Joseph to go to Egypt?
8. How did Joseph show he had forgiven his brothers?

#### Memory Verse

*"Be ye kind one to another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."* (Eph. 4:32)

# Let's Talk

Joseph was the favorite son of his father, Jacob. Joseph's mother, Rachel, whom Jacob had loved dearly had died. This and the fact that Joseph was born when Jacob was old caused him to have greater love for Joseph than his other sons. It was not wisdom on Jacob's part to show such favoritism, but neither does it justify the behavior of the older brethren.

History says that Joseph was a teenager at the time he was sold into Egypt. He was about the age that many children now graduate from high school. The Lord had a plan for Joseph, just as He has a plan for each of His children. Joseph had many experiences, but God was caring for him.

Joseph was put in prison because of a false accusation. While in prison, the Lord blessed all that he did. He interpreted a dream for the Pharaoh's chief butler, who later recommended Joseph to Pharaoh, the king of Egypt. Pharaoh saw that the Spirit of God was with Joseph and he appointed Joseph ruler over Egypt.

Due to a famine in the land, Joseph's brothers came to buy corn in Egypt. Joseph knew his brothers, but they did not know him. He could have considered this a good time to get revenge for how they had earlier treated him. He could have had them thrown in a pit or sold as slaves. Instead, he fell on their necks and kissed them. He loved his brothers because he had God's love in his heart.

There are many times we may suffer for the wrong doings of others. If we suffer as a Christian, we will get a reward. We must not retaliate or try to fight, even with someone who does us wrong. We must forgive them. This means we are to pardon them and to no longer feel resentment about what happened. Learn to forgive quickly, before they even ask you to forgive them. What if they do the same thing again? Forgive them. Jesus said we should forgive them 490 times a day if we need to.

A good way to forgive is not to keep talking about it, nor to even keep thinking about the

thing that happened. Everytime you tell another friend what happened, it usually makes you feel worse. Another way to learn to forgive is to do what Joseph did; he said that God allowed it to happen. Always remember that God also allows whatever happens to you. Do not look at the person or the deed that hurt you, but look to Jesus. This is what Stephen did when he was being stoned. He did not look at the big rocks, for surely they would have frightened him. Nor did he look at the people, but he looked into the heavens and saw Jesus standing on the right hand of God. Because of this, he was able to ask God to forgive them.

A third thing to remember about forgiveness is that if you do not forgive others for the things that they have done to you, God will not forgive you. So let's ask God for some instant forgiveness so we can always be clear before Him.

—Alitna Cox

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1. Joseph 2. A coat of many colors 3. They hated him and could not speak peacefully to him 4. In the dreams they bowed to Joseph 5. They put him in a pit and sold him to the Ishmaelites 6. No 7. To preserve the life of his family 8. He kissed them wept, and talked to them

"I know Aunt Naomi would take him, but I wouldn't want her to know we are having so much trouble with him."

"Just tell her he's too small to mix with my friends. That sure wouldn't be a lie."

Mrs. Vanderfeldt was very concerned about Freddy's behavior, so she admitted, "I don't know what to do about your younger brother's behavior."

"Mother, we've been studying about children like Freddy in our psychology class. I have learned a technique that might work. You see, we have reinforced Freddy's clowning by laughing at him. Now we need to ignore him and it will go away on its own," Carla recommended.

Mr. and Mrs. Vanderfeldt and his teacher, Mrs. Thurston, agreed to try Carla's plan. After all, it seemed to be a simple solution and a simple problem.

Mrs. Vanderfeldt had no trouble getting the family to stop laughing at Freddy; they were all tired of his actions.

The laughter died, but Freddy's foolishness increased.

During one week, Freddy drew a picture of a space alien and put Mrs. Thurston's name on it. He filled an empty M & M package with gravel, glued it, and sold it for a dime. One day he pulled the fire alarm, causing the fire bell to ring. All the students and teachers marched hurriedly out of the building. Freddy laughed and laughed, but the principal didn't think it was so funny.

The same week at home, he painted the back fence with mud, and he set fire to the trash in the alley behind the neighbor's house. When Mrs. Vanderfeldt was finally convinced that Freddy had done it, she said, "This foolishness has got to stop!"

"Maybe we should take Freddy in for professional counseling," she told her husband that evening. He agreed.

The following Thursday, Freddy was taken for his first counseling session. For the next year he visited the counselor once a month. All during that year he kept right on doing any and everything to get attention.

"Fredrick does all his work, and it seems he may be a bright young man someday if he could learn to be more serious. He has kept the children laughing through the year, and it is very disruptive to our class," his teacher told Mrs. Vanderfeldt.

Mrs. Vanderfeldt was glad when the long summer was over and Freddy was again back in school. "I do hope that this year he will settle down and become interested in his schoolwork," she told Aunt Naomi who had stopped by for a visit.

"I am praying that he will," Aunt Naomi told her, as Mr. Vanderfeldt came in.

"Well, Naomi, what a pleasant surprise," he said as he greeted his sister. "What brings you this way?"

"Good evening, John," she said. "You and Elizabeth have been on my mind lately, and I've been especially concerned about Freddy, so I came by to see how things are."

"We are doing just great," he said. "Carla is enjoying her freshman year at the university. Russell is playing football; he has a great coach, and Cindy is excelling in her piano lessons."

"How about Freddy?" asked Naomi.

Mr. Vanderfeldt cleared his throat. "Fredrick seems to be adjusting to second grade," he answered.

"Naomi," Mrs. Vanderfeldt interrupted, "we have been having some difficulties with Freddy. I guess John doesn't see it as a problem, but if something in that body doesn't change, I think my nerves will break."

(To be continued)



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 42, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 4 Jan. 27, 1991

## Foolish Freddy

(Continued from last week)

Naomi sat carefully listening as her sister-in-law, Elizabeth, related the problems they were having because of Freddy's behavior. When Elizabeth had finished, Naomi turned to her brother, Mr. Vanderfeldt, and said, "John, what do you think father would have done if you had acted like Freddy is acting?"

"I know what he would have done, he would have cut a couple of green branches off that old hickory tree and given me a good spanking with them," he answered.

"Have you tried that on Freddy?"

"Are you suggesting that we use corporal punishment on our precious little boy?" asked Freddy's mother. "The authorities will arrest us for child abuse."

"I'm not talking about abusing Freddy. I'm sure that John, being a lawyer, can tell you there is no law against a good old fashioned spanking. I don't know how you were raised, but I know John and I were raised to respect others and to fear a spanking if we dared to break home or school rules. It sounds to me like Freddy has a bad case of foolishness. The Bible plainly says, 'Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him,' " explained Naomi.

"Surely you don't think those old-time principles have much effect today," said John. "Children have a right to express themselves, and Freddy is just an expressive child."

"John, do you love Fredrick?" asked Naomi.

"Of course I do," he answered.

"Well, if you will remember, the Word of God says, 'He that spareth his rod hateth his son: but he that loveth him chasteneth him betimes.' You can get Freddy all the worldly counsel you want, but the best child rearing counsel you can get is found in that Bible you have on the top shelf of your book case. Freddy needs some firm discipline. The child has not been taught restraint, and if you don't teach him, he'll learn it another way which is usually much harder. He has simply been left to himself, and a 'child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame.' John, you have neglected your children."

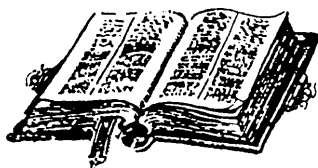
Mrs. Vanderfeldt opened her mouth as if to refute that, but Naomi continued. "I know you and Elizabeth have cared for them and provided clothes, food, shelter, and many luxuries, but your children have a soul, and what provisions have you made for their souls?" She paused for a moment. "John, even if you do not want to live the way you were raised, you at least owe it to your children to send them to church and allow them to have a choice," pleaded Naomi. "I didn't mean to say all this, but these thoughts are deep within my heart."

"Naomi, you must be reasonable about this," replied John. "We have done well with our older children. It is just taking a little longer to get adjusted to Freddy's expressive behavior. Now if you will excuse me, I have an early day tomorrow."

"Elizabeth, will you kindly show Naomi to the door? Good night, my dear sister," Mr. Vanderfeldt said, as he exited the room.

(Continued on page four)

## WORDS OF GOLD



### Choosing God's Way

Exodus 2:1 . . . There went a man of the house of Levi, and took to wife a daughter of Levi.

2 And the woman conceived, and bare a son: and when she saw him that he was a goodly child, she hid him three months.

3 And when she could not longer hide him, she took for him an ark of bulrushes, and daubed it with slime and with pitch, and put the child therein; and she laid it in the flags by the river's brink.

4 . . . His sister stood afar off, to wit what would be done to him.

5 And the daughter of Pharaoh came down . . . by the river's side; and when she saw the ark among the flags, she sent her maid to fetch it.

6 And when she had opened it, she saw the child: and, behold, the babe wept. And she had compassion on him, and said, This is one of the Hebrews' children.

7 Then said his sister to Pharaoh's daughter, Shall I go and call to thee a nurse of the Hebrew women, that she may nurse the child for thee?

8 And Pharaoh's daughter said to her, Go. The maid went and called the child's mother.

9 And Pharaoh's daughter said unto her, Take this child away, and nurse it for me, and I will give thee thy wages. And the woman took the child, and nursed it.

10 And the child grew, and she brought him unto Pharaoh's daughter, and he became her son. She called his name Moses: and she said, Because I drew him out of the water.

Hebrews 11:23 By faith Moses, when he was born, was hid three months of his parents, because they saw he was a proper child; and they were not afraid of the king's commandment.

24 By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter;

25 Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season:

26 Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompense of the reward.

27 By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible.

Joshua 24:15 . . . If it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve: . . . but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

Deuteronomy 30: 19 I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live:

**Central thought:** Every person is responsible for the path they choose. Those who from childhood have been taught the right way, are responsible to live in this right way.



### Questions:

1. What kind of child was Moses?
2. What did his mother do with him for three months?
3. Who watched the baby among the flags by the river's brink?
4. When the babe wept, how did Pharaoh's daughter feel?
5. Who nursed and cared for baby Moses?
6. What did Moses refuse to be called?
7. Who did Moses choose to suffer with?
8. What did Joshua choose for himself and his family?
9. If we want to live, what should we choose?

### Memory Verse

*"Moses . . . refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season."*

(Heb. 11:24 & 25)



# Let's Talk

God has a way of preserving those whom He desires to use. Pharaoh had ordered all the newborn Hebrew boys to be thrown into the river. Yet, by Divine Providence, his own daughter adopted the Hebrew boy Moses, who was to be the deliverer of God's people.

Although the princess of Egypt claimed Moses as her child, he was cared for by his mother in his early years. She was a woman of God and taught Moses in the way of righteousness.

Moses was taken to live in the palace with Pharaoh's daughter when he was a little older. He, no doubt, was educated and trained by some of the greatest tutors in Egypt. However, this did not cause him to forget his training to love God and God's people.

When he became an adult, he had a choice to make. He, being the son of Pharaoh's daughter, could have had many riches, land, servants, and all that king's children inherit. He may have had a chance to be a future Pharaoh in Egypt. However, he refused all this to be one of the people of God, although he knew he would have to suffer with them. He left Egypt and all its beautiful treasures which he could see. He left these things because of his love for his people and the eternal treasures of heaven.

Moses made the right choice, and God used him in a mighty way to deliver His people from Egypt.

Many of you are being raised in Christian homes by godly parents, yet there are choices you must make. Those of you who are attending public schools can accept the challenge to be like Moses. Egypt is a type of sin, and Moses' formal training came from Egypt, yet he still chose God's way. Most of the textbooks and literature you read were written by ungodly people and may be subtly training you that many ungodly things are right. Many of the students, teachers, and activities are contrary to the Word of God. However, just as the Lord was with Moses

and kept him, He can keep you if you will hold fast to the sound instruction that is being taught to you by your parents, ministers and Sunday school teachers.

Those of you who are attending Christian schools have a wonderful opportunity to be enriched with godliness throughout your educational experience. You also have many choices to make, for the Devil is working hard to deceive you where you are.

And, someday you will graduate and be on your own. What choices will you make then?

It is very sad that some of the saint's children who were so richly blessed to be taught to fear the Lord, have chosen the road of sin. They often get into trouble and cause much sorrow to themselves and their families.

Moses esteemed the reproaches of Christ greater riches than all the treasures in Egypt. In other words, young people, the trials and persecutions of being a Christian are better than all the fun and glamor that sin has to offer. Most of the time it is also less suffering, for sin brings much suffering in later years. Someday the world and all its attractions will perish, but the true riches of Christ will last and last.

Every day you are faced with little choices as to what to wear or what to write a school essay on. As you grow older you may be choosing a school for higher education, jobs, cars, where to live, a wife, or husband. These are all important choices, but the greatest of all choices you will make in life is whether you will serve the Lord. It's your choice to serve the Lord or serve yourself. Which will you choose, "life or death," "heaven or hell"? Make the right choice. Be like Moses who chose to suffer with the people of God rather than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season, or like Joshua who said, "As for me and my house we will serve the Lord."

—Altna Cox

(Answers: 1. He was a goodly, or proper, child. 2. She hid him. 3. His sister. 4. She had compassion on him. 5. His mother. 6. The son of Pharaoh's daughter. 7. The people of God. 8. To serve the Lord. 9. We should choose

That night he could hardly sleep. The words his sister had spoken chased one another around and around in his mind. His heart felt like a ton of bricks, and one question, "Have I done right by not correcting Freddy?" pounded at his brain. When he finally did drift off to sleep, he dreamed that the children at school were circling around Freddy, saying, "Foolish Freddy is full of folly." Over and over the children sang this rhyme while Freddy lay helpless on the cafeteria floor. He awoke with such a start that it shook the bed, awaking Mrs. Vanderfeldt. "What's it, dear?" she asked.

"Oh, just some crazy nightmare about Freddy." He replied. "Possibly because of all that Naomi said." He thought again for a long time about what his sister had said, but he reasoned to himself that Freddy would in time outgrow the different stages of foolishness he was going through.

Two weeks after Aunt Naomi's visit, Mr. Vanderfeldt received a call from the school nurse asking him to report to the emergency room at the Hillcrest Medical Center.

Freddy was again playing with his food in the school cafeteria. He would make his famous creations of food, talk loudly with his mouth full, stuff his cheeks full of food, or anything that would make the children laugh.

On this particular day, Freddy had taken a peanut butter sandwich, an apple, and some yogurt for lunch. He stuffed half of his sandwich in his mouth. Then he rolled the apple down the table to the other end. Wham! It hit Philip's carton of milk, knocking it over. Freddy opened his mouth to laugh and sucked the sticky peanut butter sandwich into his throat. It blocked his airway. He couldn't breathe. He began flapping his arms in an effort to ask for help. "He looks like a chicken," the children said, giggling at him.

"Look," cried Janie, "Freddy's a chicken today." The other children looked at Freddy; some got out of their seats and came closer. Freddy turned red, and grabbed his throat.

"He must be Ronald McDonald now, or Bozoi!" laughed the children, as they circled around him.

"Fredrick Vanderfeldt, sit down!" yelled Mrs. Walker, the lunchroom attendant. Freddy turned blue and fell to the floor. "Don't look at him, you guys," said Joshua. "He's just wanting attention."

Mrs. Walker came to settle the children down. One look at Freddy told her that he was not faking this time. "Get some help!" she demanded. "Zack, get Mr. Hall, he's right outside the door."

(To be continued)

## No Weights



"Let us lay aside every weight." (Heb. 12:1).

If you were going to run a race, you would first put down all the parcels you might have been carrying. And if you had a heavy little parcel in your pocket, you would take that out, and lay it down too, because it would hinder you in running. You would know better than to say, I will put down the parcels which I have in my hands, but nobody can see the one in my pocket, so that one won't matter."

You have a race to run today, a little piece of the great race that is set before you. God has set a splendid prize before you, "the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus," a crown that is incorruptible.

Now what are you going to do about the weights, the things that hinder you from running this race? You know some things do seem to hinder you; will you keep them or lay them aside? Will you only lay aside something that everyone can see is hindering you, so that you will get a little credit for putting it down, and keep something that your own conscience knows is a real hindrance, though no one else knows anything about it? Oh, take St. Paul's wise and holy advice, and make up your mind to lay aside every weight.

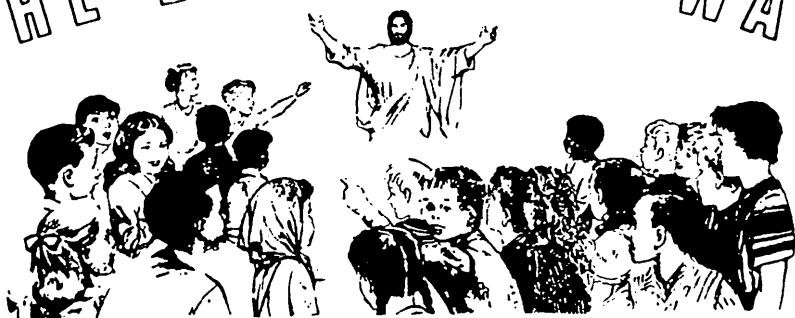
Different persons have different weights. We must find out what ours are and give them up. One finds that if she does not get up directly when she is called, the times slips by, and there is not enough left for quiet prayer and Bible reading. Then here is a little weight that must be laid aside. Another is at school and finds that he gets no good, but harm, when he goes much with a certain boy. Then he must lay that weight aside.

It may seem hard to lay our pet weights down; but oh, if you only knew how light we feel when they are laid down, and how much easier it is to run the race which God has set before us!

—Frances Havergal



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 42, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 5 Feb. 3, 1991

## Foolish Freddy

(Continued from last week)

Mrs. Walker lifted Freddy, and placing her arms around him pressed under his diaphragm three times and dislodged the food. Freddy did not respond. Mr. Hall, the janitor, was the first to arrive. Mrs. Walker checked Freddy's pulse, as Mr. Hall administered CPR.

All the children who had moments ago laughed at Freddy and called him names, stood in dead silence. They circled around Freddy, as he lay helpless on the cafeteria floor. "Stand back!" Mr. Eller, the principal told the children as the paramedics arrived. They treated him a while, then loaded him into the ambulance and sped away towards the hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Vanderfeldt arrived at the hospital only minutes after the ambulance carrying their son wheeled into the emergency entrance. Aunt Naomi and Uncle Clarke arrived minutes later.

Doctors and nurses hurried around Freddy, working with first one instrument then another. Freddy did not open his eyes nor show any signs of life. "I can't believe this is really happening," said Mr. Vanderfeldt, as he watched them working fervently over Freddy.

Mrs. Walker had ridden in the ambulance with Freddy. She acted very nervous and avoided any close contact with the Vanderfeldt's.

"Can't they do anything for him?" asked Mr. Vanderfeldt to one of the doctors.

"We're doing all we can," snapped the doctor. "Don't you see us working?"

Mr. Vanderfeldt walked out of the room; he hated for anyone to see him cry. Mrs. Vanderfeldt followed him and so did Uncle Clarke. Aunt Naomi and Mrs. Walker were already out in the hall. "It's all my fault," he sobbed, hiding his face.

"Don't be so hard on yourself," comforted his wife, "It was just an accident."

"Honey, don't you see, I dreamed about this that night when I woke you up. I dreamed that Freddy lay dying on the cafeteria floor at school and the children were just laughing at him. You see, God warned me. I should have listened. Naomi also warned me; I should have listened to her also."

"Excuse me Sir," Mrs. Walker said, "I was listening when you told about your dream. That is just what happened at school. I'm so sorry. I feel so terrible that I didn't respond sooner. The children were standing around Freddy laughing. I am so accustomed to Freddy fooling around, that I thought this was just another one of his tricks. Please forgive me."

Mrs. Vanderfeldt held Mrs. Walker's hand and said, "I understand. Our boy often does foolish things to get attention."

Mr. Vanderfeldt slumped into a chair in the waiting room across the hall. He sat there waiting with his head down for a long time. Finally a nurse told them they could go into Freddy's room for just a few minutes.

Mr. Vanderfeldt walked into the room and looked into the silent face of his little boy. "O God," he prayed, "I promise you if

(Continued on page four)

## WORDS OF GOLD



### Answering The Call Of God

1 Samuel 3:1 . . . The child Samuel ministered unto the Lord before Eli. And the word of the Lord was precious in those days; there was no open vision.

2 And it came to pass at that time, when Eli was laid down in his place, . . .

3 . . . And Samuel was laid down to sleep;

4 That the Lord called Samuel: and he answered, Here am I.

5 And he ran unto Eli, and said, Here am I; for thou calledst me. And he said, I called not; lie down again. And he went and lay down.

6 . . . The Lord called yet again, Samuel. Samuel arose and went to Eli, and said, Here am I; for thou didst call me. And he answered, I called not, my son; lie down again.

7 Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, neither was the word of the Lord yet revealed unto him.

8 And the Lord called Samuel again the third time. And he arose and went to Eli, and said, Here am I; for thou didst call me. And Eli perceived that the Lord had called the child.

9 Therefore Eli said unto Samuel, Go, lie down: and it shall be, if he call thee, that thou shalt say, Speak, Lord; for thy servant heareth. So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

10 And the Lord came, and stood, and called as at other times, Samuel, Samuel. Then Samuel answered, Speak; for thy servant heareth.

11 And the Lord said to Samuel, Behold, I will do a thing in Israel, at which both the ears of every one that heareth it shall tingle.

12 In that day I will perform against Eli all things which I have spoken concerning his house: . . .

13 For I have told him that I will judge his house . . . because his sons made themselves vile, and he restrained them not.

15 And Samuel lay until the morning, . . . And Samuel feared to shew Eli the vision.

16 Then Eli called Samuel, and said, Samuel, my son. And he answered, Here am I.

17 And he said, What is the thing that the Lord hath said unto thee? I pray thee hide it not from me: God do so to thee, and more also, if thou hide any thing from me of all the things that he said unto thee.

18 And Samuel told him every whit, and hid nothing from him. . . .

19 And Samuel grew, and the Lord was with him, and did let none of his words fall to the ground.

20 All Israel from Dan even to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel was established to be a prophet of the Lord.

**Central thought:** God is calling today for the young as well as the old to do service for Him.



### Questions:

1. What child ministered before the Lord?
2. What was precious when there was no open vision?
3. Who called Samuel in the night?
4. What were the first words Samuel spoke to the Lord?
5. Who had not restrained his sons from being evil?
6. How did Samuel feel about giving Eli God's message?
7. What did Eli say the Lord should do?
8. What was special about Samuel's words?
9. What did all Israel know about Samuel?

### MEMORY VERSE

**"Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him .**

**(Rev. 3:20)**



# Let's Talk

As we study today's lesson, I want you to imagine what it was like for Samuel to serve in the temple. He was very young when he came to live with Eli, the high priest. Eli was almost blind; he could hardly tell light from darkness. Samuel was to open the temple doors each morning and see that oil was always in the lamps in the temple, for the lamps were to always be burning. Aside from these daily jobs, perhaps he did only little things like bringing things to Eli or running simple errands. Whatever he was asked to do, Samuel did it so gladly and with so much dedication that the Bible says, "he ministered before the Lord." To minister means to serve or to be a servant.

As Samuel grew, he was in favor with God and man. The Lord was very pleased with the love and respect Samuel had for Him. No doubt Samuel enjoyed learning about God and the mighty deeds He had done for Israel. He probably learned about wicked men like Cain and Esau and decided that he never wanted to be like them. He wanted to be like Moses or Joshua. He also wanted to give all his life to work for the Lord.

When Samuel was about twelve years old, God began speaking to him. This very first prophecy which God gave to him was a sad one. While Samuel was lying down he heard someone call his name. He thought it was Eli and ran to him again and again, until Eli instructed him that it was the Lord speaking, and told him how to answer. The Lord told Samuel that Eli would be removed from the priesthood because he had not restrained his sons from being vile.

The next morning Samuel was afraid to tell Eli the message, but Eli insisted so he told it all. The prophecy came to pass, just as God said.

From that time on, God began to tell Samuel many things and Samuel would tell it to God's people. Samuel became one of the greatest prophets who ever lived. Everything Samuel said came to pass (happened). Samuel was respected greatly because of this.

Do you think Samuel became great because he was a special child from the beginning? Although he was special, his greatness came from loving God with all his heart and being an eager ready servant, doing God's work wherever he could. Samuel's life of service started with carrying glasses of water, opening and closing doors and windows of the tabernacle, and keeping the lamps burning. As he was faithful in the simple things, God gave him more complex or greater things to do. You can also be great in the sight of God if you humble your heart as the child Samuel did and serve God in the little ways.

Can you think of ways that you can serve God right now? How about being kind to someone who needs a friend, or sharing your Sunday school lesson with someone who could not go to Sunday school? You might even sing a song for some elderly person or share a story with them. Whatever you do for God, do it with all your might. Who knows, maybe someday God will use you as he did Samuel. Remember: "Little becomes much when you place it in the Master's hand."

If you're not saved and serving the Lord, He is calling for you today. Listen carefully to that voice inside you telling you that it is time to answer God's call. If you are serving the Lord, seek to know His voice better so that when He calls, you can heed the call. Be like Samuel and say, "Here am I." —Altina Cox

## BIBLE EXERCISE

List six ways in which you can serve the Lord today.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

(Answers: 1 Samuel 2. The Word of the Lord 3. The Lord 4. "Speak for the servant heathen" 5. Eli 6. Afraid 7. "Let him do what seemeth good to him" 8. None of them told to the ground. 9. That he was established to be a prophet of God.)

you will spare Freddy, I'll serve you. I'll teach him your way. O Lord, forgive me. I know I've done wrong, but Father please help me. Please help me."

Uncle Clarke spoke up, "John would you like Naomi and I to pray for him?"

"Oh, yes," he replied. Uncle Clarke anointed him with oil in the name of the Lord Jesus. He and Naomi prayed earnestly that the Lord would have mercy and intervene in Freddy's behalf.

At that moment, a nurse came in, "You must leave now," she said. "The child is too critical to have visitors." They returned to the waiting room. Ten minutes later the doctor entered the waiting room, "I have some good news," he said. "Your son is breathing on his own. He has lost a lot of oxygen to his brain, but he seems to be stabilizing, and to our amazement, he has opened his eyes."

"Thank God!" Mr. Vanderfeldt said with a sigh of relief.

"Praise the Lord!" shouted Uncle Clarke, and Aunt Naomi followed with an "Amen."

"Thank you, thank you, Doctor," said Elizabeth, shaking his hand.

"I wish I could take the credit for this. I'd become rich if I could work miracles like this one. However, I believe you owe the credit to the God of the universe, and that preacher and his oil. He has some kind of power that I don't have."

"Doctor, it's not me nor the oil, but the One who told us to anoint with oil and pray. Our heavenly Father is a Divine Physician. We owe Him the praise," replied Uncle Clarke.

The next day, Mr. Eller, the school principal called to ask if someone would come to the school and talk to the children. Some of

the children are feeling guilty and are blaming themselves," he said. Mr. Vanderfeldt asked Aunt Naomi if she would go. She did.

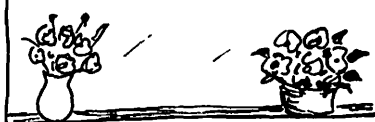
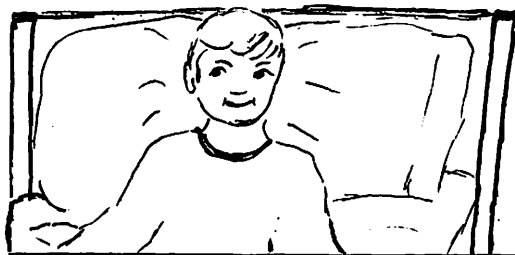
Before going, she asked God to guide her words. A special assembly was called. Aunt Naomi spoke. "Good afternoon, children, I am Naomi Clarke, Freddy's aunt. First, I want to assure you that Freddy is all right. He was a very sick boy, but he is doing just fine. Before long, Freddy will be back in school with you again. I want to especially speak to those of Freddy's classmates who were in the cafeteria yesterday. It was not your fault. Our whole family is aware that Freddy loved to play tricks and would do almost anything to get attention. You know this also, and you had no idea that this time his actions weren't real. You did the best you knew to do. I am a Christian and I believe that God allowed this to happen for a reason. Maybe for several reasons.

"May this be a lesson to each of you to not be foolish. **DONT BE FOOLISH**, could be a good motto. There is a time to play and have fun, but there is also a time to be serious. If you are silly all the time, it can get you into trouble, just like it did my nephew, Freddy. I love each of you and I will be praying for you. Thank you."

Freddy's dad, Mr. Vanderfeldt, was a changed man from that day. He and his wife became Christians. He renounced his modern philosophy about life and accepted the good old gospel way. He learned to truly love and discipline his children, which he wished he had done sooner.

The most noticeable change of course though, was in Freddy. He was still a happy little boy, he still loved to play and express himself, but he was very sensible from that day, and soon lost his title of being **FOOLISH FREDDY**.

—Alina Cox



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 42, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 6 Feb. 10, 1991

## Crippled Tommy

In a damp and dismal alley,  
Where the sunshine never came,  
Lived a little lad named Tommy,  
Crippled, delicate and lame.

He had never yet been healthy,  
But had lain since he was born;  
Dragging thru his weak existence,  
Well nigh hopeless, and forlorn.

Six years old, was little Tommy—  
It was just five years ago,  
Since his drunken mother dropped him,  
And Tommy was crippled so.

He had never known the comfort,  
Of a mother's tender care  
For her cruel blows and curses,  
Made his pain still worse to bear.

There he lay within his cellar,  
From the morning until night,  
Starved, neglected, cursed, ill-treated,  
Naught to make his dull life bright.

Not a single friend to love him,  
Not a living thing to love,  
For he knew not of a Saviour,  
Or a heaven up above.

'Twas a quiet summer evening.  
And the alley, too, was still,  
Tommy's little heart was sinking,  
And he felt so lonely — till

Floating up the quiet alley,  
Wafted inward from the street,  
Came the sound of someone singing,  
Sounding oh, so clear and sweet.

Then he called and shouted loudly,  
Till the singer heard a sound,  
And on noting where it came from,  
Soon the little cripple found,

'Twas a maiden poor and rugged,  
Hair unkempt and naked feet —  
All her garments torn and ragged,  
Her appearance far from neat.

"So you called me," said the maiden.  
"Wonder what you want of me?  
Most folks call me singing Jessie,  
What may your name chance to be?"

"My name's Tommy, I'm a cripple  
And I want to hear you sing,  
For it makes me feel so happy  
Sing me something, anything."

Jessie laughed and answered smiling,  
"I can't stay here very long;  
But I'll sing a hymn for you  
Which I call the glory song."

Then she sang to him of heaven:  
Pearly gates and streets of gold.  
Where the happy angel children,  
Are not starved or nipped with cold.

But where happiness and gladness  
Never can decrease or end;  
And where kind and loving Jesus  
Is their Saviour and their Friend.

Oh, how Tommy's eyes did glisten  
As he drank in every word  
As it fell from singing Jessie  
Was it true what he had heard?

(Continued on page four)



## God Provides For The Disabled

II Samuel 9:1 . . . David said, Is there yet any that is left of the house of Saul, that I may shew him kindness for Jonathan's sake?

2 . . . There was of the house of Saul a servant whose name was Ziba. . . . When they had called him unto David, . . .

3 . . . The king said, Is there not yet any of the house of Saul, that I may shew the kindness of God unto him? And Ziba said unto the king, Jonathan hath yet a son, which is lame on his feet.

4 And the king said unto him, Where is he? And Ziba said . . . He is in the house of Machir, . . .

5 Then king David sent, and fetched him. . . .

7 And David said unto him, Fear not: for I will surely shew thee kindness for Jonathan thy father's sake, and will restore thee all the land of Saul thy father; and thou shalt eat bread at my table continually.

8 And he bowed himself, and said, What is thy servant, that thou shouldest look upon such a dead dog as I am?

9 Then the king called to Ziba, Saul's servant, and said unto him, I have given unto thy master's son all that pertained to Saul and to all his house.

10 Thou therefore, and thy sons, and thy servants, shall till the land for him, and thou shalt bring in the fruits . . . but Mephibosheth . . . shall eat bread away at my table. . . .

11 Then said Ziba unto the king, According to all that my lord the king hath commanded his servant, so shall thy servant do. . . .

12 . . . And all that dwelt in the house of Ziba were servants unto Mephibosheth.

13 So Mephibosheth dwelt in Jerusalem: for he did eat continually at the king's table; and was lame on both his feet.

Exodus 4:10 . . . Moses said unto the Lord, O my Lord, . . . I am slow of speech, and of a slow tongue.

11 And the Lord said unto him, Who hath made man's mouth? or who maketh the dumb, or deaf, or the seeing, or the blind? have not I the Lord?

12 Now therefore go, and I will be with thy mouth, and teach thee what thou shalt say.

13 And he said, O my Lord, send, I pray thee, by the hand of whom thou wilt send.

14 And the anger of the Lord was kindled against Moses, and he said, Is not Aaron the Levite thy brother? I know that he can speak well. . . .

15 . . . Thou shalt speak unto him, and put words in his mouth: and I . . . will teach you what ye shall do.

16 . . . He shall be thy spokesman unto the people: . . .

**Central thought:** God has not forgotten those who are disabled, and He desires that we show special kindness to them.

### Questions:

1. Who was Mephibosheth?
2. What disability did he have?
3. What did David want to show to someone of Saul's family?
4. What words did Mephibosheth use to describe himself?
5. Name the three ways David showed kindness to him?
6. What disability did Moses have?
7. Who is the Creator of the deaf, dumb and blind?
8. How did God provide for Moses' disability?
9. Does God want us to love and help the disabled?

### Memory Verse

***"We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves."***

**Rom. 15:1**



# Let's Talk

God is love, so He has a divine care and concern about everyone of His creation. When He finished creating the world and man, He beheld His creation and saw that it was very good. However, after the fall of Adam, much sorrow, disease, affliction and abnormalities resulted.

Some people are born with various disabilities or handicaps. Others acquire them through accidents or disease. However the impairments may have occurred, God has not forgotten them, and He desires that His love be manifested to those having them through us.

Mephibosheth, the son of Jonathan was born healthy, but at the early age of five he was accidently dropped and crippled in both of his feet. This was a tragedy for a little boy at the active age of five. No longer could he run, jump and chase bugs or frogs like the other boys. His handicap may also have limited him in his occupation. His disability seemed to cause him to have an inferior feeling, for he referred to himself as a "dead dog."

One poet says that God can turn what seems to harm us into everlasting joy. This is what He did for Mephibosheth. The family of Saul were warriors. Saul, who was Mephibosheth's grandfather, and Jonathan, his father, were killed in battle when he was five years old. He might also have become a soldier and been killed, had he been able. Instead of that, he inherited Saul's land and servants to till his ground. He was also given the privilege to eat at David's table continually.

A Chinese legend tells of a man who had an only son who fell off a horse and became a cripple. The father was distraught, but someone told him to wait and see what would become of the incident. Years later, all

the other young men went away to war. None returned. This man's crippled son was saved. He was thankful after all.

Moses had a speech impediment, yet God used him greatly. God told Moses that He had created him and all others who have disabilities. God also provided Aaron to be Moses' spokesman.

We may not know why God allows some to have impairments, whether physical or mental, but we know He is a God of all wisdom, power and might, and He is worthy to be trusted. He is the potter and we are the clay. "Shall the thing formed say to Him that formed it, why hast thou made me thus." It is better to trust God than to question why He allows some things.

One teacher asked his deaf students, "How is it that God gave me ears that hear and made you deaf?" One little girl with eyes filled with tears, bravely wrote on the board, "Even so Father, for it seemeth good in thy sight."

We know that God has power to heal all manner of sickness and disease, if He chooses to. So instead of wondering why some are disabled, let us do all we can to make life a little easier and happier for them. Our nation has provided schools and centers for the handicapped. There are also designated parking spaces and grocery lines to assist them. Respect this, and if you see someone in a wheelchair, with crutches, or a cane, open the door for them. Read a story to someone who is blind, or share a table game with a friend who is unable to walk. Always be courteous by not staring at those whose physical bodies or mental skills have not developed as yours. Remember they are also the children of God and He wants you to show extra kindness to them. —Alfina Cox

(Answers: 1. Jonathan's son being Saul's grandson. 2. He was lame in both feet. 3. Blindness. 4. "Thou servant a dead dog." 5. By giving him Saul's land and his servants and the privilege to eat at King David's table everyday. 6. A slow tongue. 7. God. 8. God let Aaron speak for Moses. 9. Yes.)

And so anxiously he asked her,  
"Is there really such a place?"  
And a tear began to trickle,  
Down his palid little face.

"Tommy, you're a little heathen,  
Why it's up beyond the sky:  
And if you truly love the Saviour  
You shall go there when you die."

Then the little ragged maiden,  
Who had learned at Sunday school,  
All about the way to heaven,  
And the Christian Golden Rule,

Taught the little crippled Tommy,  
How to love and how to pray.  
Then she sang a song of Jesus,  
Kissed his cheek and went away.

Tommy lay within the cellar,  
Which had grown so dark and cold,  
Thinking all about the children,  
In the streets of shining gold.

"Oh, if I could only see it,"  
Thought the cripple as he lay,  
"Jessie said that Jesus listened  
So I think I'll try to pray."

"Gentle Jesus, please forgive me,  
As I didn't know before,  
That you cared for little cripples  
Who are weak and very poor.

"You can see me, can't you, Jesus?  
Jessie told me that you could  
And I somehow must believe it,  
For it seems so kind and good.

"And she told me if I love you,  
I should see you when I die  
In the bright and happy heaven,  
That is up beyond the sky.

"Lord, I'm only just a cripple,  
And I'm no use here below,  
For I heard my mother whisper  
She'd be glad if I could go.

"And I'm cold and hungry sometimes,  
And I feel so lonely, too.  
Can't you take me gentle Jesus,  
Up in heaven along with you?

"I would love you all I know  
And would never make a noise—

Oh, can't you find me just a corner,  
So I can watch the other boys?

"Oh, I think you'll do it Jesus,  
Something seems to tell me so,  
For I feel so glad and happy,  
And I do so want to go.

"How I long to see you Jesus,  
And the children all so bright—  
Come and fetch me, won't you Jesus?  
Come and fetch me home TONIGHT."

Tommy ceased his supplication,  
He had told his soul's desire,  
And he waited for the answer  
Til his head began to tire.

Then he turned towards his dark corner,  
And he huddled in a heap,  
Closed his little eyes so gently,  
And was quickly fast asleep.

Oh, I wish that every scoffer,  
Could have seen his little face,  
As he lay there in the corner,  
Of that damp and dismal place.

For his countenance was shining,  
Like an angel's fair and bright  
And it seemed to fill the cellar,  
With a holy, heavenly light.

He had only heard of Jesus  
From a ragged singing girl  
He might well have wondered, pondered,  
Til his brain began to whirl.

But he took it as she told it,  
And believed it then and there,  
Simply trusting in the Saviour,  
And His kind and loving care.

In the morning when the mother  
Came to wake her crippled boy,  
She discovered on his features,  
Was the look of sweetest joy.

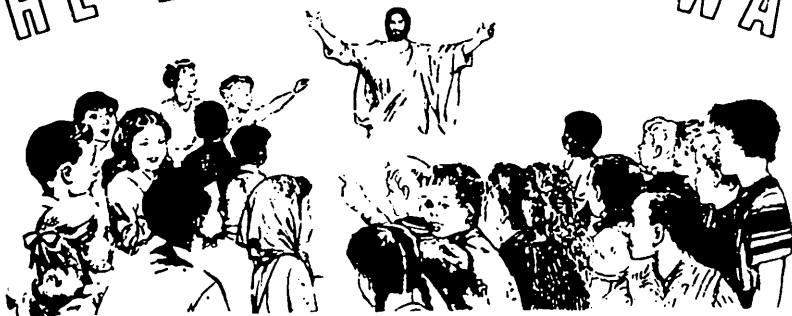
And she shook him some what roughly,  
But the cripple's face was cold—  
He had gone to join the children,  
In the streets of shining gold.

Where sweet comfort, joy and gladness,  
Never can decrease or end—  
And where Jesus reigns eternal,  
His dear Saviour and his Friend.

—Selected



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 42, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 7 Feb. 17, 1991

## A Friend Called Jesus

Today as I sat in church listening to that old familiar hymn, "What a Friend," it brought back memories of my childhood. I thought about how I first became acquainted with this Friend and what a true Friend He has been to me, just as the words in the song say.

When I was a young child, I lived in a very small community in the country of Venezuela. Our tiny one-room house sat on a sloping hill. When one stepped out the back door he was face to face with a high mountain. The small front yard had no grass. It was my job to sweep it each morning before going to school. Most days when my brother Ernesto (Ernie) and I returned home from a short morning at the village school, mother would have a bowl of hot beans or corn for our lunch. Some days, however, she had nothing for us but a piece of flat hominy bread. On these days Mama always looked sad and I felt sorry for her. Papa, too, seemed very upset the times when we had very little food. He worked hard everyday, but the wages he earned were just not enough for a family of four: Papa Ernesto Cruz, Mama Aroura Cruz, my brother, and myself, Sonja.

Ernie and I did not mind being poor. We loved the parrots and other bright colored birds that flew through the trees which covered the mountains. Ernie loved to fish in the river. I loved to hear the whistling wind, and watch the clear flowing water. In the clear pools at the edge of the rivers we bathed and had water fights with our friends. Here is where mother washed the clothing we had taken off after bathing, so it would be clean to put on the next bath day.

Each time that father talked about moving to the "big city" so he could make more money, I shuddered. How could I leave my friends, my fun, the mountain, the birds, and the pools? Where would we take a bath in the city? (I had never seen a bathroom.)

No matter how much I shuddered, Papa kept talking of needing to make more money, and of course moving to the big city. Mother never complained about being poor although she seldom had soap for washing clothes and she knew that Papa had no education to qualify him for a good paying job. Farm work was all he had ever done.

One evening as mother was cooking a panful of rice for supper, Papa rushed in shouting, "Our troubles are over! OUR TROUBLES ARE OVER!" He shoved the paper he was waving above his head into Mama's hand, saying, "Read it!" Then picking me up, he swung me around in a circle.

"Ycal Papa," I yelled, but I wondered what troubles we had.

Mama read the paper, "Wanted, five hard working couples to do harvesting for a major company in the United States. Couples must be between the ages of 25-35, with a limit of three children. Meals, lodging and transportation to the U.S. will be paid by Nucrop. Apply at the big tent tonight."

"It's a dream come true, Aroura!" he said, as he let me go and hugged mother. "We'll go to the United States and make heaps of money. Never have a trouble again!"

Mama smiled and shed some tears of joy, but then asked Papa more questions than he could answer. "What will we do there? Are

(Continued on page four)

## WORDS OF GOLD



### A Young Conqueror

I Samuel 17:1 . . .The Philistines stood on a mountain on the one side, and Israel stood on a mountain on the other side: and there was a valley between them.

4 And there went out a champion out of the camp of the Philistines, named Goliath, of Gath, whose height was six cubits and a span [10' 3 1/2"].

10 . . .The Philistine said, I defy the armies of Israel this day; give me a man, that we may fight together.

11 When Saul and all Israel heard those words . . . they were . . . greatly afraid.

32 . . .David said to Saul, Let no man's heart fail because of him; thy servant will go and fight with this Philistine.

33 . . .Saul said to David, Thou art not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him: for thou art but a youth, and he a man of war from his youth.

34 . . .David said unto Saul, Thy servant kept his father's sheep, and there came a lion, and a bear, and took a lamb out of the flock:

37 . . .The Lord that delivered me out of the paw of the lion, and out of the paw of the bear, he will deliver me out of the hand of this Philistine. And Saul said unto David, Go, and the Lord be with thee.

40 . . .He took his staff in his hand, and chose him five smooth stones out of the brook, . . . and his sling was in his hand: and he drew near to the Philistine.

41 . . .The Philistine came on and drew near unto David; and the man that bare the shield went before him.

43 And the Philistine said unto David, Am I a dog, that thou comest to me with staves? . . .

44 . . .Come to me, and I will give thy flesh unto the fowls of the air, and to the beasts of the field.

45 Then said David to the Philistine, Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the Lord. . . .

46 This day will the Lord deliver thee into mine hand; . . .

47 And all this assembly shall know that the Lord saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle is the Lord's. . . .

49 . . .David put his hand in his bag, and took thence a stone, and slang it, and smote the Philistine in his forehead, that the stone sunk into his forehead; and he fell upon his face to the earth.

51 . . .And when the Philistines saw their champion was dead, they fled.

Philippians 4:13 I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

**Central thought:** God has no respect to age. A young person who trusts in God can be victorious.



#### Questions:

1. What was the name of the Philistine's champion?
2. How many men did Goliath say should fight him?
3. How did the men of Israel feel about the giant's challenge?
4. What did David tell Saul?
5. Did Saul think David had a chance to win against Goliath?
6. What two animals had David conquered?
7. What weapons did David choose?
8. Goliath trusted his sword and shield to win. In what did David trust?
9. By what power can each of us be conquerors?

#### Memory Verse

*"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me".*  
(Phil. 4:13)



# Let's Talk

Most of you know the story of David and Goliath and how he killed the giant with a stone and a sling. On this day the people danced in the streets and sang about the great deliverance God had given His people. David became a hero that day and would go down in history as one of the greatest kings and conquerors in Israel. Also, he was a man who knew the way of God's heart.

When we read the story, it seems that we can feel the tenseness and excitement of the moment as Goliath threatened the Israelite army and defied their God. We can feel the indignation David felt when he said, "Who is this uncircumcised Philistine that he should defy the armies of Israel?" We can also feel the exhilaration and relief of victory as the giant fell heavily to the ground.

This is one of the greatest examples of courage and faith in God found anywhere in history. How did David come to have such faith in God? Which events in his life led him to have it, and therefore attain this place in history?

David was the youngest of eight children. His father's name was Jesse. As the smaller son, he was chosen to do some of the lesser jobs, such as taking care of the sheep. He would be out in the pastures many hours watching over the sheep. He had much time to think of the greatness and goodness of God; he praised God for His mercies. He wrote some of his thoughts in poetry and songs. No doubt he thought also about what he would be when he got older. Perhaps he imagined that someday he would be a soldier like his brothers or other famous men of Israel such as Caleb or Gideon.

One day while keeping the sheep, a lion snatched one of the lambs and ran. David chased and caught the lion. He rescued the lamb and killed the lion. He had a similar experience with a bear. God blessed him to kill it also.

Then came the day when David was called to leave the sheep and carry some food to his brothers who were fighting with King Saul's army. That is how he came to the battle and heard the TERRIFYING voice of Goliath call

out for one soldier to fight against him. That is when he saw the frightened king and his soldiers.

Although David was only a youth (teenager), the Spirit of God let him know that if he would be willing and courageous, God would fight the battle for him. David accepted the challenge and God guided the stone to the right spot to bring the giant tumbling down.

Will you accept the challenge to be courageous for God? Will you be like David? Are there some giants or mountains that you feel you may never conquer? Have you heard someone testify of a great victory in God and you feel you will never reach that place?

You can! We "can do all things through Christ," and by His power we can be more than conquerors. Be obedient to God, and be a conqueror in the little things of life. Do not try to fight your own battles. Go to God in prayer and let Him fight for you. Read your Bible daily. This will give you strength and courage. Then when the big test comes, you will be ready and conquer in the name of the Lord.

—Altina Cox

## *Be courageous for God!*

### BIBLE EXERCISE

Put T before the statements which are true, and F before those which are not. To find the answers read I Samuel 16-18.

- ☐ 1. David was anointed to be the next king of Israel.
- ☐ 2. He used two of the five stones to kill Goliath.
- ☐ 3. He was the eldest son of Jesse.
- ☐ 4. He married one of Saul's daughters.
- ☐ 5. Jonathan was his best friend.
- ☐ 6. David was very jealous of King Saul.
- ☐ 7. David trusted God to fight against the giant.
- ☐ 8. David felt he was worthy to become son-in-law to the king.
- ☐ 9. David gave his sword to Jonathan.

Answers: 1. Goliath 2. One 3. Araid 4. "The servant will go and fight." 5. No 6. A lion and a bear 7. Five smooth stones and a sling 8. In the name of the Lord of hosts 9. Through Christ

you sure we will be chosen? Where will we live? What type of agriculture will it be?" Then, with a serious look in her eyes, added, "How can we leave our families, friends and neighbors?"

"My dear, I cannot answer any of your questions, but after the meeting tonight, I shall.

As we ate rice and beans, Papa said to Ernie and me, "Soon my little dears, you shall have plenty of fruit and vegetables to eat, and meat; chicken, pork, and beef. I shall buy you shoes and toys. Someday you will attend high school, and college."

We crowded into the tent with about twenty other families to apply for the jobs. There were lots of papers for Mama to fill out as Papa could not understand many of the words.

We learned that if we were one of the families chosen, we were destined for San Pedro, California. We would know within two weeks if we were chosen.

Papa anxiously awaited word. All week long he talked about California and all the things he would buy. "Thirty dollars a day!" he would say over and over. Here, on my very best days, I can only make \$7.00."

One evening we heard a knock, Papa hurried to the door. It was Mr. Victor Villarreal. "I have come to offer one of our five openings to you and your family," he said as he sat down in one of our two chairs; Papa sat down in the other. We all stood silent so we wouldn't miss a word.

"We will accept the offer," Papa said before Mr. Villarreal could say any more.

"The workers are needed as soon as possible," he continued. "If you cannot leave within three days, the position will be given to someone else."

"We'll be ready," Papa assured him without hesitation.

(To be continued)



1. T 2. F 3. F 4. T 5. T 6. F 7. T 8. F 9. F.

Answers to Bible Exercises:

## Christ's Childhood



"Thy holy child Jesus."

If I asked, "How old are you?" you would give an exact answer. "Eight and a half"; "Just turned ten"; "Eleven next month." Now you have thought of God's "holy child Jesus" as a little baby, and as twelve years old in the temple, but did you ever think of Him as being *exactly* your own age, that He was once really just as old as you are this very day? He knows what it is to be eight, and nine, and ten years old, or whatever your age may be. God's Word has only told us this one thing about those years, that He was a *holy* child.

What is "holy"? It is everything that is perfectly beautiful and good and lovable, without anything to spoil it. This is just what He was when He was your age. He was gentle and brave, and considerate and unselfish, noble and truthful, obedient and loving, kind and forgiving—everything you can think of that you ever admired or loved in anyone else was all found together in Him, and all this not only outside but inside, for He was "holy."

Why did He live all these holy child years on earth instead of staying in heaven till it was time to come and die for you? One reason was, that He might leave you a beautiful example, so that you might wish to be like Him, and ask for the Holy Spirit to make you like Him. But the other was even more gracious and wonderful, it was "that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him." That is, that all this goodness and holiness might be reckoned to you, because you had not any of your own, and that God might smile on you *for His sake*, just as if you had been perfectly obedient, and truthful, and unselfish, and good, and give you Jesus Christ's reward, which you never deserved at all.

He took your sins and gives you His righteousness; He took your punishment and gives you His reward, if you will only accept the exchange! —Frances Havergal

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 42, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 8 Feb. 24, 1991

## A Friend Called Jesus

(Continued from last week)

One week after Mr. Villarreal had promised Papa a job, we were in California and moving into what I thought to be a *huge* house. It had four rooms, besides the bathroom!

Mrs. Watson, the owner and manager since her husband had died, lived in a mansion. There were hundreds of acres of land in agriculture, fruit, vegetables and cotton. The new boss told Papa that there would be plenty of work year round. Papa said to me, "You will soon have a beautiful doll, pretty shoes, and anything else you want."

Papa made almost \$700 the first month. Mrs. Watson deducted \$300 per family to cover meals and living expenses. The other \$400 was for our family. We had never had so much money. Papa was elated. He bought new clothes for the family. Mama looked so pretty in her new dresses. We each got a new pair of shoes. Papa also bought me my first doll and Ernesto a truck.

Mrs. Watson provided fruits, vegetables, bread, and other staple foods. Papa provided the meat just as he had promised while we still lived in Venezuela.

I was ten years old and when I would think of the river and water fights with my friends, I felt lonesome for them. Mama too, had regretted leaving her family and friends, but now that Papa's dream was being fulfilled she seemed no longer homesick.

Within the next three months Papa had furnished our little home with nice used furniture. My folks were happier than I had ever seen them.

Every Sunday, a church bus would come to the ranch offering invitations to the families to attend church. In Venezuela, we were not accustomed to going to church except for an occasional mass. One Sunday our family decided to go. This was the first time I ever heard about a Friend called Jesus.

The people were very friendly to us. The preacher told about the love Jesus had for us and said that He would be a Friend to those in trouble. My folks thought the service was nice, but had no troubles, nor did they need other friends. They were so happy already. Money had provided their happiness. Although they felt no need of Jesus, they continued to send my brother and me each Sunday to church.

Mrs. Watson offered to set up a savings plan for each of the families. Mama thought this would be nice, but Papa said, "I will never part with my money." He began counting it every evening and putting it in bed with him. Papa loved his money, just like I loved my new doll I had named Julia.

After several months our happiness began to fade. Papa wasn't coming home at night until very late. "Where is Papa?" I asked Mama, one evening.

"He's trying to make more money," she answered.

"Why, Mama?" I asked.

(Continued on page four)

## WORDS OF GOLD



### "Little Angels"

II Samuel 12:13 . . . David said unto Nathan, I have sinned against the Lord. And Nathan said unto David, The Lord also hath put away thy sin; thou shalt not die.

14 Howbeit, because by this deed thou hast given great occasion to the enemies of the Lord to blaspheme, the child also that is born unto thee shall surely die.

15 . . . And the Lord struck [caused it to become very sick] the child. . .

16 David therefore besought God for the child; and David fasted, and went in, and lay all night upon the earth.

18 And it came to pass on the seventh day, that the child died. And the servants of David feared to tell him . . . for they said, . . . how will he then vex himself, if we tell him that the child is dead?

19 But when David saw that his servants whispered, . . . David said unto his servants, Is the child dead? And they said, He is dead.

20 Then David arose from the earth, and washed, and anointed himself, and changed his apparel, and came into the house of the Lord, and worshipped; then he came to his own house; and . . . did eat.

21 Then said his servants unto him, What thing is this that thou hast done? thou didst fast and weep for the child, while it was alive; but when the child was dead, thou didst rise and eat bread.

22 And he said, While the child was yet alive, I fasted and wept: for I said, Who can tell whether God will be gracious to me, that the child may live?

23 But now he is dead, wherefore should I fast? can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me.

I Thessalonians 4:13 But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, con-

cerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope.

14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.

15 . . . We which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.

16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, . . . and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

Luke 20:36 Neither can they die any more: for they are equal unto the angels; and are the children of God, being the children of the resurrection.

**Central thought:** When a small child dies, he goes to heaven. We will be saddened, but can someday reunite in heaven.



### Questions:

1. What did Nathan prophesy to David?
2. While the child was sick, what did David do?
3. What happened on the seventh day?
4. What did David do before he ate?
5. Since the child could not come back, what did David say he would do?
6. Who will God bring with Him when He comes again?
7. One the last day, who will rise first?
8. What is precious in the Lord's sight?
9. What are the dead equal to?

### Memory verse

**"Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them." (Rev. 14:13)**



# Let's Talk

Death is something that young people your age generally do not have to think much about. Occasionally, however, God in His divine providence does choose to take a child or baby. Such was the case with David's young son.

David had committed a sin. Because of this sin the prophet When the child became sick, David did as many loving parents do: he begged the Lord to heal the child. David was sorry he had sinned and hoped God would have mercy and let the child live.

When the child died, the servants were afraid to tell David, as they were certain the news would be unbearable to him. However, when he heard the child was dead, he arose and worshiped the Lord. David knew he would not see the child again here on earth, but he anticipated being able to see him again in heaven.

There are many false religions which teach christening of infants. It's a form of baptism in which clean water is sprinkled upon the child. According to their church doctrine, baptism washes away sin. This ritual therefore rids the child of sin and is a protection, should the child die.

This process is erroneous and unnecessary. The blood of Jesus is sufficient to atone for infants and young children who have no knowledge of good nor evil. James 4:17 says, "To him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin." Psalm 32 says those are blessed whose sins are covered, and to whom the Lord does not impute sin.

God is a righteous judge and would not permit anyone to be punished in hell for something of which he has no knowledge. I John 2:12 reads "I write unto you, little children, because your sins are forgiven you for his name's sake."

The death of any loved one is sad, but often when it is a young person it seems worse. It seems they have missed something by not being able to enjoy childhood and become an adult. Yet if that young person was ready to meet the Lord, they gained instead of losing. Paul said, "To live is Christ, but to die is gain."

What have they gained? Heaven, where all is peace forevermore. They will never be hungry, sick, nor troubled. They are in the presence of the Lord, the angels, and a great many other wonderful saints. They have no more homework, or chores to do. There is no evil there. The testimonies of those who have gone on to heaven is that it was so wonderful there, they did not want to come back to this earth.

Do you enjoy family gatherings or camp meetings? Isn't it great to see friends you haven't seen for a while? Remember the times you wished they could stay longer? Remember how hard it was to say good-bye? Think of the joyful meeting when we all get to heaven. "What a Day of rejoicing that will be," and we will never have to say good-bye.

Stay saved and be faithful, because "heaven will surely be worth it all."

—Altina Cox

## BIBLE EXERCISE

Unscramble the following phrases which describe heaven.

1. HET ROTEHN FO ODG
2. RSSEET FO DLGO
3. LALSW FO SPRJAR
4. LGEWDLNI CLAPE FO STEUOGHHR
5. LOHY LEPCO

(Answers: 1. That his child would die. 2. He sought the Lord and fasted. 3. The child died. 4. He worshiped the Lord. 5. "I shall go to him." 6. Those who sleep (the dead) in Jesus. 7. The dead in Christ. 8. The death of His saints. 9. The angels.

"Money makes your Papa very happy," she replied solemnly.

When we did see Papa, he didn't look any happier to me. Neither was Papa buying much meat any more and I seldom saw him counting his money. One evening he left after supper as usual. He was gone awhile, but returned much earlier. I asked, "Papa did you get more money tonight?"

Papa looked angry and snapped, "Sonja, you must not ask Papa questions now."

"I'm sorry, Papa," I said.

Papa looked very tired and sad. I wondered why he was not twice as happy with two jobs and two incomes. It seemed his night job caused more sadness. One evening as Papa headed for the door, I ran after him and throwing my arms around him, I begged, "Please don't go to work tonight. Stay home with us, please, Papa." He seemed touched by my entreaty and kissed me warmly on the forehead, then turned and went out into the night.

As soon as he left, I noticed he had forgotten his little box that he always took to his night job. I opened it up and found a package of little cards inside. There were a lot of them, with pictures of kings and queens. Some had shapes and numbers, some had diamonds and hearts. "Look Ernie," I said, "this is funny, Papa's night job must be a lot like school." He and I began matching them together. Mama was cleaning the kitchen and had no idea that Ernie and I were having fun with Papa's cards. "I like this clown," Ernie said showing one to me.

Just then I heard steps coming up the front porch. I knew they were Papa's. We hurried to get the little cards picked up and put away. "Sonja," Papa shouted, grabbing the cards. "You children must never bother Papa's things. Never! Never!" Mama came from the kitchen in time to see Papa shaking me and shouting, "Now you must promise to never touch them again."

"Yes, Papa," I replied quickly. Papa picked up the cards and stormed out. Mama hid her face in her apron. "I didn't know that Papa's cards were so important," I

confessed. "He must love them even more than his money."

(To be continued)

## A New Heart

"A new heart also will I give you." (Ezek. 36:26).

Why does God promise this? Because our old hearts are so evil that they can not be made any better; and so nothing will do any good but giving us a new heart.

Because we can not make a new heart for ourselves; the more we try, the more we shall find we can not do it; so God, in His great pity and kindness, says He will give it us.

Unless we have a new heart we can not enter the Kingdom of God; we can not even see it! Without this gift we must be left outside in the terrible darkness when "the door is shut."

What is the difference? The old heart *likes* to be naughty in some way or other. The new heart *wants* to be good.

The old heart is afraid of God, and does not love Him, and would much rather He were not always seeing us. And it does not care to hear about Jesus, but would rather be just let alone. The new heart loves God and trusts what He says, and likes to know that He is always watching it. And it is glad to hear about Jesus, and wants to come closer to Him.

The old heart is a little slave of Satan, taking his orders, and doing what he wishes. The new heart is a happy servant of Christ, listening to His orders, and doing what He wishes.

Oh how happy and blessed to have this new heart!

Do you want to have it too? Then "ask, and you shall receive"; for He hath said, "A new heart also will I give you!"

—Frances Havergal

### Answers to Bible Exercise

1. The throne of God.
2. Streets of gold.
3. Walls of jasper.
4. Dwelling place of righteousness.
5. Holy place.



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 42, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 9 Mar. 3, 1991

## A Friend Called Jesus

(Continued from last week)

The next change I noticed in Papa was his smell and how strangely he acted during those times. "Papa, did you eat some spoiled grapes?" I inquired one evening. Papa laughed so hard and doubled over falling on the floor. I laughed too, and fell on the floor. Ernie joined us and we rolled over and over on the floor. Mama didn't laugh. "Children, get up at once!" she demanded. "Ernesto, you should be ashamed!" she told Papa.

Papa came in one day after working in the fields. He was hiding a brown paper sack in his jacket. I was thrilled, because it had been a long time since Papa had brought me a surprise. I acted as if I didn't see the package, expecting that Papa would soon give it to me. All evening I thought that any minute Papa would bring out the surprise. Finally he went to bed. I thought maybe he had forgotten and would give it to me the next morning.

The next morning came, but no surprise.

I went to school the next day, wondering what the surprise was. After school, my curiosity got the best of me. I decided to just peek at my surprise. I went in Papa's room and looked around for the sack. I found it in the drawer where Mama kept his work clothes. My heart sank when I opened it to see only a black bottle that had a rotten grape smell just like Papa had sometimes. "Sonja, what are you doing?" inquired Mama. I hadn't heard her walk in.

"Oh Mama, I didn't mean to be naughty. I just wanted to see. I thought Papa had brought me a surprise, like he used to do."

She saw the disappointment in my eyes and took me in her arms. "I hoped Papa would change before you found out," she said, then added, "My dear Sonja, pray for your Papa. He is not the same Papa that brought us here. He turned to gambling, thinking he could make more money. But he didn't make more, instead he has lost all the money he had saved. Now he is spending what he makes for drink. But I must not trouble my daughter with these problems. It's just that my family is so far away, and they cannot come to help me. Nor do I have an understanding friend to talk with me."

"Mama, you do have a Friend. Have you forgotten what the church people said. Jesus will be your Friend, Mama. I'm sure He will be a Friend to anyone. Let's ask Him to be our Friend," I suggested.

That night, I prayed the best I knew how for Mama. I'm sure it wasn't a great historical prayer, but God must have heard it. The next Sunday, Mama caught the Sunday school bus and rode to Sunday school with Ernie and I.

The following Sunday she did the same. After going a few Sundays, she asked the pastor and his wife to pray with her. They instructed Mama how to be saved. She yielded and became a new person and found a new Friend that day. She also got a new family; the church people became our new cousins, uncles, and aunts.

Papa became worse than ever. However, instead of Mama spending her evenings crying, she began to read her Bible and pray. Soon she was reading Bible stories to Ernie

(Continued on page four)

## WORDS OF GOLD



### God's Gift of Maternal Love

I Kings 3:16 Then came two women, . . . unto the king, and stood before him.

17 And the one woman said, O my lord, I and this woman dwell in one house; and I was delivered of a child with her in the house.

18 And it came to pass the third day after that I was delivered, that this woman was delivered also; and we were together; there was no stranger with us in the house, save we two. . . .

19 And this woman's child died in the night; . . .

20 And she arose at midnight, and took my son from beside me, . . . and laid her dead child in my bosom.

21 And when I rose in the morning . . . behold, it was dead; but when I had considered . . . behold, it was not my son, . . .

22 And the other woman said, Nay; but the living is my son, and the dead is thy son. . . .

23 Then said the king, The one saith, This is my son that liveth, and thy son is the dead; and the other saith, Nay; but thy son is the dead, and my son is the living.

24 . . . Bring me a sword. They brought a sword before the king.

25 And the king said, Divide the living child in two, and give half to the one, and half to the other.

26 Then spake the woman whose the living child was unto the king, . . . and . . . said, O my lord, give her the living child, and in no wise slay it. But the other said, Let it be neither mine nor thine, but divide it.

27 Then the king answered and said, Give her the living child, and in no wise slay it: she is the mother thereof.

Genesis 21:14 . . . Abraham rose up early in the morning, and took bread, and a bottle of water, and gave it unto Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, and the child, and sent her

away; and she departed, and wandered in the wilderness of Beer-sheba.

15 And the water was spent [gone] in the bottle, and she cast the child under one of the shrubs.

16 And she went, and sat her down over against him a good way off, as it were a bowshot for she said, Let me not see the death of the child. And she sat over against him, and lift up her voice and wept.

17 And God heard the voice of the lad; and the angel of God called to Hagar out of heaven, and said unto her, What alleth thee, Hagar: fear not for God hath heard the voice of the lad. . . .

18 Arise, lift up the lad, and hold him in thine hand; for I will make him a great nation.

19 And God opened her eyes, and she saw a well of water; and she went, and filled the bottle with water, and gave the lad drink.

20 And God was with the lad; and he grew, and dwelt in the wilderness, and became an archer.

Isaiah 49:15 Can a woman forget her . . . child, . . . yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee.

**Central thought:** Love will cause a mother to make great sacrifices for the good of her child.

#### Questions:

1. How many women stood before the king?
2. What happened to one of their sons?
3. Who claimed the living child?
4. What did Solomon suggest to solve the problem?
5. What was the response of the true mother?
6. Did the real mother get her child back?
7. What crisis did Hagar and her son face?
8. Why did she put him under a bush?
9. When God opened Hagar's eyes, what did she see?

#### Memory Verse

*"For I was my father's son, tender and only beloved in the sight of my mother."*

(Prov. 4:3)



One of the greatest and most sacrificial loves known is the love of a mother for her child. This is a natural affection given by God to help a woman properly care for her children.

The two women who appeared before Solomon, each had a child. One child died during the night. No doubt the mother was grieved and somehow the Devil placed a thought in her mind to trade her baby with the other lady. She yielded to this very selfish act. When the second mother awakened to feed her child she found that it was dead. But after daylight had come, she realized the dead baby was not her child. Newborns generally have similar features and characteristics, but it is almost impossible to fool a mother. Even if the babies are identical twins, a mother can tell them apart.

The two women could not solve their conflict, so they took it to the king. The woman who was attempting to steal the baby probably felt she had a chance to keep the child, as there were no witnesses to the crime, yet the all-seeing eye of God saw it and revealed to Solomon a test to discover the truth.

Solomon was not planning to kill the child; it was a scheme to identify the true mother. One woman was willing to divide the child. The true mother had so much love for her son, that in order to preserve his life, she was willing to let the other woman have him. Solomon knew by this sacrificial love who the true mother was.

Our second story is about Hagar and her son. They had been banished from the home of Abraham and Sarah. Hagar had been given bread and a bottle of water. The water ran out, and they were thirsty. She knew if they did not have water they would perish. She could not bear to watch her son suffer of thirst and die, so she placed him under a bush and went apart and wept. They both cried and God heard and supplied them with water.

Children have been spared many serious things because of the love, cries and prayers

of a mother. The woman who appeared before Solomon was more concerned about her child than herself. Hagar's tears were also for her son.

This care and love expressed is a natural love given by God to enable a mother to properly care for her child. One song says, "You can't buy the love of a mother nor childhood again at her knee. . . ."

If you have a mother who loves and cares for you, you are blessed. The Devil has caused some mothers to be without this natural affection. A child of a mother without this natural affection suffers much abuse and neglect. This is very displeasing to God.

Thank the Lord for your mother. Many times she has sacrificed her needs to provide for you. Love her and help her. She is special, because she belongs to you. —Altina Cox

### BIBLE EXERCISE

Match the following mothers to their children:

Rebecca	Miriam, Aaron, Moses
Bathsheba	Levi, Judah, Reuben
Elizabeth	Timothy
Jochebed	Solomon
Leah	Esau, Jacob
Eunice	John
Hannah	Samuel

Here are some clues: Gen. 25:20-27; I Kings 1:28-30; Luke 1:57-60; Num. 26:59; Gen. 35:23; I Tim. 1:2-5; I Sam. 1:20.

### *Appreciate your mother.*

Answers: 1. Two. 2. He died. 3. Both women. 4. To divide the living child and give a part to each woman. 5. She said, "Give her the living child, and in no wise slay it." 6. Yes. 7. They had no water and didn't know where to find any. 8. She did not want to see the death of her son. 9. A well of water.

and I. After we learned some songs, we sang together in the evenings, and when I would come home from school I would find Mama singing as she did her work around our little house, which had seemed so big to me when we first moved in. Ernie noticed the change in Mama. "Does your Friend make you happier than the new dresses Papa brought you?" he asked one evening.

"Yes, Ernie, my Friend means more than 10,000 dresses," Mama answered.

The new change in Mama seemed only to anger Papa. He became violent with his temper. He would throw dishes or anything in sight. One evening as I sat quietly playing with my doll, Julia, Papa came in the front door in a rage, cursing like I had never heard him. He started towards me. "Mama!" I screamed running over to her. Papa picked up Julia and flung her across the room, knocking over Mama's white vase. Then, still cursing, he went to the closet and taking his gun, headed out the door. I was so frightened.

"You must not be angry with your Papa," Mama said as she tried to calm me. "We must go to our Friend, children," she said, taking Ernie and me into the bedroom to pray. We knelt and prayed for Papa not to hurt himself nor any one else with the gun. Soon Jesus brought a peace and quietness over us. I will never forget that night as long as I live.

Mrs. Watson, the owner of the ranch where Papa worked, lived in a big house on the other side of the property. Her housekeeper was retiring and she asked Mama to come and work for her. This was an answer to prayer. During the day while my brother and I attended school, she would work for Mrs. Watson.

Mrs. Watson did not care much for children. At first we had to stay outside until Mama had finished her work and could walk home with us. After a while, however, she allowed us to sit in the family room and wait. Somehow, Ernie and I won our way into her heart. After that she often had a snack for us when we arrived after school. Sometimes it was something special that she knew Mama could never buy for us. "I don't think I'd mind having a couple of children like you," she told us one day. Our Friend Jesus had given us another good friend.

Mrs. Watson paid Mama in cash only once, but Papa took it for drink. Mama told her about it, so after that she bought clothes, food, or other things we needed with the money she would have paid Mama.

"I'm very sorry about what has come of Ernesto," she told Mama one day. "He used to be one of the best workers we had, but now . . . . And to think of the beautiful wife and children he is mistreating. What a shame! What a rascal he is! Have you ever considered leaving him, Aroura?" she asked.

"No, Ma'am, I still love Ernesto. He is the father of my children. It just seems his love for money turned him toward evil. Mrs. Watson, it is hard sometimes not to get bitter, but I have found a Friend who gives me grace to bear it all," Mama explained.

Mrs. Watson was a very wealthy and educated woman. She felt religion was for the poor and unlearned. "Well Aroura, I'm glad that you have found something to keep you going. But should you ever consider divorcing Ernesto, I'll be glad to help you get an attorney. I'm sure you and the children could have a better life if you would."

(To be continued)



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 42, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 10 Mar. 10, 1991

## A Friend Called Jesus

(Continued from last week)

I loved to hear Mama sing about heaven. She sang "How Beautiful Heaven Must Be," day after day. She began to say very often something like this, "Children, some day you may be separated from Mama, but it won't be for long." Each time she would talk to us about heaven, her face seemed to almost glow and she smiled the most beautiful smile.

But I would always say, "Oh, Mama, you will always be with us. We couldn't get along without you."

"No, my sweet ones, Mama must leave some day, but remember my Friend. He will never leave you nor forsake you."

Mama spent the greater portion of the summer telling us about faith in God, His promises, and what a wonderful Father we had in heaven.

I had hoped the day would never come, but alas, one winter day while we were at school, Papa insisted that Mama ride into town with him. They borrowed one of the vehicles from the farm. Mama shopped while in town, but Papa drank. On the return trip, Papa hit a bridge. He never returned home. Mama was in very critical condition, but she was conscious. She asked to be brought home.

It was early in the afternoon, about an hour before school would be dismissed, when Mrs. Watson picked Ernie and I up. I knew something was wrong. She had

never come to our school before. "Is it Mama?" I asked her as we climbed into the car.

"Yes, dear, she is very sick."

"Is Papa with her?" I asked.

"No, dear," was all she answered. It looked like Mrs. Watson had been weeping.

When we arrived at the little cottage, some of the church people were there. The pastor's wife met Ernie and I at the car. She led us in to see Mother. "She's been asking about you," the pastor told us.

I tried to be polite and not push others aside to get to Mama, but I guess I did, for I just had to see her, and yet I was afraid she might be battered by Papa, or maybe even shot by his big gun. When I finally got through the crowd and to her bedside, I said in a soft quivering voice, "Mama, it's me."

In a very weak voice she asked, "And Ernie?"

"I'm here, Mama," he said, inching to her side.

"How is she?" questioned Mrs. Watson.

A lady dressed in white whom I suspected to be a nurse answered, "She's very low, but apparently not in much pain. Her only anxiety is her children. She is constantly asking, 'Who will take care of the children?'"

At that moment I understood why mother had talked so often to Ernie and I about being separated from her. It had

(Continued on page four)

## WORDS OF GOLD



### The Effects Of Testimonies

II Kings 5:2 . . . The Syrians had gone out . . . and had brought away captive out of the land of Israel a little maid; and she waited on [Captain] Naaman's wife.

3 And she said unto her mistress, Would God my lord were with the prophet that is in Samaria! for he could recover him of his leprosy.

4 And one went in, and told his lord, saying, Thus and thus said the maid that is of the land of Israel.

5 And the king of Syria said, Go . . . and I will send a letter unto the king of Israel. And he departed. . . .

7 . . . When the king of Israel had read the letter, . . . he rent his clothes, and said, Am I God, . . . to recover a man . . . ?

8 . . . When Elisha the man of God . . . heard that the king . . . had rent his clothes, . . . he sent to the king, saying, Wherefore hast thou rent thy clothes? let him come now to me, and he will know that there is a prophet in Israel.

9 So Naaman came with his horse and with his chariot, and stood at the door of the house of Elisha.

10 And Elisha sent a messenger unto him, saying, Go and wash in Jordan seven times, . . . and thou shalt be clean [healed].

11 But Naaman was wroth . . . and said, Behold, I thought, He will surely come out to me, and stand, and call on the name of the Lord his God, . . .

12 Are not Abana and Pharpar, rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? may I not wash in them, and be clean? So he turned and went away in a rage.

13 And his servants . . . said, My father, if the prophet had bid thee do some great thing, wouldest thou not have done it? . . .

14 Then went he down, and dipped himself seven times in Jordan, . . . and he was clean.

Luke 5:12 . . . It came to pass, when he [Jesus] was in a certain city, behold a man full of leprosy: who seeing Jesus fell on his face, and besought him, saying, Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me clean.

13 And he put forth his hand, and touched him, saying, I will: be thou clean. And immediately the leprosy departed from him.

14 And he charged him to tell no man: but go, and shew thyself to the priest, and offer for thy cleansing, according as Moses commanded, for a testimony unto them.

15 But so much the more went there a fame abroad of him: and great multitudes came together to hear, and to be healed by him of their infirmities.

Hebrews 11:5 By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God.

**Central thought: A testimony declaring the goodness of God has an encouraging, challenging effect on others.**

#### Questions:

1. What was the common disease back in Bible times?
2. Who was Naaman?
3. How did he hear that there was a cure for him?
4. How did Naaman feel about Elisha's message?
5. After humbling himself and washing, what happened to Naaman?
6. Who was the leper to tell that Jesus healed him?
7. What was the result of the leper's testimony?
8. What testimony did Enoch leave?
9. Should others be able to testify that we are Christians?

#### Memory Verse

*"They overcame him by the blood of the lamb and the word of their testimony, and loved not their lives unto the death."* (Rev. 12:11)



# Let's Talk

The word "testimony" means: A public declaration of truth regarding a religious experience; a witnessing evidence or proof.

Our lesson today deals with the effect a testimony can have on others. A testimony is simply telling the truth about something you have experienced. Everyone who is saved from sin has a testimony. A testimony is a very important tool in telling others about the Lord.

Naaman was the captain of the army of Syria. He was a mighty man very skilled in the art of battle, but he was sick with a disease called leprosy. It was the most dreaded disease in those days. When people got it they were not allowed to live with others. They had to live outside the city, separated from their loved ones. This was so that no one else would catch the disease from them.

Naaman, his family, and the king of Syria were sad because Naaman would soon have to leave them if no cure was found for him. Just as it seemed all hope was gone, a young servant girl from the land of Israel spoke up with a testimony that changed Naaman's life forever. All she said was, "I wish we were in Samaria, for in Samaria there is a prophet of God who could heal my master of his disease." She gave her testimony so convincingly that many believed it. At once Naaman was sent to find Elisha the prophet of God. Naaman was miraculously healed and it all began from the testimony of a young girl.

In the New Testament it tells of a man whom Jesus healed of leprosy, and told him not to tell anyone about it. Can you imagine being healed of such a terrible disease and not telling anyone? Jesus probably said this because He was not seeking any earthly fame for healing the man, but the healed man couldn't keep silent. He testified to everyone about the healing and cleansing power of Jesus. As a result of his testimony, many others came to Jesus and were also healed.

Do you see what good a testimony for God can do? It does not have to be something big,

but it has to be something you can say from the surety of your heart. When you are convinced of something, you will tell about it in a convincing way and others will believe you.

A sixteen-year-old Christian boy we shall call, Jim was working in a department store. Another teenager walked up and said to Jim, "Don't tell on me. Okay?" and began stuffing merchandise in his clothes and in a bag. At first Jim didn't know what to do. He reasoned that if he said nothing he would become a partaker of another's sin, but he was also afraid of what the shoplifter might do to him, if he told.

Jim decided to testify to the other boy. He told how the Lord had saved him and that if he did not report this to the store manager, God would not be pleased with him. The shoplifter dropped the bag, put the other things back on the counter and Jim did not see him again. This testimony stopped the boy from committing a sin and a crime.

If you are a Christian, your testimony is very powerful and valuable to God. He wants you to tell it whenever you get the opportunity. It can be the means of saving another soul from sin or of stopping someone from getting into trouble. Remember that God is wanting you to tell of His goodness. "Tell what He's done for you, others may need Him, too."

—Alfina Cox

## BIBLE EXERCISE

Fill in the book of the Bible which comes between each set.

1. Deuteronomy \_\_\_\_\_ Judges
2. John \_\_\_\_\_ Romans
3. Jeremiah \_\_\_\_\_ Ezekiel
4. James \_\_\_\_\_ II Peter
5. Job \_\_\_\_\_ Proverbs
6. Habakkuk \_\_\_\_\_ Haggai
7. Ephesians \_\_\_\_\_ Colossians

Answers: 1. Leprosy. 2. The captain of the Syrian army. 3. From a young maid's testimony to his wife. 4. Wrath or angry. 5. His lush came again, and he was healed. 6. Nobody. 7. Others heard about Jesus and came to be healed. 8. That he pleased God. 9. Yes!

been a heavy burden to Mama all summer. She had no family in America, and she didn't want us to be orphans or street children. She must have known that something was going to happen to her. Maybe because she felt heaven so near, she was sure she would soon be going there. I looked again at her face. It was white and lifeless, but peaceful in this trying hour. I could almost hear her words again, "My sweet one, Mama must leave some day, but remember my Friend. He will never leave you nor forsake you."

Mrs. Watson walked to the bedside, "Aroura, can you hear me?" she asked touching Mama's hand. "I'll take care of your children," she told Mama. I saw tears trickling down Mama's cheek as she gave a small sigh of relief. She then turned to me and in low whispers said, "Sonja, be brave and strong . . . take care . . . of Ernie. . . I'll miss you, but Mama must . . . must . . . go and see her Friend. . . I love you. . . Remember Mama's Friend, . . . you too, Ernie."

"Oh, Mama, Mama, I love you," I cried. Mama closed her eyes. I kissed her, then lay on the bed beside her sobbing. The pastor's wife took me away and held me tight. Ernie clung to me, and she held him too. Then we cried until we could cry no more.

Mrs. Watson packed our things and took Ernie and I to her big house. The pastor and his wife spent the evening with us. They read us a verse which says, "When my father and mother forsake me, then the Lord will take me up." "This is talking about your mother's Friend," he told me.

Mrs. Watson and the church gave my parents a graveside service. They asked me if I had a request about the funeral. "Just sing about Mama's Friend," I said. And that is when I first remember hearing the song, "What A Friend." I don't remember feeling sad when they sang that day, because I looked up into the sky and it seemed I could see Mama talking with her Friend.

The first night at Mrs. Watson's was so

hard. I kept waking up and thinking it was time to go home. (I sometimes took a nap while waiting for mother to finish working.) Then I would remember I would never again go home with Mama.

Mrs. Watson was a good lady and she began right away to make great plans for us. She bought us clothes, shoes, and toys that I didn't know existed. She took us to a beautiful furniture store and we each picked out a bedroom suite for ourselves. Mine was a white French Provincial, it is still in my room at Mrs. Watson's house. She brought us home new books very often. On our birthdays we each received a new bicycle.

Although Mrs. Watson was kind and did all she knew to help us forget our grief and the past, it was hard for Ernie and I to stay away from those little cottages near the back of her property. I liked to walk in the lane and pretend that Mama was walking beside me. I relived the conversations we had about her Friend. She had told me so many things He had done for her. Sometimes I felt so happy and as if I was not alone. At these times I wondered if Mama's Friend was walking with me.

Ernie liked to climb the tree that shaded the house where we used to live, and feed his pet squirrel that had her nest there. Soon another family moved into the house and the children frightened the squirrel away. Ernie built a trap, and one night the squirrel came back and walked into the trap. Ernie carried it to Mrs. Watson's and turned the squirrel loose in her yard. She didn't mind a bit. Anything that made Ernie happy was fine with her, that is except going down to the cottages. "You must remember that you are not farm laborers any more," she told us.

She also said she didn't think we needed to catch the Sunday school bus any more. But Ernie and I begged her to please let us continue going. She did, although it was against her will and also her pride. "If you must go to church, you could at least go to the big one uptown," she would say.

(To be continued)



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 42, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 11 Mar. 17, 1991

## A Friend Called Jesus

(Continued from last week)

The following year after Papa and Mama died, Mrs. Watson sent Ernie and I to two of the finest boarding schools in America. Ernie and I thought we could not bear being separated from one another, but Mrs. Watson felt it would be best for Ernie to go to a school for only boys and me to one for only girls. I was sent to Northern California to The Academy of Cultural Arts, and Ernie was sent to a pre-engineering school in central Utah. I was schooled in foreign languages and cultural arts, besides regular classes. Ernie also learned foreign languages and took many advanced classes in math and science. Mrs. Watson corresponded with each of us weekly by mail or phone. Ernie and I had our own private room and telephone, so we called each other weekly, and often bi-weekly. We saw one another on holidays. During the summer, we went back to Mrs. Watson's and had great times vacationing with her or with our old friends.

When we were at her home, we always went to the little church where we'd gone with Mama. The church people were our very best earthly friends although we did not get to be with them much, as Mrs. Watson wanted us in company with a higher society. Many of the church people did, however, write to us and call whenever they could afford the long distance

calls. I often wished that one of them had spoken for us before Mrs. Watson, nevertheless, I was grateful.

There were times when we felt very lonely. We soon learned that going in prayer to Jesus took the sharp edge off the loneliness. This is when we understood why Mama loved Him and called Him her best Friend. Mother had said she would rather have Him as her Friend than 10,000 new dresses.

The second year I was at the boarding school, I had a young teacher named Anna. She was also the counselor. One evening when I was especially lonely and almost feeling bitter because Papa had abused us so and then by his drunk driving had killed Mama, whom I loved so dearly, I went crying to her and told her all about it. When I had finally calmed down a bit, she said, "Every heart has its own sorrow. You have this sorrow; others have both parents but neither parent cares to see them. Other students have severe drug problems, as you probably know."

"Sonja, would you like to hear my story?"

I said, "Oh, yes!"

She began, "My mother died when I was only four years old. After that, father hired a cruel heartless maid to care for me. When I would show father the marks on my body from being beaten, the maid would say I had fallen while riding my bicycle, or from a tree, (for I loved to

(Continued on page four)

## WORDS OF GOLD



### Comparing Two Young Kings

II Chronicles 24:1 Joash was seven years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years in Jerusalem. . . .

2 And Joash did that which was right in the sight of the Lord all the days of Jehoiada the priest.

4 . . . Joash was minded to repair the house of the Lord.

12 And the king and Jehoiada . . . hired masons and carpenters to repair the house of the Lord, and also such as wrought iron and brass to mend the house of the Lord.

15 But Jehoiada waxed old, and was full of days when he died; . . .

17 Now after the death of Jehoiada came the princes of Judah, and made obeisance to the king. Then the king hearkened unto them.

18 And they left the house of the Lord God of their fathers, and served groves and idols: and wrath came upon Judah and Jerusalem for this their trespass.

20 And the Spirit of God came upon Zechariah . . . [he] said unto them, Thus saith God, . . . because ye have forsaken the Lord, he hath also forsaken you.

34:1 Josiah was eight years old when he began to reign, and he reigned in Jerusalem one and thirty years.

2 And he did that which was right in the sight of the Lord, and walked in the ways of David his father, and declined neither to the right hand, nor to the left.

3 For in the eighth year of his reign, while he was yet young, he began to seek after the God of David his father: and in the twelfth year he began to purge Judah and Jerusalem from the high places, and the groves, and the carved images and the molten images.

30 And the king went up into the house of the Lord, and all the men of Judah, and

the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and the priests, and the Levites, and all the people, great and small: and he read in their ears all the words of the book of the covenant that was found in the house of the lord.

33 And Josiah took away all the abominations out of all the countries that pertained to the children of Israel, and made all that were present in Israel to serve, . . . the Lord their God. And all his days they departed not from following the Lord, the God of their fathers.

II Kings 23:25 And like unto him was there no king before him, that turned to the Lord with all his heart, and with all his soul, and with all his might, according to all the law of Moses; neither after him arose there any like him.

**Central thought:** It is good to serve the Lord in childhood, but it is better to serve Him all the days of one's life.

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*Serve the Lord, and you will have a happy life.*

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#### Questions:

1. How old was Joash when he began to reign?
2. How long did Joash please the Lord?
3. What did Joash repair?
4. After Jehoiada died, whose ill counsel did Joash accept?
5. What did the Lord do to Joash and his people?
6. How old was Josiah when he began to reign?
7. Who did he seek after in his youth?
8. What did he do before the Lord and the people?
9. Was there any other king like Josiah?

#### Memory Verse

**"But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved."**

**Matt. 4:13**



# Let's Talk

Kings have served a very important role in the history of God's people. They were the rulers of the land, and whatever decisions they made, became law and everyone had to obey it. Furthermore, if a king was a worshiper of God, so were the people.

Joash (or Jehoash) and Josiah were two of the youngest kings in history. Joash's grandmother was a very wicked woman. After his father died, she had all the brothers of Joash killed so she could be the ruler of the land. Joash escaped death because he was hidden by his aunt in the temple for six years. His uncle's name was Jehoiada. He was a priest who instructed Joash in the ways of the Lord.

At the end of six years Joash took his place as king, and his grandmother was killed. Joash started out as a righteous king. He removed the idols from the temple. He also repaired the house of the Lord under the direction of his uncle, the priest. He accomplished much good in getting the people to worship God again.

With such a good start, it is a shame that Joash did not continue with this great revival in Judah. After his uncle Jehoiada died, he stopped following the Lord. He began to receive counsel from the princes, who were the politicians in those days. They caused him to allow idol worship again. He rebuilt altars and places of worship for idols which he had destroyed. Galatians 2:18 reads like this, "For if I build again the things I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor." This is what Joash did; he started out good and destroyed many idols, but then he rebuilt them and ended up doing the same wicked things his grandmother had done.

Now let's compare Josiah's life to that of Joash. Josiah, who also became king as a child, served God all his life. The remarkable thing about Josiah is that at a young age he was able to change almost an entire kingdom that his wicked father had corrupted. While Josiah was very young he began to seek after the Lord. He restored the holy worship of God to the land. He destroyed all the idols and evil priests. He punished witchcraft and

all other activities which were an abomination to the Lord.

Under his leadership the people followed all the commandments of God. Josiah served the Lord with all his heart and soul. He did not turn to one side nor to the other. There was no other king in recorded history that was like Josiah. Josiah served God from childhood until death.

Has anyone ever said that you were too young to serve the Lord? Have they said that perhaps you don't really understand what you are doing or saying? I invite them to look at the lives of these two young kings who served God and their country while very young. God can still use children today. When you are saved you are made a king. You begin to reign in this life over sin and self. In other words, God gives you power to live a holy life. You can rule over bad feelings or thoughts that will come to you, and over temptations to steal, lie, or do other sinful things.

Children can also serve God in important places. Jesus says, "Except ye become as a little child, ye shall in no wise enter the kingdom of heaven." Remember to follow the example of Josiah and begin to know God for yourself. Good counselors are important, and we need them, however, if you rely on others to continually tell you what is right, you may end up as Joash. He was like those who only do right because of the influence of a parent, grandparent, or friend, but when that good influence is gone, they stray from God.

As a child you do need direction, so follow the godly instructions you receive, but also begin to read and pray and become acquainted with God, so that whatever comes your way, you can be like Josiah and not turn to the right nor to the left. —Altina Cox

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"The Scriptures were not given for our information, but for our transformation."

—D. L. Moody

(Answers: 1. Seventeen years old. 2. All the days of Jehoiada the priest. 3. The house of the Lord. 4. The counsel of the princes of Judah. 5. He forsook them. 6. Eight years old. 7. The God of David. 8. He made a covenant to follow God. 9. No.)

climb). Father would punish me, because he thought I was lying. So I learned not to tell him about how the maid was treating me. When I was ten years old, father died suddenly. All of his money was to be mine, but his sister was to take care of it and me until I was eighteen. My aunt did take care of his money, but did not want to be bothered with me. I was sent to boarding schools, the least expensive ones she could find. Finally she pretended that I was a poor orphan and had me put in an orphanage. The home was run by faith, and at times we had very little to eat, sometimes only a dish of oatmeal twice a day. I wore patched clothes and sometimes had no shoes, but the people loved me and taught me to trust in Jesus. I loved living there more than any place I had lived since Mother died. I stayed there until I was old enough to get a job. My first job was in a shirt factory. There I worked for two years. I had learned at the orphanage how to do without, so I saved all my money until I had enough to get into a teacher's training center. I studied at that school four years, working at part-time jobs to earn the extra money I needed. Sonja, I live in the dormitories like one of the students. I do not earn enough to rent an apartment. I took this counseling job in the evenings. It helps me pay room and board. I'm saving my money to some day have an orphanage of my own. I do so want to help abused children."

"Did you ever get any of your father's money?" I asked.

"I never expect to. My aunt is shrewd and had the papers changed and everything arranged so that I would need thousands or maybe a million dollars to prove that I am the rightful heir. There are some things in one's life that one must forget. Always remember, Sonja, that 'every heart has its own sorrow.' You have yours, I have mine, and each student has theirs, that we know nothing about."

Miss Anna probably never knew how much her story helped me. I thought I had been grateful to Mrs. Watson, but I was much more grateful after my visit with

Anna.

Ernie and I both graduated from high school with honors. This made Mrs. Watson very happy and proud of us. When Ernie graduated as valedictorian (person with the highest grades in his class), I was finishing my third year of college. I was only majoring in Education, but Mrs. Watson insisted I go to the best university.

During this time, much discussion was made concerning Ernie and his choice of a major, as to whether it would be aerospace engineering, medicine, or political science.

One day Ernie got up enough courage to tell Mrs. Watson that he wanted to be a minister. She was shocked. "A what?" she exclaimed.

"A minister," Ernie repeated, rather low.

"Ernesto, you must come to your senses," she stormed. "Perhaps you need a rest, or maybe some more time to consider your foolish notion. What does your sister think about this ridiculous idea of yours?" she asked.

"Well, Ma'am, I believe she supports me, but maybe she should speak for herself," he suggested.

Mrs. Watson came the very next day to see me. She did not bother to speak her usual formal greetings. "I have come to discuss this wild dream your brother has. In all of my days I have never known of anyone as well bred as Ernesto who refuses to continue his education, just so he can preach the gospel, as he calls it."

I patiently waited until Mrs. Watson had exhausted all of her words. I then held her hand, and with my sweetest tone, I said, "Mrs. Watson, you have been so kind to Ernie and I. You have given us more than our parents could ever have given us. Had you not taken us in, I do not know what would have become of us. You are a wonderful person whom we love and appreciate very much. But there is one longing that all of our studies, art, travels, and material goods have not satisfied. You see, Mrs. Watson, we remember Mama's Friend."

(To be continued)

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 42, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 12 Mar. 24, 1991

## A Friend Called Jesus

(Continued from last week)

Mrs. Watson was snorting like an angry bull, "I knew I should have put an end to you and Ernesto's correspondence with that little church group," she said with regret. "Instead, I tried to show you two a little kindness by allowing you to maintain contact with your friends, and just look what I get in return. I should have followed my better judgment."

"Oh, but it was the best decision you could have made," I replied. "It is the association with the people at the Church of God that has caused Ernie and I to be the kind of students you have been so proud of. We would never have gained those grades and honors had it not been for the support and prayers of our church friends."

"How do you expect me to believe that?" she inquired angrily.

I took a deep breath and waited a long time before speaking. At last I said, "Consider what has become of the children of the ladies in your society. How have they fared?" At this remark, Mrs. Watson blushed with embarrassment. She knew all too well the truth of my statement. There were six ladies, including Mrs. Watson, in her circle of close friends. They were all upper class and wealthy. However, accompanying the lifestyles of the rich and famous are often tales of woe, and such was the case of these women. Mrs. Kincaid's only son was in a drug rehabilitation center. Mrs. Carter had two daughters, one of whom was undergoing psychiatric care for chronic depression. Mrs.

Famborough's daughter was excelling in education, but questionable conduct on campus had brought much embarrassment to her parents. Mrs. Hogon's youngest son had joined the Moonies, and Mrs. Roosevelt's two children were draining their parents' wealth by sporting lavish lifestyles at costly exclusive universities.

I had no intentions of condemning my peers in bringing them to Mrs. Watson's attention, but I felt it was a good opportunity to testify as to what the Lord had kept Ernie and I from.

Mrs. Watson sat still for a long time, as if she was thinking over all the anxieties that her friends had suffered because of their children. Finally she said, hesitantly, "Well, I must admit that you and Ernesto have never caused me a moment's trouble. I have raved over both of you, since the time you first came into my home. Perhaps it is just a bit of selfishness on my part in regard to Ernie. I had big plans for him, just so I could prove something to the ladies," she explained.

I understood what she wanted to prove. The ladies in the society had strongly opposed Mrs. Watson assuming legal guardianship over us, because of our nationality and family background. I recalled hearing numerous remarks that were made at that time. "Eleanor Watson," Mrs. Kincaid had asked, "are you out of your mind? Nothing will ever become of those poor urchins." Another of the women had said, "I think it would be fool-hearted for a widow to try to raise that boy. He'll never amount to much with that drunkard father he had." This

(Continued on page four)

# WORDS OF GOLD



## Absalom Disrespects Authority

**New Word:** *Conspiracy:* An agreement to perform an illegal or evil act.

II Samuel 14:25 But in all Israel there was none to be so much praised as Absalom for his beauty: from the sole of his foot even to the crown of his head there was no blemish in him.

15:2 And Absalom rose up early, and stood beside the way of the gate: and . . . when any man that had a controversy came to the king for judgment, then Absalom called unto him, . . .

3 And Absalom said unto him, Sec, thy matters are good and right; but there is no man deputed of the king to hear thee.

4 Absalom said moreover, Oh that I were made judge in the land, that every man which hath any suit or cause might come unto me, and I would do him justice!

5 And it was so, that when any man came nigh to him to do him obeisance, he put forth his hand, and took him, and kissed him.

6 . . . On this manner did Absalom to all Israel that came to the king for judgment: so Absalom stole the hearts of the men of Israel.

12 . . . And the conspiracy was strong; for the people increased continually with Absalom.

13 And there came a messenger to David, saying, The hearts of the men of Israel are after Absalom.

14 And David said unto all his servants that were with him at Jerusalem, Arise, and let us flee; for we shall not else escape from Absalom: . . .

18:6 So the people went out into the field against Israel: and the battle was in the wood of Ephraim;

9 . . . And Absalom rode upon a mule, and the mule went under the thick boughs of a great oak, and his head caught hold of the oak, and he was taken up between the heaven and the earth; and the mule that was under him went away.

15 And ten young men that bare Joab's armour compassed about and smote Absalom, and slew him.

I Peter 2:13 Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme;

14 Or unto governors, . . . sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well

17 Honour all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honour the king.

Romans 13:1 Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God.

2 Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation.

**Central thought:** There is a temptation in some children to rebel against authority, but those who do must pay the penalty.

### Questions:

1. Who stole the hearts of Israel?
2. What did Absalom cause in Israel?
3. What did King David want his servants to do?
4. What happened to Absalom as he hung on the tree?
5. What should we do for the Lord's sake?
6. Whom should we honor?
7. To whom should every soul be subject?
8. Who ordains the authorities?
9. What will those who resist the powers receive?

### Memory Verse

**"Rejoice, O young man and walk in the ways of thine heart, and in the sight of thine eyes; but know thou, that for all these things God will bring thee into judgment."**

(Eccles. 11:9)



Absalom was a very handsome son of King David. He was very proud, because he was praised for his good looks.

As the son of the king, he had many privileges that other young men would never have, yet he was not satisfied with this; he wanted to be the king.

He began to undermine the authority of his father. When people would come to King David for advice, Absalom would intercept them before they reached the king. He would tell them that the king had no one to hear them, but if he were judge, he would listen to them and see that they got justice. In this way, he caused the people to doubt that David was a good king.

He also used flattery to gain the favor of the people. When people came to honor Absalom, he would reach out and kiss their hand, making a show of humility and care. These two techniques which were used by Absalom are still used by politicians of our day to gain supporters.

Absalom "stole the hearts of the men of Israel." He led a conspiracy and a revolt. King David and those in authority fled.

Absalom then committed several other terrible deeds against the household of his father. Under the law, Absalom had committed crimes worthy of death, however, David still wanted mercy extended to him.

Absalom's reign did not last long. He was caught by his head and hung under a tree. Some of the men in David's army killed him. "Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall." Prov. 16:18.

The story of Absalom is a clear example of what can happen when disrespect is shown to elders. The Bible tells of other times when youths were disrespectful, such as the time the children mocked Elisha and were then torn by bears.

God wants us to respect elders in His spiritual kingdom and in the world in which we live.

Many uprisings against officials are started by youths. Young people have a lot of zeal and energy. They have great influence on others their age.

Rebellion against authority often begins in the home. Many times a child who is disrespectful to adults outside of the home does not properly respect his parents in his home.

The Lord requires that authorities be respected. They are ordained to keep law and order in society or in the Church.

Many of the laws that govern our land are for our protection. Traffic laws are just one good example, and should be obeyed. There are many others.

The Bible also warns us not to speak evil of rulers. Be careful what you say about those in authority.

Occasionally, there are laws that violate Christian convictions. In such cases we are bound to obey the laws of God instead of those laws. If such a time arises, God still expects Christians to conduct themselves in a Christ-like manner, and not with the attitudes and actions of others who are belligerent and rebellious, or like criminals who have intentionally broken the law.

We are also instructed to pray for our rulers. Let's respect them and pray for them that we may lead a peaceable life.

—Altina Cox

## BIBLE EXERCISE

Unscramble the list of authorities to be respected.

- |                     |                   |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| — 1. Prvusscrio     | a. Parents        |
| — 2. Gnkis          | b. Ministers      |
| — 3. Tabistrebys    | c. Teachers       |
| — 4. Soferfic       | d. Supervisors    |
| — 5. Radasiromtisnt | e. Presidents     |
| — 6. Daltus         | f. Officers       |
| — 7. Strapcn        | g. Kings          |
| — 8. Chastere       | h. Administrators |
| — 9. Rdenssitpe     | i. Adults         |
| — 10. Stimnceisr    | j. Babysitters    |

*'Pride goeth before destruction; and an haughty spirit before a fall.' Prov. 16:18.*

(Answers: 1. Absalom, 2. A conspiracy, 3. To flee from Absalom, 4. He was killed, 5. We should submit to every law of our country, 6. God, our rulers, and all men, 7. To the higher powers, 8. God, 9. Damnation.)

latter remark had really challenged Mrs. Watson regarding Ernie, and she had gone to great pains helping Ernie become valedictorian of his class and earn many other outstanding awards, civic honors, and scholarships.

"Mrs. Watson, I believe that you have proven to them that regardless of a person's race or background, if given a fair chance and support, excellence can be attained. I admire you for your courage to try. There are very few people of your status who would have done what you did. I give you my personal award as *The Most Outstanding Woman in America*.

Mrs. Watson blushed again. "I don't suppose I could truly take all the credit, for I must admit that your brother is almost a genius." She paused for a moment, then continued, "And it just seems like such a waste of his brilliance to preach. Especially if he should chose to preach in such a small church I— I— I— am persuaded that with his qualities, he could be the next great evangelist," she said beaming.

I was surprised to hear Mrs. Watson refer to religion, as that was a subject I had never heard her discuss with any approval. I decided to seize the opportunity to inquire further. "What is your religious background?" I asked.

"I was raised a strict Methodist. My family attended church three times a week or more. Because of this I missed out on many of the pleasures that the other young people enjoyed. I purposed when I left home that church would not be a priority of mine."

"Do you ever miss it?" I questioned.

"Miss it? Most certainly not!" she exclaimed. "How could I miss the dry formalism of that place? Why I could find more enjoyment hearing a lecture on 'The Art of Quilting' than I would hearing those preach-

ers. And you know I care nothing about quilting.

"Frankly, Sonja, I don't have much need for religion. Most of the ladies in my circle have invited me to join their churches, but it seems to serve no purpose other than maybe make them feel religiously better than me. But I do more good than any of them. I donate to charities and volunteer my services to help others. Why should I join a church?"

"What about Mama? I asked. "Did religion make a difference in her life?"

"Yes," she answered, "If there is such a thing as true religion, Aurora had it. I have never seen anyone like her. But I must confess that sometimes I wondered if she had lost her mind. I don't see how she stayed with your father all that time without murmuring. I marvel when I think of the strength and patience she had. Though very poor and abused, she seemed to be happy, and she had such peace. . . . But you see, Sonja, your mama needed religion; she was a poor lonely soul. I have everything I need," she concluded.

"Have you ever been to that little Church of God chapel?" I asked. "It is only about four miles from your home."

"No, I can't say that I have," she replied.

"Would you please go with Ernie and I just one time when we are home together?" I begged.

She looked a little bewildered at my invitation. I then quickly added, "Perhaps you could at least see where Ernie got his peculiar notion." We both chuckled.

"Now, that I would like to see," she said, "for it sure makes me angry. Maybe I could save this genius boy after all. I won't promise, but let me think it over," she said, reaching for her purse to leave.

(To be continued)





# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 42, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 13 Mar. 31, 1991

## A Friend Called Jesus

(Continued from last week)

Ernie and I were home for summer break. The following Sunday was a day I never dreamed of. While Ernie and I prepared for morning church service, I overheard Mrs. Watson say to the housekeeper, "Maria, keep the breakfast light, I have plans this morning."

"Why, Mrs. Watson, surely you aren't going to church?" Maria teased.

"Don't sound so surprised, Maria. I guess this is a phenomenon, but actually I am accepting an invitation from Sonja. I have always accepted her invitations to lectures or other events, and I see no reason to refuse this one either," she explained.

I ran excitedly to Ernie's room to share the good news with him. "Mrs. Watson's going to church with us today! I heard her tell Maria."

"Glory to God!" Ernie said softly. "This is a *real* answer to prayer."

As we came down the stairs for breakfast, Mrs. Watson met us with a cheerful, "Good morning!" Then knowing that I would be pleased, she looked directly at me and said, "I have decided to accept your invitation, Sonja. We can go to the church in my car."

"Wonderful!" I said, trying to contain my excitement.

We all sat down for breakfast, but I could scarcely eat a bite. When we finished, Ernie got the song books and Bibles and we headed for the limousine. Charles, the chauffeur, started the car and headed down the road to the right. "He's going the wrong way," I said under my breath, thinking that Charles did not know where the chapel was.

"No, Miss Sonja, these are the orders I got from Mrs. Watson," he said. Mrs. Watson nodded her head, yes.

"Excuse me," I said astonished. He drove us to the back of the property where the little rows of cottages were. I could see the one we had lived in, and in my memory could see Mama, Ernie, and I walking to the bus stop.

"Isn't this where the bus picks up the children for Sunday school?" asked Mrs. Watson.

"Yes, Ma'am," we answered.

"Well then, what are we waiting for?" she said, as Charles opened the door for her to exit. Ernie and I followed.

I couldn't imagine Mrs. Watson riding the old church bus, but here she was, waiting in line with Ernie, myself, and some of the farm laborers.

"Honk! Honk!" It was the old church bus. By now, many workers were standing in their yards watching as Mrs. Watson actually boarded the bus. The children seemed awed by her presence and stood back to let her on first. She and I sat together. I could hardly keep from laughing as I watched, from the corner of my eye, her struggling to keep her composure as we rode over the bumps. She held one hand on her hat and the other hand on the seat. When I could finally contain my laughter and I realized Mrs. Watson was really going to church with us, I felt strangely delighted.

You should have seen the surprised look on Pastor Allen's face when Mrs. Watson, a little wrinkled, with dust covering her white hat, stepped off that bus. Ernie held on to her left arm, as we escorted her into the little chapel. The fresh country scent hit me as we stepped in. It felt so good to be back in the

(Continued on page four)

## WORDS OF GOLD



### The Commandment With Promise

Exodus 20:12 Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

Leviticus 19:3 Ye shall fear every man his mother, and his father, . . .

20:9 For every one that curseth his father or his mother shall be surely put to death: he hath cursed his father or his mother; his blood shall be upon him.

Deuteronomy 21:18 If a man have a stubborn and rebellious son, which will not obey the voice of his father, or the voice of his mother, and that, when they have chastened him, will not hearken unto them:

19 Then shall his father and his mother lay hold on him, and bring him out unto the elders of his city, and unto the gate of his place;

20 And they shall say unto the elders of his city, This our son is stubborn and rebellious, he will not obey our voice; he is a glutton, and a drunkard.

21 And all the men of his city shall stone him with stones, that he die: so shalt thou put evil away from among you; and all Israel shall hear, and fear.

Proverbs 23:22 Hearken unto thy father . . . and despise not thy mother when she is old.

30:17 The eye that mocketh at his father, and despiseth to obey his mother, the ravens of the valley shall pick it out, and the young eagles shall eat it.

Mark 7:9 And he [Jesus] said unto them, Full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition.

10 For Moses said, Honour thy father and thy mother; and, Whoso curseth father or mother, let him die the death:

11 But ye say, If a man shall say to his father or mother, It is Corban, that is to say,

a gift, by whatsoever thou mightest be effected by me; he shall be free.

12 And ye suffer him no more to do ought for his father or his mother;

13 Making the word of God of none effect through your tradition, which ye have delivered: and many such like things do ye.

Proverbs 1:8 My son, hear the instruction of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother:

9 For they shall be an ornament of grace unto thy head, and chains about thy neck.

Ephesians 6:1 Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right.

2 Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise;

3 That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.

**Central thought:** God commands that parents be honored, and those who do not must repent for their actions or be punished.



#### Questions:

1. Who should every man fear?
2. What was the penalty for cursing one's parents?
3. What happened to rebellious children?
4. By what did the Pharisee's make God's Word of none effect?
5. Does honoring one's parents include caring for them when they are old?
6. Should parental instructions be regarded?
7. What is "right" for children to do?
8. What promise is given to those who honor their parents?

#### Memory Verse

**"Honour thy father and mother;  
which is the first commandment  
with promise;"**

**Eph. 6:2**



"Honor thy father and thy mother" is a very important commandment of God. It is the backbone of a home, a city, or a nation. It is vital in the establishment of laws and order in a society.

Soon after man disobeyed God in the garden of Eden, God established that a woman was to be subject to her husband. The two of them would then be responsible for the children.

Next, on Mt. Sinai, when God gave The Ten Commandments, He established another law and principle to maintain family order. This was the commandment to "honor your father and mother." The penalty for repeatedly disobeying this commandment was death. This was not because God was cruel, but because He wanted the nation of Israel to be a special happy people in the earth. God knew that to establish a society that would be happy and righteous, some guidelines must be given.

Parents were to teach and train children in the ways of the Lord, but in order to do this properly children must be obedient. He gave a commandment for children to honor their parents.

This command to reverence your parents does not end with childhood. Even after you are an adult, God expects you to continue to honor them. The Jews were so wicked that they tried to get around obeying this commandment. They made a tradition called, "Corban," in which they would give gifts of money to the priests in the temple, thus freeing them of the responsibility of honoring and caring for their parents in their old age. God was not pleased with this practice and Jesus condemned it, saying that the commandment to honor parents was more important than any custom men might make.

Under the law, children who rebelled against their parents were stoned. The parents were responsible to make their children work and be good citizens. But, if the child did not obey or became an evil citizen who

spent his days drinking, God commanded the parents to report it to the leaders of the city. The child would then be stoned. In this way, the land of Israel was spared many of the problems we have in our country today.

Even though rebellion may be in a beautiful lady or handsome young man, it is as the sin of witchcraft. In Old Testament times, the penalty for rebellion was the same as that for those who practiced witchcraft—they were stoned. The practice of stoning is no longer used to punish rebellious children, but God still commands that children be punished who do not honor and obey their parents.

**What do you do if you have unsaved parents? God's Word does not say to only honor saved parents. Even if your father is an alcoholic, he still deserves your kindness. As long as your parents are not requiring you to do things that are sinful, you are to obey them while you are under their care.**

What are some ways you can show honor to your parents? One way is to regard the way you speak to them. Watch your tone of voice and the words you choose. Be careful about resentful or unkind feelings toward them, or hateful scowling looks which you may be tempted to have. Obey the curfews and rules they have established in your home. Do not make ill comparisons of your parents with someone else's parents whom you think are nicer. Offer to lend a hand to help, without being told. Give small gifts, or write notes of appreciation to them. I am sure you can think of many other ways to show honor to them. When you honor your parents, you are honoring God.

Remember to do well by honoring your parents, because you may one day be a parent also, and the patterns that you have established will be handed to your children. They will treat you the way you have treated your parents.

—Altitia Cox

—Altina Cox

*"Honor thy father and mother."*

Answers: 1. His father and mother. 2. Death. 3. They were stoned. 4. By their traditions. 5. Yes. 6. Yes. 7. To obey their parents. 8. They will have a good long life.

house of the Lord. We chose a seat the third row from the front. It seemed to me that Mrs. Watson's face was glowing that day as we walked by her side up the aisle.

One of the sisters offered Mrs. Watson a pillow, fan, and song book. She took the song book and said, "Thank you, I'll be fine." When someone called, "Blessed Assurance," she whispered to me, "I haven't heard that song since I was a girl." She then sang along with everyone. I didn't know that she had such a lovely voice.

I saw Mrs. Watson dot her eyes with her beautiful white-laced handkerchief a few times during the service.

The subject of Bro. Allen's message was, "What will a man profit if he should gain the whole world and then lose his soul?" He talked about the rich young ruler who went away unhappy because he would not give his riches to the poor. He also spoke about the rich man who refused to help a poor beggar named Lazarus. When the rich man died, he went to hell, but when Lazarus died, he was carried to heaven by the angels. The message would have stirred most anyone to think about the condition of their soul. One might have thought he knew Mrs. Watson would be there, but no one had told him, for we didn't know she would be coming with us until a few minutes before leaving for Sunday school. Bro Allen also quoted a verse of song, which says: "Many kingdoms you may share, You may be a millionaire, But without Jesus, you won't make heaven. Deeds and titles you may claim, Everybody know your name, But without Jesus, you won't make heaven."

Mrs. Watson had listened very attentively, but at this point she dropped her head. I thought maybe it was at this point when she realized that *having everything* was not much profit to her.

An invitation was given for anyone who wanted to pray to come forward. While the congregation sang: "What will become of all your fortune and land, Silver and gold, riches untold: When you have made it all your purpose and aim, To gain all this world, then lose your soul. What will be your profit, To gain all this world then lose your soul. Stop just a moment now and count up the cost, Look and behold, your fearful goal: Surrender now to Him that hung on the cross, Suffered and died to save your soul," two farm workers went forward and knelt at the altar. After they were finished praying, the offering was taken. Then Bro. Allen said, "We

thank the Lord for the presence of everyone. We'd like to acknowledge our visitors and if anyone has a word to express, they may do so at this time."

Mrs. Watson rose to her feet and said, "It has truly been a privilege to be here with you today. I have heard a lot about this little church. Most of you know I am Eleanor Watson, and because of what is taught at this church, I have a group of some of the finest and most honest employees around. Pastor Allen, I would like to personally thank you for the care that you have given Sonja and Ernesto. You gave them something I wasn't able to give. You have finished what their mother Aurora Cruz began, in teaching them Christian principles. Aurora used to often tell me of her Friend called Jesus. She said she wanted Sonja and Ernie to always remember Him. I thank you on behalf of Aurora and myself for keeping that memory of her Friend alive. She left me two wonderful children to raise, . . . and my son Ernesto, I am proud to say will soon be one of your ministers."

Ernie said he almost fell out of his chair at those statements. He had never heard Mrs. Watson call him "son," nor had he publicly told of his calling to be a minister, and to hear her support his decision was overwhelming!

Mrs. Watson continued, "I do have one request, if it is not asking too much. Will you please sing a verse of "What a Friend" in memory of my friend Aurora, whose best Friend was Jesus."

Bro. Allen asked the congregation to stand. They sang: "What a Friend we have in Jesus, All our sins and griefs to bear, What a privilege to carry, Everything to God in prayer! Oh, what peace we often forfeit, Oh, what needless pain we bear. All because we do not carry Everything to God in prayer."

Mrs. Watson and I were both weeping by the time they started the second verse. For a moment I forgot where I was, as I looked toward heaven and thought about Mama and what a precious Friend that I too had found Jesus to be.

I felt movement at my side and I looked to see Mrs. Watson walking down the aisle. She knelt at the altar, took off her white hat and laid it neatly on the altar by her white gloves. Then she prayed.

I smiled as the tears rolled down my cheeks. I knew Mrs. Watson was going to find our Friend called Jesus!

—Written by Altina Cox

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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Vol. 42, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 1 April 7, 1991

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## Dai and the Oats

Dai had lived in a village high up in the mountains of South Vietnam. She laughed, ran and played with the many other children. Sometimes Dai lay in the warm sun.

She wore only a length of cloth and several strings of beads, but there was nearly always plenty of rice to eat. Her father planted rice near the river and in the hollows where the rain made pools.

A man from their tribe had told them about God. Almost everyone in the village believed in Jesus, and even though Dai was young, she knew that the good things in her life had something to do with Jesus.

Then had come that awful night! All Dai could remember about it was the screaming, and her mother clutching her hand tightly as she ran into the woods.

All the next day they hid in the shadows of the woods with other children and mothers who had also come there to hide. There was no food to eat nor water to drink. Dai whimpered, but her mother warned her that she must be quiet.

The following day one of the women sneaked out of the woods and was gone a long time. When she returned, she was crying. Between sobs, she said, "The old men are dead. The young men are gone. I found only Yoam. He had crawled to the edge of the field and could crawl no more." Dai understood, Yoam's legs were crooked, so he couldn't run as the other boys had.

"He told me that the men from the North did the killing, and made the young men go with them. They also took all the rice and burned the cornfields," she said.

Dai began to cry, because she wanted some rice. She was so hungry that her stomach hurt.

The woman continued speaking, "The soldiers from the North have gone. We can go back to the village."

Slowly Dai followed her mother back to the village. At the sight of it, Dai sat down and cried. The bamboo shacks had been knocked down, and nearly everything had been taken. Her mother did find a few vegetables in one of the fields and cooked them with bamboo sprouts, so at last Dai's stomach stopped hurting.

All day long the women wandered around the village trying to get their houses repaired. Dai and the other children did not feel like playing. It was a sad time.

That night the women built a big fire. Everyone huddled around it and talked about what to do. They decided that they must go down the mountain to the town below. They had heard that other women whose husbands had been killed and whose homes had been destroyed had gone there.

Early in the morning, Dai's mother found some tender leaves, which she cooked for her family. Dai ate them, but they didn't taste good like rice.

(Continued on page four)

## WORDS OF GOLD



### A Mission Before Birth

Luke 1:5 There was . . . a certain priest named Zacharias, . . . and his wife . . . was Elisabeth.

6 And they were both righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless.

7 And they had no child, . . . and they both were now well stricken in years.

8 And it came to pass, that while he executed the priest's office before God . . .

10 And the whole multitude of the people were praying without at the time of incense.

11 . . . There appeared unto him an angel of the Lord. . .

12 And when Zacharias saw him, he was troubled, and fear fell upon him.

13 But the angel said unto him, Fear not, Zacharias: for thy prayer is heard; and thy wife Elisabeth shall bear thee a son, and thou shalt call his name John.

14 And thou shalt have joy and gladness; and many shall rejoice at his birth.

15 For he shall be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink; and he shall be filled with the Holy Ghost, even from his mother's womb.

16 And many of the children of Israel shall he turn to the Lord their God.

17 . . . He shall go before him [Jesus] . . . to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just; to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.

18 And Zacharias said unto the angel, Whereby shall I know this? for I am an old man, and my wife well stricken in years.

19 And the angel answering said unto him, I am Gabriel, that stand in the presence of God; and am sent to speak . . . these glad tidings.

20 And, behold, thou shalt be dumb, and not able to speak, until the day that these things shall be performed, because thou believest not my words, . . .

21 And the people waited for Zacharias, and marvelled that he tarried so long in the temple.

22 And when he came out, he could not speak unto them: and they perceived that he had seen a vision in the temple: . . .

23 And it came to pass, that, as soon as the days of his ministration were accomplished, he departed to his own house.

**Central Thought:** Zacharias was promised a son whose purpose in life was told by Divine prophecy.

#### Questions:

1. What was the name of the priest and his wife?
2. Which of them were righteous before God?
3. Did they have children?
4. Who appeared unto Zacharias?
5. How would many people feel about this son of Zacharias?
6. To what would the disobedient be turned?
7. Why didn't Zacharias believe the angel?
8. What was Zacharias' punishment?
9. In whose spirit and power would the child be born?

#### Bible Verse

**"Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: . . ."** Mal. 3:1



# Let's Talk

In our past few lessons, we have been considering the lives of children and young people in the Old Testament. We have seen how God mightily used many of them who yielded their lives to Him, and how He punished those who disobeyed Him.

Today, we begin our study of the youths in the New Testament. The story of John the Baptist is first.

While the priest, Zacharias, was in the temple performing his religious duties, he received a special visit by an angel. Although the message the angel spoke was a personal message to Zacharias and his wife Elizabeth, it would also have an effect on all mankind.

Zacharias and his wife were both living righteously before God and were awaiting the coming of Christ just as many others were. As they went about pleasing God, they had no idea they would serve an important place in the coming of the Saviour.

Zacharias was overwhelmed with excitement when the angel spoke the message to him. It sounded unbelievable! So Zacharias asked for a sign. As a result of this unbelief, he was struck dumb, and was unable to speak another word for almost a year.

The birth of this child was a miracle. For one reason, Zacharias and Elizabeth were well past the normal age for bearing children. Secondly, this child was to come in the spirit of Elias, or Elijah, and was filled with the Holy Ghost before birth. Finally, his mission or purpose in life was declared many years before he was born.

Two prophets, Isaiah and Malachi, prophesied many years before John's birth that God was sending a messenger who would come to get the hearts of the people ready to receive the Lord.

Zacharias knew from the message of the angel, that his son would not be a priest performing services in the temple

as he had done, neither would he become a carpenter as some of the other relatives were. Instead he would be a preacher of repentance. Repentance is the message of God, which is forever settled in heaven.

Zacharias was rebuked because he failed to believe the words spoken by the angel who came from standing in the presence of God. Today many people are doing as Zacharias. They do not believe the Word of God which is spoken by His messengers. Take heed that you will not be one of those who does not believe God's Word.  
—Altina Cox

Wouldn't you love to have an angel speak to you? I would. I'm sure I would also be a little surprised and maybe a little doubtful if the angel would tell me something, normally impossible, was going to happen to me. We are all human and prone to unbelief. But remember what Jesus said to the father of the boy possessed with devils? (Mark 9: 16-27). Jesus said, "If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth."

The father cried out, "Lord, I believe; help thou my unbelief." Jesus helped the man so he could believe, and the son was delivered.

If you are having trouble believing the Word of God, you can ask God to help you believe His Word and He will surely help you.

The Devil wants children and adults to say, "I can't believe." This is confessing for the Devil. Sometimes we must get really mean with ourselves and make ourselves believe in God and His Word, regardless of what thoughts come to our mind. Apostle Paul said, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." Phil. 4:13.  
—Charlotte Huskey

(Answers: 1. Zacharias and Elizabeth. 2. They both were. 3. No. 4. An angel of the Lord. 5. They would rejoice. 6. To the wisdom of the just. 7. Because he and his wife were old. 8. He was unable to speak. 9. In the spirit of Elias, or Elijah.)

Afterwards, her mother rolled up in an old blanket the few things she had found. Slowly the procession of women and children made their way down the mountainside. Leaves were the only food they had. Dai would chew some for a while then spit them out. Later when she felt very hungry, she would find more leaves to chew. Chewing on something seemed to help her stomach not hurt so badly.

That night they huddled together under a big tree. Again at dawn they started walking. It was such a long way! Dai had not known the world was so big. Why she had walked two days and hadn't found the end!

Toward the end of the day they noticed that the trees grew farther and farther apart. Then there were terraced fields. Dai could see that rice was planted in the fields. The very sight of the rice made her more hungry.

At last, in the distance, Dai could see a group of bamboo huts. Her mother pointed to them and said, "That is our new village—if they will let us live there."

Dai nodded, "okay," but she felt sick because she was so frightened. "What if the people would not let them stay at the village? Would they have to walk two more days? Her short legs ached and her feet were already hurting. They were bringing no food. Why would the people want so many hungry women and children without food to stay in their village?"

As they neared the village, men, women, and children ran out of their huts and up the trails to meet them. "They must be coming to run us away," she cried.

"Wait, don't cry," her mother said to comfort her. "Look, they are smiling!" Soon Dai heard happy greetings and a man saying, "Welcome to our village. We will all stay together and help one another."

Together they walked the remaining way to the village, talking mostly about what they called "the war." Dai was happy when they finally stopped. She sat on the ground and listened while they talked. A

woman brought her some water with something in it that Dai had never eaten. "It is called oats," the woman said. Dai didn't care what it was, as long as she could eat. It tasted much better than the leaves she had munched for three days.

The villagers told Dai's people great things. They said that some people in a far away country called the United States had banded together to help them. Dai wondered if the country was farther than her village.

The next day, Dai was given a bath, and clothes were put on her. She had never worn clothes; they felt terrible. "What is this?" she asked her mother.

"It is called a dress."

"I want to take it off," Dai said, pulling at the dress. "It is hot and sticky."

"You must leave it on," Mother demanded.

Later that day, a man brought them some "oats" and a woman showed Mother how to cook them. M-m-m- they tasted good to hungry Dai, but not as good as rice.

There was another thing about the village that made Dai happy. The men had built a church. It was big enough for all the people in the village to get in at one time. Each morning the head man of the village would stand behind the pulpit and tell about Jesus. Dai sat with all the other children on the dirt floor and listened. He also said that because the people in the United States loved Jesus, they had sent the clothes and the oats.

Dai looked up at her mother, "This village is like our home village," she said. "The good things come because of Jesus, even the oats." —Selected





# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 42, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 2 April 14, 1991

## Mini Proverbs

"... Solomon the son of David, king of Israel;" Prov. 1:1.

"The teacher said she would read us some stories from *The Wisdom of Solomon For Children*. Mother, who was Solomon? Do you know of him?"

"Yes, Glenda, Solomon was the son of David, King of Israel. (Prov. 1:1). He was a king and a king's son. Get your Bible, and we'll read more about him."

"Wasn't Solomon wise?"

"Yes. The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and 'God said, Ask what I shall give thee.' You may read about it in I Kings 3:5. Solomon said, 'O Lord my God, I am but a little child: I know not how to go out or come in. Give therefore thy servant an understanding heart to judge thy people, that I may discern between good and bad.' (I Kings 3:7, 9).

"This pleased the Lord and 'God said unto him, Because thou hast asked this thing, and hast not asked for thyself long life; neither hast asked riches for thyself, nor hast asked the life of thine enemies; but hast asked for thyself understanding to discern judgment; Behold, I have done according to thy words: lo, I have given thee a wise and an understanding heart; so that there was none like thee before thee, neither after thee shall any arise like unto thee. And I have also given thee that which thou hast not asked, both riches, and honour: so that there shall not be any among the kings like unto thee all thy days. And if thou wilt walk in my ways,

to keep my statutes and my commandments, as thy father David did walk, then I will lengthen thy days.' (I Kings 3:11-14).

"God 'gave Solomon wisdom and understanding exceeding much, and largeness of heart, even as the sand that is on the seashore. And Solomon's wisdom excelled the wisdom of Egypt. For he was wiser than all men. And he spake three thousand proverbs: and his songs were a thousand and five. And there came of all people to hear the wisdom of Solomon, from all kings of the earth, which had heard of his wisdom.' (I Kings 4:29-32, 34)

"The queen of Sheba heard of the fame of Solomon, so she went to him. She said, 'It was a true report that I heard in mine own land of thy acts and of thy wisdom. Howbeit I believed not the words, until I came, and mine eyes had seen it: and, behold, the half was not told me: thy wisdom and prosperity exceedeth the fame which I heard.' (I Kings 10:6-7).

"So, Glenda, Solomon was a very wise and rich king. I'm glad you will have stories based on his words.

"Put away your Bible and wash your hands. It's time for dinner."

—Cecelia Bowman



"What is a proverb, Mother? You said Solomon spoke three thousand of them," asked Glenda as she was watching Mother make a cake.

"A proverb is a short wise saying which can quickly be understood and easily remembered," Mother answered.

(Continued on page four)

## WORDS OF GOLD



### A Child Named John

Luke 1:57 Now Elisabeth's full time came that she should be delivered; and she brought forth a son.

58 And her neighbours and her cousins heard how the Lord had shewed great mercy upon her; and they rejoiced with her.

59 . . . And they called him Zacharias, after the name of his father.

60 And his mother answered and said, Not so; but he shall be called John.

61 And they said unto her, There is none of thy kindred that is called by this name.

62 And they made signs to his father, how he would have him called.

63 And he asked for a writing table, and wrote, saying, His name is John. And they marvelled all.

64 And his mouth was opened immediately, and his tongue loosed, and he spake, and praised God.

65 And fear came on all that dwelt round about them: and all these sayings were noised abroad throughout all the hill country of Judaea.

66 And all they that heard them laid them up in their hearts, saying, What manner of child shall this be! And the hand of the Lord was with him.

67 And his father Zacharias was filled with the Holy Ghost, and prophesied, saying,

68 Blessed be the Lord God of Israel: for he hath visited and redeemed his people,

76 And thou, child, shalt be called the prophet of the Highest: for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways;

77 To give knowledge of salvation unto his people by the remission of their sins,

78 Through the tender mercy of our God; whereby the dayspring from on high hath visited us,

79 To give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.

80 And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, and was in the deserts till the day of his shewing unto Israel.

**Central Thought:** Despite suggestions from relatives, Zacharias and Elisabeth named their son John, which was the name God had given them.

*"A good name is  
rather to be chosen than  
great riches." Prov. 22:1*

#### Questions:

1. What did God show in behalf of Elizabeth?
2. Whose name did the relatives choose for the baby?
3. What did Elizabeth say he should be called?
4. What happened to Zacharias when he wrote, "His name is John"?
5. Who did Zacharias bless?
6. How would John give knowledge of salvation?
7. What would be guided in the way of peace?
8. Whose way would the child prepare?
9. What happened as the child grew?

#### Bible Verse

**"Verily I say unto you, Among them that are born of women there hath not risen a greater than John the Baptist: . . ."**

**Matt. 11:11**



# Let's Talk

How happy the neighbors and relatives were when a son was born to the aged couple, Zacharias and Elisabeth! What a joyous occasion this was! At last after many, many, years without children, they had a baby son. The family thought surely they would name the boy after his father. Some of them may have been already planning to call him "Zachary," "Zach," or "Junior."

What a surprise they received when Elisabeth said that his name would be John. How could this be? There was no one in the family with that name. How strange it seemed. Being dismayed by what Elisabeth said, they went to the father and asked, "What will you name the baby?"

Zacharias could not talk, because the angel had struck him dumb the day Zacharias had doubted the angel's message and asked for a sign so he might believe that they truly were going to have a son. Not being able to speak, he wrote, "His name is JOHN." This action of obedience to God loosed Zacharias' tongue so that he was able to speak. He then began to praise God.

The name John, means, "Jehovah has favored or given grace." Truly God had granted favor to Zacharias and Elisabeth in answering their prayers. Also God's favor and grace was to rest upon John and the whole world.

The people recognized that there was something special about this new baby, because the hand of the Lord was upon him. He was a promised child sent to help in God's plan of redeeming man from sin. He was to be the voice to cry in the wilderness, "Prepare the way of the Lord."

Zacharias' and Elisabeth's job was just beginning. Although the birth of their son was ordained of God, they still had to teach and train John in the ways of righteousness. They had to raise him in

the fear of God. John did grow and wax strong in spirit showing that his parents were faithful at their post of duty.

Some may wonder, What difference does a name make? Why couldn't they have named him Zacharias? A name is that which identifies you and also distinguishes you from others. God had said, "Thou shalt call his name John." Elisabeth and Zacharias had obeyed all of God's commands up until now and they also obeyed this command. This child was sent to proclaim the coming of the Son of God. God named His Son, and He also named His son's forerunner. If John had been named after his father, people would have identified him more with Zacharias. Some may have praised Zacharias for John's good works, but God wanted John distinguished from others. God desires and deserves complete glory.

In Bible days, names were of great importance. They had much to say of one's character and personality. Many times God changed the names of those He wanted to use. John, however, was set apart for God's use before his birth so God named him before his birth.

Whatever name you have, make it a good name by your actions. Proverbs 22:1 says, "A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches." —Altina Cox

## BIBLE EXERCISE

Correct the spelling of these New Testament books. If you need help, look in the front of your Bible under Contents.

NOIH \_\_\_\_\_  
KULE \_\_\_\_\_  
IIEETWEATM \_\_\_\_\_  
TACS \_\_\_\_\_  
MANROS \_\_\_\_\_  
KARM \_\_\_\_\_  
PIANSPILIHP \_\_\_\_\_

Answers: 1. Great mercy. 2. Zacharias' name. 3. John. 4. His tongue was loosed so he could speak. 5. The Lord God of Israel. 6. By preaching remission of sins. 7. Our feet. 8. The Lord's way. 9. He waxed strong in spirit.

"Solomon's proverbs were more than a collection of wise sayings. His proverbs were the dictates of the Spirit of God. God spoke through Solomon. His proverbs are based on, 'The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge.' (Prov. 1:7). It agrees with what God said to man in the beginning: 'Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom.' (Job 28:28). Solomon was great, yet a greater than Solomon was speaking to us through his proverbs.

"His proverbs help us form right notions of things. They give us clear and distinct ideas so we can know how to speak and act wisely. They help us distinguish between truth and falsehood, good and evil.

"His proverbs help us 'to know wisdom and instruction; to perceive the words of understanding; To receive the instruction of wisdom, justice, and judgment, and equity.' (Prov. 1:2-3).

"Fathers, mothers, wives, husbands, sons, daughters, masters, and servants can all profit from his instruction. No one can read Proverbs without profit. 'A wise man will hear, and will increase learning; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels.' (Prov. 1:5)."

"I understand, Mother; a proverb is a wise saying. Isn't 'A stitch in time saves nine,' a proverb?"

"Yes."

"I remember when you taught me to mend. You said, 'Restitch the rip right away before more stitches are needed.'"

"But Solomon's proverbs are special," Mother continued. "They are the Scriptures. 'All Scripture is given by inspiration of God.' (II Tim. 3:16.) God gave Solomon special wisdom and understanding.

"Now make the jello, the cake is baking!"  
—Cecelia Bowman

— — — — —  
"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge." (Prov. 1:7).

"See the headlines, Mother: 'MORE KNOWLEDGE, MORE VIOLENT.' Read what this student did to his teacher. It seems that if students are more knowledgeable, they should be less violent. What is knowledge? When does it begin?"

"Glenda, you've asked a good question. Knowledge is what one knows. Solomon said that 'The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge.' (Prov. 1:7). This means that the fear of the Lord is the principle part of knowledge. It is the foundation upon which to build, add, and judge all other knowledge. It guides the selection of thoughts, choices, and decisions that effect all actions. Wiser decisions are made when the fear of God rests upon the heart.

"Therefore, before preschool, even before the ABC's are learned, God, Jesus, and the judgment should be taught.

"Children should learn to pray and be taught that 'God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.' (Gal. 6:7).

"They should learn that 'all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them.' (Matt. 7:12).

"They should be taught to 'Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you.' (Matt. 5:44).

"They should know that 'There is no man that hath power over the spirit to retain the spirit in the day of death' (Eccles. 8:8), and that 'It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment.' (Heb. 9:27). II Corinthians 5:10 says 'We must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad,' and Ecclesiastes 12:14 says that God 'shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing.'

"They should learn to 'Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.' (Eccles. 12:13).

"Children should be taught to have a holy reverence for God, to regard Him as Supreme and to consider every action in the light of His Word as a foundation to build a strong character and a solid education.

"No child can become truly wise who does not begin with God. Those minds influenced by the fear and love of God will learn more than others.

"Glenda, when you grow up, start early; as you teach your children the ABC's, give them a strong, solid, spiritual foundation."

—Cecelia Bowman

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 42, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 3 April 21, 1991

## Mini Proverbs

"I will make known my words unto you."  
(Prov. 1:23).

Reggie's teacher called his mother and asked her to come to the school and look at her son's folder.

Reggie's mother opened the door. "Hello, I'm Reggie's mother. May I see his folder?"

That evening Mother asked Reggie about his unfinished work and the unhappy teacher.

"Mr. Harper told me what to do, but I decided to do something else."

"Some people are like that," his mother commented.

"God made known His word unto Moses. 'And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, Take the rod, and **speak** ye unto the rock before their eyes; and it shall give forth water. And Moses gathered the congregation, and lifted up his hand, and with his rod he smote the rock twice: and the water came out abundantly. The Lord spake unto Moses, Because ye [obeyed not] therefore ye shall not bring this congregation into the land which I have given them.' (Num. 20:7-12)

"God made known His words unto Balaam. 'And God said unto Balaam, Thou shalt not go with them; thou shalt not curse the people: for they are blessed. And Balaam rose up in the morning, and went with the princes of Moab. And God's anger was kindled because he went.' (Num. 22:12, 21-22).

"God made known His will unto Moses and Balaam, but they did something different.

"God is still making known His words unto mankind. 'He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?' (Mic. 6:8). We are responsible.

"One servant in the Bible said, 'Lord, I knew [thy will] that thou art a hard man, reaping where thou hast not sown, and gathering where thou hast not strawed: And I went and hid thy talent in the earth. His lord answered and said unto him, Thou wicked servant! Cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' (Matt. 25:24-26, 30).

After God makes known His will to us, we must do it.

"And that servant, which knew his lord's will, and prepared not himself, neither did according to his will, shall be beaten with many stripes." (Luke 12:47).

"So, Reggie, after Mr. Harper makes known to you what to do, do it. It's important. I want to see some happy faces and no more incompletes."

—Cecelia Bowman

— — — — —  
"...To perceive the words of understanding"  
(Prov. 1:2.)

"Mother, I'm afraid of earthquakes."

"Every fear is a call to prayer," his mother replied. God can help you 'perceive words of understanding' (Prov. 1:2), that can bless your soul.

(Continued on page four)

## WORDS OF GOLD



### Humility of John

Mark 1:2 As it is written in the prophets, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee.

3 The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

4 John did baptize in the wilderness, and preach the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins.

5 And there went out unto him all the land of Judaea, and they of Jerusalem, and were all baptized of him in the river of Jordan, confessing their sins.

6 John was clothed with camel's hair, and with a girdle of a skin about his loins; and he did eat locusts and wild honey;

7 And preached, saying, There cometh one mightier than I after me, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to stoop down and unloose.

8 I indeed have baptized you with water: but he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost.

9 And it came to pass in those days, that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized of John in Jordan.

John 3:25 Then there arose a question between some of John's disciples and the Jews. . . .

26 And they came unto John, and said unto him, Rabbi, he that was with thee beyond Jordan, to whom thou barest witness, behold, the same baptizeth, and all men come to him.

27 John answered and said, A man can receive nothing, except it be given him from heaven.

28 Ye yourselves bear me witness, that I said, I am not the Christ, but that I am sent before him.

29 He that hath the bride is the bridegroom: but the friend of the bridegroom, which standeth and heareth him, rejoiceth greatly because of the bridegroom's voice: this my joy therefore is fulfilled.

30 He must increase, but I must decrease.

31 He that cometh from above is above all: he that is of the earth is earthly, and speaketh of the earth: he that cometh from heaven is above all.

**Central Thought:** Although John was mightily used of God, he remained humble giving God the glory, instead of taking any honor for himself.

*"I must decrease, but  
He must increase."*

#### Questions:

1. Where did John preach and baptize?
2. What did he preach?
3. Where were the people baptized?
4. What did the people confess when they were baptized?
5. What did John say he was not worthy to do?
6. John baptized with water. What would Christ baptize with?
7. A man can receive nothing, except it be given to him from where?
8. Did John say he was equal to Christ?
9. Who did John say is above all?

#### Bible Verse

**"He must increase, but I must decrease."** John 3:30



# Let's Talk

John the Baptist was a great example of humility. He was the son of a priest; therefore he too was a priest. Yet he did not serve in the temple as did his father or other priests. He spent his time in the desert or wilderness. This was a place where small communities of people lived, instead of dwelling in the cities where other people lived.

Although John did not become a priest, like his father, he was a prophet of God filled with the Holy Ghost. He was the cousin and also the forerunner of Jesus Christ. However, he did not allow this to make him feel he had a special advantage over others.

John's birth and life were ordained by God. Christ said that there was not a greater person born of human origin than John. During his ministry, John baptized many people and had disciples. Even with all these qualities he did not become lifted up.

John remained in the desert until God was ready to use him. When he did begin to proclaim the message that God had commanded, he referred to himself as just a voice. John knew that God was the source and he was only the instrument.

Whenever someone would speak of John or try to give him praise, he would point them to Christ. He knew that he was not Christ, nor did he try to be equal to Him. John felt he was not even worthy to untie the shoes of Jesus. A servant would do this for his master, but John did not even feel he deserved to serve Jesus. But the time came when Jesus wanted to be baptized of John. John was obedient and baptized Jesus, although he did not feel worthy.

The clothing that John wore was camel's hair and a leather girdle (large belt). In our day, in America, these items would be expensive. In those times it was the clothing of a poor man, not a great priest.

His daily diet was also humble. He ate locusts, which are flying insects, and also wild honey. Does this sound very appetizing to you? Probably not, but John had a mission in life and the message of Christ was more important than his daily food.

John knew that the only way for God's work to be accomplished was for him to remain humble so that Christ and His glory could be greater.

Staying humble is also important for young Christians today. They are chosen vessels of God and He has a plan for them in life. No matter how great their talents may be or the greatness of the place they fill, all glory belongs to God. "For without Him you can do nothing." Be humble and you will be a great blessing to others.

—Altina Cox

## BIBLE EXERCISE

Who spoke the following words:  
A, John the Baptist, or B, John the apostle?

1. \_\_\_ "Behold the Lamb of God!"
2. \_\_\_ "Love is of God and God is love."
3. \_\_\_ "I must decrease."
4. \_\_\_ "Make straight the way of the Lord."
5. \_\_\_ "Believe not every spirit."
6. \_\_\_ "In the beginning was the Word."
7. \_\_\_ "Prepare ye the way of the Lord."
8. \_\_\_ "He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost."
9. \_\_\_ "Repent ye, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

Answers: 1. A. 2. B. 3. A. 4. A. 5. B. 6. B. 7. A. 8. A. 9. A.)

What does God give to the humble?  
Clue: 1 Peter 5:5.

Answers: 1. In the wilderness. 2. The baptism of repentance for the remission of sin. 3. In the river Jordan. 4. Their sins. 5. To unloose Christ's shoes. 6. With the Holy Christ. 7. From heaven. 8. No. 9. His that cometh from heaven which is Jesus.

"God is our strength, a very present help in trouble." (Ps. 46 :1-3). 'He shall deliver thee in trouble: there shall no evil touch thee. He shall redeem thee from death: neither shalt thou be afraid of destruction when it comes.' (Job 5:19-22)."

"That is good to know," said Reggie.

"The eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and His ears are open unto their prayers." (I Pet. 3:12). His eyes 'run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him.' (II Chron. 16:9)."

"The prayer of the upright is His delight." (Prov. 15:8). The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man for boy or girl availeth much.' (James 5:16).

"Men ought always to pray." (Luke 18:1). 'Pray without ceasing.' (I Thess. 5:17). We are instructed in I Timothy 2:8 to pray without doubting.

"The Lord said in Isaiah 45:11-12, 'Concerning the work of my hands command ye me. I have made the earth, and created man upon it: I, even my hands, have stretched out the heavens, and all their host have I commanded.'"

"Isaiah commanded the Lord concerning the works of His hands. 'And Isaiah the prophet cried unto the Lord: and he brought the shadow ten degrees backward, by which it had gone down in the [sun] dial of Ahaz.' (II Kings 20:11).

"Elijah also commanded the Lord. 'Elias ... prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months. And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain.' (James 5:17-18).

"...Let your requests be known unto God..." (Phil. 4:6). The Lord can help you concerning your fear of earthquakes. God is '...able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think...' (Eph. 3:20).

"Mother, I'm not afraid any more. Let's pray," said Reggie. —Cecelia Bowman



"Because I have called, and ye refused;" (Prov. 1:24)

"Lunchtime! Come on, it's time to eat!"

Only Glenda came. Reggie kept playing. Mother and Glenda ate, cleared the table,

washed the dishes, and Mother sat down to sew.

Reggie ran in. "What's for lunch? I'm hungry."

"I called, Reggie, but you refused to come. You've missed lunch."

Tears came to Reggie's eyes.

Mother stopped sewing. "Reggie, come, let's talk," she said.

"Jesus is calling sinners. He says, 'Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.' (Matt. 11:28-30.)

"The Bible tells us, that 'a certain man made a great supper, and bade many: And sent his servant at supper time to say to them that were bidden, Come; for all things are now ready. And they all with one consent began to make excuse. So that servant came, and showed his lord these things. Then the master of the house being angry said to his servant, none of those men which were bidden shall taste of my supper.' (Luke 14:16-18, 21, 24).

"The rich man was filled with his own devices. 'In hell he lifted up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off he cried, Have mercy on me, but Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things.' (Luke 16:23, 25).

"He wanted to warn his five brothers not to come to the place of torment. But Abraham said, They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them. If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead.' (Luke 16:29, 31).

"It's important to heed God's call. In Revelation 3:20 He says, 'Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.' (Rev. 3:20).

"I called you for lunch, but you refused. Therefore you missed lunch. Remember, those who refuse God's call will miss eternal life.

"I'll start dinner and sew Glenda's dress tomorrow. You won't have to wait long."

—Cecelia Bowman



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 42, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 4 April 28, 1991

## Betsy's Reward for Obedience

"Come, Betsy," called Mother, as she laid the cool wet cloth on little Jonathan's feverish head.

"Yes, Mother," Betsy called from her loft bedroom. "I'm almost ready. I have my new calico dress on and my shoes are blackened. I'll be right down." Moments later chubby, freckled-faced Betsy climbed down the pole ladder, holding to it with one hand, and clinging to her high-topped button shoes with the other. Hanging from the corners of her mouth was a red satin ribbon.

Mother sighed. "Betsy, I hate to tell you. I know you are excited about going to Salisbury and seeing George Washington and the parade, but Jonathan is awfully sick. Too sick for the rough ride to town in the wagon. Someone will have to stay with him, and you are the oldest. You are the only one I trust with my sick baby."

"Oh, Mother, I can't bear to miss the celebration and seeing Captain George Washington. Why it will be so grand! I know he must be handsome," she said with a romantic look in her eyes.

"It's hard to ask this of you, but I must go alone with Papa, for I must bathe your sick Granny and cook food to last a few days for her and Grandpa. And you'll need to bake bread for us, too."

Wiping tears with her red satin ribbon, Betsy obediently started towards the loft to change her clothes.

"Do be careful while we are away," called Papa from his seat behind, Jenny, the mule. "Keep the fire burning." Even the mule made Betsy think of George Washington, for father said he, like other farmers, was breeding horses and donkeys to get mules.

Mother hugged Betsy at the door. "If anyone should come, do not let them in the house. Tell them to go on down the way another mile to Rever's farm. Mrs. Rever always helps strangers. Now remember," she cautioned again, "no one is allowed in the house while you are here alone."

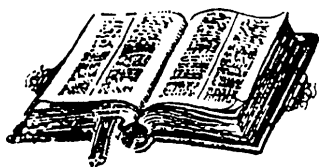
Betsy hurriedly closed the door so no one could see her cry. She rushed over to little Jonathan's cradle to tend him. He was fussing softly. She hoped comforting him might help comfort herself. She brushed another tear from her cheeks. "How silly to cry," she thought, remembering that Mother had said, "You're a young lady, I know I can trust you."

She patted Jonathan until he went to sleep. Then she kneaded the bread and shaped it into three round balls. These balls of dough she placed in three heavy iron pots which she had wiped with lard. She placed the heavy iron lids on the pots and left the dough to rise.

While waiting for the bread to rise, she thought of how badly she wanted to see Captain Washington. Her father had said that George Washington was the bravest man in the Colonies. "The responsibility of the war has turned his hair white and his face old," Father had said. "And he did it all voluntarily, so we can be free and live a

(Continued on page four)

## WORDS OF GOLD



### An Obedient Son

Luke 2:40 And the child [Jesus] grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon him.

41 Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the feast of the passover.

42 And when he was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem after the custom of the feast.

43 And when they had fulfilled the days, as they returned, the child Jesus tarried behind in Jerusalem; and Joseph and his mother knew not of it.

44 But they, supposing him to have been in the company, went a day's journey; and they sought him among their kinsfolk and acquaintance.

45 And when they found him not, they turned back again to Jerusalem, seeking him.

46 And it came to pass, that after three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the doctors, both hearing them, and asking them questions.

47 And all that heard him were astonished at his understanding and answers.

48 And when they saw him, they were amazed: and his mother said unto him, Son, why hast thou thus dealt with us? behold, thy father and I have sought thee sorrowing.

49 And he said unto them, How is it that ye sought me? wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?

51 And he went down with them, and came to Nazareth, and was subject unto them: but his mother kept all these sayings in her heart.

52 And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.

Philippians 2:5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:

6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:

7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:

8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

**Central Thought:** Christ was a good example of being subject to authority.

## Be Obedient!

### Questions:

1. With what was Jesus filled?
2. Why did his family go to Jerusalem?
3. How old was Jesus at this time?
4. What did Mary and Joseph discover as they were going home?
5. How many days passed before Jesus was found?
6. Where did Jesus' parents find him?
7. Did Jesus return home with his parents?
8. Whose mind should be in us?
9. Jesus remained obedient unto \_\_\_\_\_.

### Bible Verse

**"Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered;" Heb. 5:8**



# Let's Talk

The childhood of Jesus is a wonderful story! He began His life on earth as a newborn babe. He was helpless and totally dependent upon His earthly parents for survival. God had entrusted His Son, Jesus, into the care of Mary and Joseph.

He learned to crawl and walk just as you did when you were a baby. He played with his brothers and sister(s). I can imagine Him as a little boy bringing wild flowers to His mother, and Mary smiling as she takes the flowers from him, and washes His dirty hands and face.

Jesus was a holy child, which means He was Divine. Yet He was also human. His childhood was very much like your own. He did not live in a modern world, like you, but while He was a child He thought, understood and acted like a child. He had the same feelings of happiness and sadness that you feel at times.

I don't believe, however, that He fell on the floor and had temper tantrums as some children do, because He was not born after the seed of Adam, which causes children to be naughty. Yet He did have to learn to obey, although He was the Son of God.

Jesus wanted to experience what children do so that He might understand them better and be an example to them.

In this story, Jesus was about 12 years of age. He went to Jerusalem with his parents and relatives for the Feast of the Passover. The family spent one week at the feast and started home. Jesus, however, had lingered behind. His parents were not aware of this. They assumed He was walking with some of the relatives. After they had travelled all day, they realized He was missing. Mary and Joseph were troubled and went back to Jerusalem to look for Him. They did not find Him for three days.

How could this have happened? Suppose you and your family travelled to a

large camp meeting with several relatives, using five vehicles. When the cars stop for gas, some of the children trade cars and ride with their cousins. Since you are almost a teenager and the campground is a safe place, you are given the freedom to care for yourself, at least some of the time. When it's time to go home, your parents leave the campground, assuming that you are riding with your cousin with whom they last saw you. They do not discover you are missing until they stop for gas. Imagine how they would feel!

There were no telephones or lost children agencies to help Mary and Joseph. I am sure they were praying and asking everywhere they went, "Have you seen Jesus?"

They were amazed to find Him talking to the doctors in the temple. Jesus' reply to His parents was an effort to console them as to His action, but they did not understand what He was meaning. Jesus went home with them and was subject to them, and increased in wisdom and favor.

After leaving home, Jesus still obeyed His Heavenly Father and remained obedient unto death.

If you desire to grow in wisdom and favor, follow the example of Jesus, and be obedient to your parents. —Altina Cox

A lot of young people believe that being submissive to authority is showing weakness. Rather than showing weakness it is showing strength. It is naturally much easier to do what one wishes than it is to submit what one wishes and obey the orders of authority. It takes real strength to humble oneself and be obedient.

It takes real strength to obey God when it is something we do not want to do, or when to do so isolates us from our friends. Obedience, however, brings longer lasting happiness. —Sis. Charlotte

Answers: 1. With wisdom and the grace of God. 2. For the Feast of the Passover. 3. Twelve years old. 4. That Jesus was not with them. 5. Three days. 6. In the temple. 7. Yes. 8. The mind of Jesus. 9. Death.

peaceable life." Betsy wondered how the King of England, so many, many miles away could interfere with their lives here in the wilderness, but she trusted her father and believed whatever he said. "Washington must have been a good, helpful child," Betsy thought, "for Mother often said that one grows up to be the kind of person they were when they were a child." The thought made Betsy happy she had stayed home to help.

She felt the cloth on Jonathan's head. It was very hot, so she took the wooden pail and ran to the spring for cool water. She cooled the cloth in some of the water and replaced it on her baby brother.

By now the dough had grown very large, so Betsy placed one pot on the hanger in front of the fireplace, and one on each side of the fire. After the pots were hot, Betsy turned them often, so the pot would not get too hot on one side and burn the bread.

When the bread was baked, she moved the pots away from the fire and took off the lids as she had seen Mother do. Jonathan was so sick he didn't care to be held, so she sat down to mend a sock.

Suddenly she heard the sound of a galloping horse. Dashing to the window she saw a soldier pulling his horse to a halt. The Revolutionary War having just ended, soldiers going south often stopped at their house asking for a little food or a place to sleep. Betsy's eyes widened when she saw the gold braid and metal buttons on the soldier's jacket. She did not know what the decoration meant, but she knew this soldier did not look like the others she had seen. Although his face showed extreme weariness, he walked erect like an important general or maybe a captain.

She met him at the door. "Good morning," he greeted cheerfully, holding his hat in his hand. "Who do I have the pleasure of meeting this fine morning?" he asked, bowing his white head.

"I'm Betsy Brandon, Sir," she answered. Then, forgetting all about saying, "Good morning," she blurted out, "If you want something to eat, you'll have to go on down the way to the Rever farm. Mrs. Rever. . ." Betsy stopped when she saw a sad look come over the gentleman. "Oh, I'm not trying to be

rude. It's just that I'm alone, except for my baby brother, whom I'm tending," she added proudly. "When Mother left she said that no one was to be in the house while the family was away. They've all gone to Salisbury to see George Washington."

"Yes, I was going to Salisbury, too. But I've been traveling all night without any food. I'm really too hungry to ride much farther."

Betsy felt as heavy now as when she had been asked to stay home and miss the celebration, and the smell of the freshly baked bread even made her hungry. "Oh dear," she said with a puzzled look on her face. Then like a light she had an answer to the problem. "Sir," she said delightedly, "If you will sit down there under the tree, I'll be happy to serve you some bread. Mother only said not to have anyone in the house; she didn't say I couldn't serve food out in the yard." She gave a polite bow and the soldier headed for the tree. Then she carefully turned the bread out of one of the big pots and sliced off a piece. It was an enormous piece, but she felt sure he would eat it all. Then she ran and got a pitcher of cool, fresh milk from the box down in the spring. These she served on her Mother's best white table cloth spread on the ground beside the stranger.

"This is a wonderful treat," the stranger said smiling, "and the bread is hot. Did you make this bread?" he asked.

"Yes," Betsy answered, happy that she had obeyed and done the baking.

"It's as good as Mrs. Washington's," he said smiling.

"So you have been in Mount Vernon and eaten of Mrs. Washington's cooking?" Betsy asked.

"Yes, I have lived there most of my life and have eaten her bread many times. But I must hurry on," he said, "or I'll be late and hold up the parade."

"Are you one of George Washington's generals?" she asked.

"No child," he answered as he mounted his stallion, "I am George Washington. Thank you very much for being so kind to me and for the delicious food. I'm happy you obeyed your mother. Tell her when she returns that you saw George Washington and had the privilege of serving him your own home-baked bread." —Charlotte Huskey

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 42, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 5 May 5, 1991

## The Price of Disobedience

It was 2:30 p.m. The children hurried through the chapel yard and into the dining hall. It was the place which had been chosen for "Children's Meeting" during the camp meeting. The children ranged from ages two through 15. They eagerly assembled for this service, as it was their favorite part of camp meeting.

Sis. Trudy who had a special burden for children had promised to tell them another story. Each day the crowd grew, because more and more children wanted to hear the stories. Sis. Trudy would relate incidents which happened in her childhood or of other children she had known. The children would sit fascinated, wondering what the outcome would be. Many of the children present would then tell of similar experiences that had happened to them.

The other adults present seemed to enjoy the stories as much as the children, because of the Bible truths that were taught.

"I wonder what story she is going to tell today?" Pamela said to Susan.

"I don't have any idea," Susan replied, "but I can hardly wait, that's for sure."

Sis. Trudy clapped her hands to gain the children's attention. "It's time to get quiet children," she said. "If you will all get seated and settle down we can begin our service." Each child chose a seat by his or her best friend. Sis. Trudy began to sing, "I have the joy, joy, joy, down in my heart." The children joined in the singing, loud and clear. After singing four songs and praying, Sis. Trudy

stood up. A quietness settled over the children, as they knew it was story time.

"I am delighted that so many of you are here today. I see new faces and want to welcome you. I am thankful that so many have an interest in the children's meeting, especially you teenagers. Some children after they reach 12 or 13 years of age, think they are too old to be part of children's service."

Jason, who was 14 spoke up, "Actually we are a bit old, but everybody has been talking about the stories, so I thought I'd check 'em out. I'm sure it's better than listening to the preaching in the old folk's service."

Sis. Trudy interrupted Jason at this point, saying, "Children, by no means are these stories designed for your entertainment, nor to replace the preached Word. They are to teach a valuable lesson to children and young people, and this is the time that was set aside for the lessons. We are glad to have you older ones, but I request that you be an example to the younger ones by paying close attention throughout the story."

She cleared her throat and continued, "As an overview to our story, let's have a little talk about obedience. Can one of you little children tell me what is the meaning of the word, *obey*?" Three hands went up in the air.

Four-year-old Kathy was chosen to give the answer. "To mind your mommy and daddy," she said.

"That's true," replied Sis. Trudy. Then turning to Erica who was waving her hand, she said, "Erica, would you like to say something?"

(Continued on page four)

## WORDS OF GOLD



### The Daughter of Jairus

Mark 5:21 . . . When Jesus was passed over again by ship unto the other side, much people gathered unto him: and he was nigh unto the sea.

22 And, behold, there cometh one of the rulers of the synagogue, Jairus by name; and when he saw him, he fell at his feet,

23 And besought him greatly, saying, My little daughter lieth at the point of death: I pray thee, come and lay thy hands on her, that she may be healed; and she shall live.

24 And Jesus went with him; and much people followed him, and thronged him.

35 While he yet spake, there came from the ruler of the synagogue's house certain which said, Thy daughter is dead: why troublest thou the Master any further?

36 As soon as Jesus heard the word that was spoken, he saith unto the ruler of the synagogue, Be not afraid, only believe.

37 And he suffered no man to follow him, save Peter, and James, and John the brother of James.

38 And he cometh to the house of the ruler of the synagogue, and seeth the tumult, and them that wept and wailed greatly.

39 And when he was come in, he saith unto them, why make ye this ado, and weep? the damsel is not dead, but sleepeth.

40 And they laughed him to scorn. But when he had put them all out, he taketh the father and the mother of the

damsel, and them that were with him, and entereth in where the damsel was lying.

41 And he took the damsel by the hand, and said unto her, Talitha cumi; which is, being interpreted, Damsel, I say unto thee, arise.

42 And straightway the damsel arose, and walked; for she was of the age of twelve years. And they were astonished with a great astonishment.

43 And he charged them straitly that no man should know it; and commanded that something should be given her to eat.

**Central Thought:** Jesus showed His care for the young people, by raising a girl from the dead.

**Answers to Bible Exercise:**  
Answers: (1) d John 4 (2) e Luke 19:1 (3) f Mark 16:17-18 (4) f Luke 8:5-15 (5) h Matt. 2:1 (6) c Matt. 6:9 (7) a Ex. 20:3 (8) i Matt. 5; Luke 6:20 (9) b Acts 1:8 (10) g Luke 15:11.

#### Questions:

1. Who was Jairus?
2. What did he want Jesus to do?
3. What was the report Jairus received as he walked with Jesus?
4. What words of comfort did Jesus give?
5. Name the three disciples Jesus took with Him.
6. Why did the people in the house laugh?
7. What did Jesus say to the girl?
8. How old was the girl who was healed?
9. What were they to give the girl?

#### Bible Verse

**"...Fear not: believe only and she shall be made whole." Luke 8:50**



Jairus, who was a ruler of the synagogue, went looking for Jesus. It was an emergency! His twelve-year-old daughter was at the point of death. When he found Jesus he humbled himself and fell at Jesus' feet, begging Him to come.

As Jesus was going with Jairus to his home, a crowd of people were following. In the midst of the crowd, Jesus came to a sudden stop. He then asked, "Who touched me?" To the disciples this seemed like a foolish question since there were many people around who were brushing against all of them. However, Jesus knew there was something special about this touch. A woman who was very ill had touched the hem of Christ's garment with faith that she would be healed. When she touched Jesus, He answered her unspoken request, and healing virtue went out of His body.

During this time, a servant came to Jairus. He told him there was no need to trouble the Master. The girl had died. Did this mean that Jesus had waited too late? No, He is always just in time. He told Jairus not to be afraid, just believe.

At this point, Jesus did not allow the crowd to continue to follow Him. He took only three of His disciples into the room with the girl and her parents.

When they arrived at the house, there was much grief and weeping, but it quickly turned to mockery when Jesus said she was only asleep. Jesus then asked this group to step out. This left the parents, the disciples, and Christ alone with the girl. Jesus took the girl by the hand and told her to arise. She did. He then told her parents to give her something eat.

Everyone was amazed at this miracle. The parents were very grateful for what Jesus had done for their daughter. How

wonderful that He would come aside from the great crowds needing help, to heal a twelve-year-old girl.

Jesus still has a special interest in twelve-year-olds. He remembers when He was twelve and how his parents took time to seek Him out from the crowd. He too, remembers the interest the doctors of the temple took in Him. And today He is still showing the same interest in young people like you.

—Altina Cox

### BIBLE EXERCISE

In which book of the Bible can the following be found?

1. \_\_\_\_ The woman at Jacob's well
2. \_\_\_\_ Jesus meets Zachaeus
3. \_\_\_\_ The signs that follow believers
4. \_\_\_\_ The parable of the sower
5. \_\_\_\_ The visit of the wisemen
6. \_\_\_\_ The Lord's Prayer
7. \_\_\_\_ The Ten Commandments
8. \_\_\_\_ Beatitudes
9. \_\_\_\_ Last command
10. \_\_\_\_ Prodigal Son

a. Ex. 20:3; b. Acts 1:8; c. Matt. 6:9; d. John 4; e. Luke 19:1; f. Mark 16:17-18; g. Luke 15:11; h. Matt. 2:1; i. Matt. 5:1 and Luke 6:20; j. Luke 8:5-15.

### *Jesus cares about you!*

Answers: 1. A ruler of the synagogue. 2. To lay hands on his daughter and heal her. 3. That his daughter was dead. 4. "Be not afraid, only believe." 5. Peter, James and John. 6. Because Jesus said that she only slept. 7. "Damsel, I say to thee arise." 8. Twelve years old. 9. Something to eat.

"Obey is . . . uh . . . to do what you are told to do," Erica responded.

"That is a good answer, and Todd, I believe I also saw your hand up."

"Erica said what I was going to say," Todd answered, sounding a little disappointed.

"Maybe you can answer this question," suggested Sis. Trudy. "Why is it necessary for children to obey?"

"So they won't get spanked!" Todd replied emphatically.

"Because the Bible says to obey," said Ellen, as Sis. Trudy pointed to her.

Sharon waved her hand frantically. "All right, Sharon. What is your answer?"

"I like to obey, because it makes my parents happy," she said.

"All of your answers are very good," acknowledged Sis. Trudy. "And I would like to add one more: Obedience will keep you out of trouble. It is like a wall of protection that surrounds you. When you disobey, you step outside that wall and get into trouble, sometimes bad trouble."

"This brings us to our story. It is taken from a true story about someone, but I will use a different name. I will tell you about a girl whom I shall call Tracy. She learned the hard way that obedience is an absolute must! **Children must obey.**

"Tracy lived in a tiny house in a mid-western city of the United States of America. She lived with her mother and two sisters. Her sisters were Sarah and Lisa. Sarah who was four, and a year older than Tracy, was quiet, slender, and very lady-like in her actions. Sarah's skin was light brown and her hair was sandy in color. Lisa, whose complexion was much like Sarah's was tiny for a two-year-old. She had big bright eyes, a long, black, wavy, ponytail, and was talkative.

"As for Tracy, her skin was the color of caramel candy, her hair jet black and wavy. She had a stocky build and was a tomboy, had a beautiful smile, and out-going ways. She was willing to share everything, even her trouble. Tracy found that being the middle child was a great advantage. She had the best of two worlds, often enjoying privileges given to Sarah, because she was bigger in size than Sarah. Yet her personality was much more like Lisa's so they were playmates.

"Tracy doesn't remember much about her father, because he moved to an Eastern state when Lisa was very small. I'm sure this must have been difficult for her mother to be left alone with three girls, but Mother wasn't alone; she was a Christian, and the Lord stood by her side.

"Tracy's great-grandmother was an old-time saint in the Church of God. When her mother was a little girl, she stayed a while with Great-grandmother James and learned about the ways of the Lord.

"When she became a young woman, she decided to follow the Lord. Tracy's father decided to follow the world and left her mother.

"Tracy's mother found employment at a local library. She worked daily to provide for her little girls. The Lord blessed that one of the women, Sis. Essie, from the Church cared for Tracy and her sisters during the day, until mother picked them up after work.

"Her mother and Sis. Essie worked together to train the girls up in the way they should go. They taught the girls which behaviors were acceptable and which were not, such as: 'Stay out of the streets,' 'Take care of your toys,' 'Eat all your food,' and 'Don't play with matches.' All these rules were little walls of protection for the girls. Sarah, being very conscientious, rarely disobeyed. Tracy, on the other hand, was a bit daring and mischievous, and often she'd find herself on the wrong side of the wall.

"One evening after dinner, Mother was dutifully washing the dishes and humming while she worked. Sarah sat on the sofa looking at a picture book. She would be starting kindergarten soon, so she was getting ready. She could pick out familiar letters and little words in the book.

"Tracy had just sat down with her favorite doll, Lavette, when she had to make a quick trip to the bathroom. Entering the bathroom, she saw little Lisa struggling with a broom, trying to sweep the tiny toy room which joined the bathroom. Lisa had seen mother do this many times. But the broom was much too big for a two-year-old. Tracy found it amusing to watch Lisa trying to act like their mother.

(To be continued)



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 42, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 6 May 12, 1991

## The Price of Disobedience

(Continued from last week)

Three-year-old Tracy stood at the sink washing her hands, watching Lisa and looking nosily around the room. She dried her hands and climbed on the sink to look in the mirror. While making funny faces in the mirror, the thought came to her to see what was behind the mirror. She knew she should not do this, Mother had said so many times. 'But what harm would it be?' she questioned. Quietly she opened the cabinet. Wow! It was filled with all kinds of exciting things! There was yummy toothpaste, nice smelling lotions, and a whole box of Band-aids. High up on the top shelf was that little box of matches which Mother used to light the small white, gas stove whenever anyone bathed. 'I'd like to try and light a match,' Tracy thought. She picked up the box of matches and climbed down from the sink.

The next thing she did was to check and see that the bathroom door was tightly shut. 'Mother will never know,' Tracy said, assuring herself. She struck one match. Nothing happened. She struck another and another, then poof! It lit! Oh, no! Fire! Tracy was frightened! What must I do? 'Drop it in the trash,' her mind told her. 'That's where you always put things you don't want.'

Tracy dropped the burning match just before it burned her finger. Down it went into the little blue, plastic wastebasket which mother kept in the bathroom.

Three-year-old Tracy stooped over the blue, plastic wastebasket to see if the burning

match was well hidden from Mother. Smoke rose in her face. She closed her eyes and coughed, then stooped over to look again. Instead of disappearing as Tracy thought it would, the match smoldered and ignited some paper, and flames came shooting up. Too frightened to think about the trouble she was in, Tracy yelled 'Mama, Mama!' and running quickly she brought Mother to see the fire. Being a tiny house, Mother made it in time. 'Stay back girls!' Mother shouted as she quickly grabbed the wastebasket, placing it in the tub and giving it a full blast of water. Swoosh! The fire was out.

Tracy was trembling. Mother was thankful, but also angry when she saw the tell-tale box of matches laying on the floor. 'Who did this?' she demanded.

'Tracy knew she was in **BIG** trouble. 'I didn't,' replied Sarah.

'Not me,' said Lisa.

'Mother looked at Tracy. 'It was Lisa!' Tracy said.

'No, Mama, no,' pleaded Lisa, shaking her head. 'I was sweeping.'

'And I was playing with my doll,' Tracy said, keeping her fingers pointed at Lisa. Tracy felt cruel accusing her little sister of her naughty deed. 'Surely Mama will think Lisa is too small to know that playing with matches is wrong and won't spank her,' thought Tracy. At least this thought made Tracy not feel so cruel, as she watched poor Lisa, who was crying.

'I don't know which of you did it,' Mother said, looking first at Lisa, then Tracy, 'but

(Continued on page four)

## WORDS OF GOLD



### The Cries Of Two Mothers

Matthew 15:21 Then Jesus went thence, and departed into the coasts of Tyre and Sidon.

22 And, behold, a woman of Canaan came out of the same coasts, and cried unto him, saying, Have mercy on me, O Lord, thou son of David; my daughter is grievously vexed with a devil.

23 But he answered her not a word. And his disciples came and besought him, saying, Send her away; for she crieth after us.

24 But he answered and said, I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel.

25 Then came she and worshipped him, saying, Lord, help me.

26 But he answered and said, It is not meet to take the children's bread, and to cast it to dogs.

27 And she said, Truth, Lord: yet the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their masters' table.

28 Then Jesus answered and said unto her, O woman, great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt. And her daughter was made whole from that very hour.

29 And Jesus departed from thence.

...

Luke 7:11 And it came to pass the day after, that he went into a city called Nain; and many of his disciples went with him, and much people.

12 Now when he came nigh to the gate of the city, behold, there was a dead man carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow: and much people of the city was with her.

13 And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her, and said unto her, Weep not.

14 And he came and touched the bier: and they that bare him stood still. And he said, Young man, I say unto thee, Arise.

15 And he that was dead sat up, and began to speak. And he delivered him to his mother.

16 And there came a fear on all: and they glorified God, saying, That a great prophet is risen up among us; and, That God hath visited his people.

**Central Thought:** Christ regarded the cries of two mothers who were in distress because of their children.



*Mother's Day*  
*May 12*

#### Questions:

1. What was wrong with the woman's daughter?
2. Why did the disciples want to send the woman away?
3. To whom did Jesus say He was sent?
4. What did Jesus say should not be done with the children's bread?
5. What did the woman say that the dogs eat?
6. Did Jesus answer the woman's request?
7. What did Jesus say to the mother of the dead man?
8. What did Jesus tell the dead man to do?
9. To whom did Jesus deliver the young man?

#### Bible Verse

**"They cried unto thee, and were delivered: they trusted in thee, and were not confounded."**

**Ps. 22:5**



# Let's Talk

Today is "Mother's Day." Our nation has set aside this day as a tribute to Mothers. A mother has a special place. She is the one who brings children into the world, and she is the primary care giver. By this we mean that she generally has the greatest responsibility in nurturing the children, while the father is busy working to supply their needs. There is a great emotional bond that she establishes with her children. Even after her death, her influence and endearment remain with them.

A few Sundays ago, we read in the Old Testament of how Solomon intervened in behalf of a mother and her child. Today we see how Jesus recognized the close relationship between mother and child, and it caused Him to be moved with compassion.

The first mother was in deep distress because her daughter was bothered by a devil. She knew her daughter was in great trouble. Something had to be done. There was no one to help except Jesus. She went crying to Him.

Jesus did not pay attention to the woman, and the disciples became annoyed and wanted to send her away because of her crying. When Jesus did take note of the woman, the words He spoke could have sent her away, but she was in desperate need of help for her daughter. If getting help for her daughter meant being referred to as a dog, she was willing to accept it.

Jesus then honored her cries, her faith, and her perseverance and He healed her daughter.

The second mother did not come to Jesus to make a request of Him. As Jesus was passing by, He heard this mother crying. This woman had already buried her husband, now her only child had died. She would be all alone and she wept from the grief and sorrow.

The Lord looked tenderly upon her, and He told her not to weep. He then touched the coffin and raised the child from the dead and gave him to the mother.

"Oh the precious loving Saviour, His compassion still the same. . . ." Many times Jesus is touched by the tears and prayers of a mother for her children. Many times while you are asleep or at school, your mother is praying for you. It is a wonderful blessing for those of you who have godly mothers who pray for you.

Always honor and appreciate your mother. A good mother is a gift from God.  
—Altina Cox

Being a mother for 35 years, I know mothers really do enjoy loving words and thank you notes from their children. Mothers who are homemakers battle many negative thoughts. The Devil suggests that they are wasting their time cleaning house, cooking meals, laundering soiled clothes, tending babies, and settling arguments. The Devil brings thoughts that their children will not grow up to be good men and women, but lazy, ungodly men and women. These are two of the hundreds of negative thoughts they battle.

If you will say, "Thank you, Mom, for all the things you do for me," it will make her feel happy, help her battle negative thoughts, and give her courage to be an even better mother! —Sis. Charlotte

## BIBLE EXERCISE

List three things you can do to show your mother you appreciate her.

Answers: 1. She was vexed with a devil. 2. Because she cried after them. 3. To the lost sheep of the house of Israel. 4. That it should not be given to the dogs. 5. The crumbs. 6. Yes. 7. "Weep not." 8. To arise. 9. To his mother.

playing with matches is very dangerous, and you both know that my girls must not play with matches.' She stopped talking and stood thinking for a while then said, 'I will have to punish both of you.'

'Tracy's scheme had not worked. How miserable she felt as she looked on Mother's sad face and heard innocent Lisa sobbing. But she was afraid to say that she had lied, for she knew she shouldn't lie. A lie might earn another spanking, so Tracy stayed silent, and both girls were punished.'

'A few weeks later Mother told the girls of a news report about three children being burned to death in a house fire. 'The fire was started by the children playing with matches,' Mother told the girls. 'This same thing could have happened to our house, had God not protected us.' This news report caused Tracy to realize what a terrible thing she had done.'

'Yes, Tracy learned a great lesson on the cost of curiosity and disobedience.'

'Mother scrubbed the black smoke off the blue wastebasket. It was melted and misshapen, but it would still hold paper. Mother put it back in the same spot in the bathroom. This served to daily remind Tracy of her actions. She learned her lesson well and never again had trouble because she played with matches. The only trouble Tracy had about this incident was trying to forget the sad look on Lisa's face, because of her lie. Whenever she remembered Lisa's face, she felt mean and wicked again.'

'Now children,' Sis. Trudy paused, 'I'd like to be able to tell you that this was the only time Tracy got into trouble, but I can't. Even though Tracy tried her best to obey, every so often she'd venture outside that wall.'

'Tracy loved to go to church. Mother was faithful to take the girls. Some evenings after work Mother would be tired, but she would press her way out to prayer meetings and Bible studies, because she knew the importance of getting her little girls a good spiritual foundation.'

'When Tracy was four years old, one day she asked Mother, 'What happens when people go down to the altar?'

'Many of those people are going to be saved,' answered Mother.

'What do they say to get saved?' Tracy asked innocently.

'The Lord Jesus told about two men who went up to the temple to pray,' Mother answered. 'One man said, "Lord, have mercy on me a sinner." The Lord answered his prayer and saved him,' Mother explained.

'Could I go to the altar, Mama?' Tracy asked. 'Tonight is children's meeting.'

'Yes, dear,' was her mother's answer.

'The rest of the afternoon, Tracy practiced saying the prayer of the publican: "Lord have mercy on me a sinner." "Lord have mercy on me a sinner," she repeated over and over. Sometimes while playing she would forget the words, then she would go and ask Mother again, "What prayer did that man pray?" Mother would patiently tell her again.'

'That evening as they traveled to church, Tracy whispered her prayer once more, "Lord have mercy on me a sinner." She had it memorized. Sis. Miles, an elderly sister who loved children, spoke to them that night. She talked kindly about the Saviour and all He had done. When an invitation was given for those who wanted to be saved to come to the altar, Tracy went forward and knelt at the altar.'

'Sis. Miles knelt to pray with Tracy. "Do you want to be saved?" she asked.'

'Yes, Ma'am.'

'Sis. Miles began instructing Tracy on what it meant to be saved. She told Tracy to ask the Lord to forgive her of her sins and to help her be a good girl and to obey her mother. Tracy was a bit puzzled. Why was Sis. Miles telling her about obedience? She just wanted to be saved.'

'Tracy listened to Sis. Miles' instructions and also repeated after her the words of her prayer. As soon as Sis. Miles paused, Tracy quickly added, "Lord, have mercy on me a sinner." At last she had done it! Now she happily returned to her seat.'

'Tracy had not yet reached the age of being accountable for her sinful actions. She did not realize that her sins needed to be washed away. She did, however, learn from that experience that salvation did have something to do with obedience.'

(To be continued)

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 42, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 7 May 19, 1991

## The Price of Disobedience

(Continued from last week)

"Being a very active little girl, Tracy was always in a hurry. She hated to wait for anything. 'Tracy, dear, you must be careful,' Mother would remind her, over and over again. 'Watch where you're going!' 'Slow down!'

"The family owned a two-door car. What fun it was to race to be the first one in, so as to sit by the door, or to be the first one out of the back seat, if you happened to end up sitting in the rear. One Saturday evening Mother said to the girls, 'Let's get in the car; we're going to Mrs. Lay's house.' Tracy knew what that meant. Mrs. Lay made the best sweet potatoe pies. 'I'm sitting in the front,' called Sarah as they raced towards the car. Sarah rode in the front with Mother, while Lisa and Tracy sat in the back.

"Mrs. Lay had two freshly baked pies waiting for them. The girls waited in the car while Mother paid for the pies. 'You'll have to ride in the back with your sisters,' Mother told Sarah as she approached the car. 'I'm going to set the pies in the front seat.' Sarah promptly obeyed. The whole car filled with the aroma of cinnamon and sweet potatoes.

"Yummy, I can't wait,' said Tracy.

"Oh, yes you can,' said Mother.

"I'm getting the first piece, since I'm the oldest,' Sarah remarked.

"No, fair,' Tracy protested.

"Girls, there is no need for a quarrel, there is plenty of pie for us all.'

"Mother, can I help cut the pie since I'm five years old now?" asked Sarah.

"I suppose with a little help you can,' Mother answered.

"Me too,' echoed Lisa.

"Oh, no, dear, you're still a bit too young to handle even a table knife,' Mother said, as she rounded the corner and turned into the driveway. No sooner had Mother turned off the engine and turned to lift a pie off the seat, when Tracy bounded over the front seat and landed foot-first into a warm pie. *Splat!*

"Oh, no!' exclaimed Mother.

"Now look what you've done with your BIG feet!' snapped Sarah. She often teased Tracy because her feet were larger than

"Tracy, this is just carelessness. How often have I told you to be careful? There was no need for you to climb over the seat,' Mother scolded, as she cleaned the pie off Tracy's shoe. 'And look at the car. It's a mess, sweet potato pie splattered all over the seat and the floor mat!'

"I didn't mess up the whole pie,' Tracy said hopefully. 'Look at that piece,' she said, pointing to a very small section of the pie her foot hadn't smashed.

"Perhaps I can salvage that piece, but in all fairness who do you think should eat it?' Mother inquired.

"Tracy dropped her head, 'I guess, I should,' she answered solemnly.

"While Sarah, Lisa, and Mother ate large pieces of sweet potato pie that Sarah had cut from the remaining good pie, Tracy ate the small portion salvaged from the one she had stepped in. Then she went quietly to bed.

(Continued on page four)

## WORDS OF GOLD



### A Nobleman's Request

John 4:39 . . . Many of the Samaritans of that city believed on him for the saying of the woman, . . .

41 And many more believed because of his own word;

42 And said unto the woman, Now we believe, not because of thy saying: for we have heard him ourselves, and know that this is indeed the Christ, the Saviour of the world.

43 Now after two days he departed thence, and went into Galilee.

44 For Jesus himself testified, that a prophet hath no honour in his own country.

45 Then when he was come into Galilee, the Galilaeans received him, having seen all the things that he did at Jerusalem at the feast: for they also went unto the feast.

46 So Jesus came again into Cana of Galilee, where he made the water wine. And there was a certain nobleman, whose son was sick at Capernaum.

47 When he heard that Jesus was come out of Judaea into Galilee, he went unto him, and besought him that he would come down, and heal his son: for he was at the point of death.

48 Then said Jesus unto him, Except ye see signs and wonders, ye will not believe.

49 The nobleman saith unto him, Sir, come down ere my child die.

50 Jesus saith unto him, Go thy way: thy son liveth. And the man believed the word that Jesus had spoken unto him, and he went his way.

51 As he was now going down, his servants met him, and told him, saying, Thy son liveth.

52 Then enquired he of them the hour when he began to amend. And they said unto him, Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him.

53 So the father knew that it was at the same hour, in the which Jesus said unto him, Thy son liveth: and himself believed, and his whole house.

54 This is again the second miracle that Jesus did, when he was come out of Judaea into Galilee.

**Central Thought:** Christ is not to be limited in the way He answers our requests.

*The Lord hears us  
when we pray.*

#### Questions:

1. When did the people believe Christ was the Saviour?
2. What does a prophet lack in his own country?
3. Where had Jesus turned water into wine?
4. Who came to Jesus for healing of his sick son?
5. What do some need to see before they believe?
6. What did the nobleman think would happen if Jesus didn't come?
7. Did Jesus go and lay hands on the boy?
8. How was the son healed?
9. How did this miracle affect the nobleman's family?

#### Bible Verse

**"He sent his word, and healed them. . . ."** Ps. 107:20



The healing of the nobleman's son is the second miracle that Jesus did in Cana of Galilee. The first miracle was that of turning the water into wine at a wedding. These two miracles confirm God's interest in families.

The nobleman heard that Jesus was in a city only 15 miles away, so he went to see Jesus. The nobleman was a man of authority and could have ordered Jesus to come at once. This was not the case. The nobleman recognized who Jesus was and humbled himself and pleaded with Jesus to come. He called him "Sir," knowing well that Christ had authority that was higher than his own.

Jesus did not follow the man as the man had requested Him to do. He simply told the man to return home because his son was well. It seemed like a reasonable request for the nobleman to ask Jesus to come and heal his child. It is the natural course that earthly doctors take, in that they examine a patient first. Likewise, he may have heard of the miracles that Elijah and Elisha performed on the sick boys. In the Old Testament it says they had come to the boys, and touched and prayed over them. However, here was one who was greater than Elisha or any other prophet or earthly physician.

Jesus had all power in heaven and earth. He also knew all that would happen to the boy before the boy was born. All He had to do was to speak the word and the boy was healed. "What a mighty God we serve!"

The healing had occurred at the same hour when Jesus had spoken, although the boy was not near to Jesus.

Often God answers our requests or works out our problems in a way that we did not expect. He tells us to ask what we will and to make known our petitions to Him. Do this, but do not try to tell God just how to do it. God's ways are best. His

thoughts and ways are much higher and better than ours. He knows the conditions and details, so "Just trust Him and be true and see what He will do, He'll never disappoint your soul." —Altina Cox

*We serve a  
mighty God!*

### BIBLE EXERCISE

Unscramble the list of rulers named in the New Testament.

1. RIASJU

2. NASAN

3. LIFXE

4. STEUFS

5. CEDSMNIUO

6. ARECS

7. ODRHE

8. LTPAIE

(Answers: Jarius, Annas, Felix, Festus, Nicodemus, Cesar, Herod, Pilate.)

(Answers: 1. After they heard Him themselves. 2. none. 3. In Cana of Galilee. 4. A certain nobleman. 5. Signs and wonders. 6. That his son would die. 7. No. 8. By Jesus' word. 9. They all believed.)

"It wasn't long after this that Mother got another car. This one had four doors. Now Tracy wouldn't have to be reminded not to climb over the seats, nor would she be racing to the car so she could sit beside the door. Each member of the family now had their own door.

"Now that we have some reliable transportation, I'd like to go to the camp meeting in Guthrie, Oklahoma," Mother said.

"Will we stay all night?" asked Lisa.

"Not this time," replied Mother. "I'm just planning to drive down early Sunday morning and stay for the morning and afternoon service.

"But, Mama, we were invited to Katrina's birthday party on Sunday afternoon," said Sarah.

"I had forgotten about that," said Mother, "and I've already asked Sis. Essie to go with us. She is really looking forward to going to camp meeting."

"Maybe we could stay at Grandmother's," suggested Sarah.

"That's a good idea," replied Mother.

"Will there be children in Guthrie?" inquired Tracy.

"Yes, dear! There are always children at camp meetings," answered Mother.

"Well, I'd like to go to Guthrie with you," said Tracy.

"Are you sure you won't mind missing the birthday party?" asked Mother.

"I'm sure," responded Tracy.

"Grandmother kept Lisa and Sarah. Tracy rode with Mother and Sis. Essie to Guthrie. At first Tracy felt lonely being at camp meeting without her sisters, but she soon made new friends. After eating dinner in the dining hall, Tracy was ready to go, but Mother was still visiting some friends she hadn't seen for a while.

"Tracy decided to wait in the car. 'What fun it would be to drive,' Tracy thought. She slid behind the steering wheel and pre-

tended to start the motor. 'Brrm—brumm,' she said. She turned the steering wheel to the right, then she turned it to the left. Tracy then took hold of the stick on the side of the steering wheel. At first she just pretended to pull it down as she had seen Mother do so many times. Then, 'ZOOM!' she said, as she lowered the stick. The car began to roll backwards. 'Oh, no! What have I done now?' she questioned. Her heart beat fast and her stomach felt sick, as the car rolled slowly backwards out of the parking place and into the street. It rolled on across the street and made a sudden stop as it hit the curb on the opposite side.

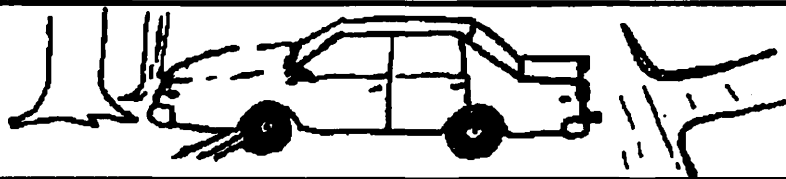
"Tracy knew again that she had disobeyed and was out of the wall of protection. She would soon be hurting from a spanking if Mother found out what she had done. Quickly she hopped out of the car and ran towards the dormitory to join her new friend. 'I'm sure Mother didn't see me run past her,' Tracy thought as she climbed the long stairs leading to the dormitory. 'Maybe she won't know that I did it,' she thought as she tried hard to get interested in the game the other girls were playing.

"Moments later, the dormitory door opened and a voice called, 'Tracy! Tracy, are you in there?' Tracy trembled at the unhappy sound of her mother's voice. She heard her mother coming up the stairs, one step at a time. Tracy ran to meet her mother, hoping it would help her to appear innocent.

"Mother met her with a small switch in her hand. 'Did you cause the car to roll into the street?' she questioned.

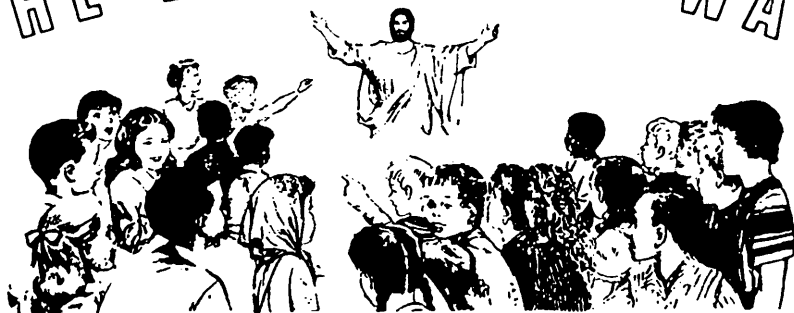
"Bro. Johnson notified me that there was a green and white Oldsmobile in the street that looked like mine. I was sure it wasn't our new car, even though it fit that description. I soon found out that it was. Now how did it get into the street? Sis. Essie said she thought she saw you coming from that direction."

(To be continued)





# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 42, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 8 May 26, 1991

## The Price of Disobedience

(Continued from last week)

"Tracy knew she was caught! There was no little Lisa around this time to share the blame. The other little girls whom Tracy had met, spoke up to defend her. 'No, it wasn't her,' they said.

" 'She was up here playing with us,' one of the girls said.

"Tracy felt a strong temptation to agree with her friends, but she also knew she couldn't fool Mother, at least not this time. 'How many times have I told you not to play with the car? It is not a toy. You could have caused an accident,' Mother continued. She got a firm hold on Tracy with one hand and began switching her legs with the little switch which she held tightly in the other hand. 'When will you learn to do as you are told?' Mother questioned as she continued spanking Tracy right there in the big dormitory with all eyes watching. How she wished she had obeyed and not gotten outside the wall of protection.

" 'Will going to school help Tracy learn to obey? At least she has somewhere to channel her energies now that she has started school,' Mother questioned hopefully.

"She was pleased to hear Tracy's teacher say, 'She's a very friendly, bright, pleasant, child, and I can tell she has good home training. In fact,' she said lowering her voice and putting her hand beside her mouth, 'she's my favorite student.' Tracy did have one problem, however, she liked to talk.

"Mrs. Shelton, her teacher, insisted on a quiet classroom. This was super tough for Tracy. She always had so much to share with her friends that it was often impossible for her to wait until recess to tell them. 'You must not talk in my class!' Mrs. Shelton reminded her over and over. Day after day, Mrs. Shelton wrote Tracy's name on the board to spend 10 minutes after school. The babysitter became alarmed at Tracy's failure to follow the rules.

"Tracy, if you come here late this evening and it's for disobeying Mrs. Shelton's rules, you will be punished,' Sis. Essie warned. Tracy knew the babysitter's words would stand. She made a special effort all day not to talk. When it seemed that she would burst, she would remember the words spoken by Sis. Essie. It was only 15 minutes before the closing bell rang, and Charles, who sat behind Tracy, asked a question. It caught Tracy off guard, and before she knew it, she was answering his question. Mrs. Shelton rose to her feet and wrote Tracy's name on the board. Tracy's heart sank!

"The bell rang.

"Tracy, you and Charles must stay after school.'

"Tracy's heart raced because she remembered Sis. Essie, the sitter, saying, 'If you are late, you will be punished!'

"Please, Mrs. Shelton, please,' Tracy begged, then burst into tears. 'My babysitter said I would be in trouble if I was late today,' she cried. 'I tried not to talk, and didn't most of the day.' Tracy had never before cried in school. She was always so bubbly. This

(Continued on page four)

## WORDS OF GOLD



### Giving All To Jesus

John 6:1 After these things Jesus went over the sea of Galilee, which is the sea of Tiberias.

2 And a great multitude followed him, because they saw his miracles which he did on them that were diseased.

5 When Jesus . . . lifted up his eyes, and saw a great company come unto him, he saith unto Philip, Whence shall we buy bread, that these may eat?

7 Phillp answered him, Two hundred pennyworth of bread is not sufficient for them, that every one of them may take a little.

8 One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, saith unto him,

9 There is a lad here, which hath five barley loaves, and two small fishes: but what are they among so many?

10 And Jesus said, Make the men sit down. Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, in number about five thousand.

11 And Jesus took the loaves; and when he had given thanks, he distributed to the disciples, and the disciples to them that were set down; and likewise of the fishes as much as they would.

12 When they were filled, he said unto his disciples, Gather up the fragments that remain, that nothing be lost.

13 Therefore they gathered them together, and filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves, which remained over and above unto them that had eaten.

14 Then those men, when they had seen the miracles that Jesus did, said, This is of a truth that prophet that should come into the world.

15 When Jesus therefore perceived that they would come and take him by

force, to make him a king, He departed again into a mountain himself alone.

Mark 12:41 And Jesus sat over against the treasury, and beheld how the people cast money into the treasury: and many that were rich cast in much.

42 And there came a certain poor widow, and she threw in two mites, which make a farthing.

43 And he called unto him his disciples, and saith unto them, Verily I say unto you, That this poor widow hath cast more in, than all they which have cast into the treasury:

44 For all they did cast in of their abundance; but she of her want did cast in all that she had, even all her living.

**Central Thought:** Give Jesus what you have, and He can bless and multiply it.

*"God loves a cheerful giver."*

#### Questions:

1. Why did the multitude follow Jesus?
2. Which disciple did Jesus ask about buying bread?
3. Who did Andrew say had food?
4. What food did the boy have?
5. Was the boy willing to give all his food?
6. What happened to the food that Jesus blessed?
7. What did the people plan to do to Jesus?
8. How much did the widow put into the treasury?
9. Of all who gave, who gave the greatest offering?

#### Bible Verse

**"Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. . . ."** Luke 6:38



# Let's Talk

The account of this miracle of Jesus feeding the five thousand is found in each of the four Gospels. John, however, notes that it was a lad, a boy, who was willing to give all that he had.

The great crowd of people had been following Jesus all day. They had listened to Him teach and watched Him heal the sick. At evening, the disciples came to Jesus telling Him it was time to send the people away so they could buy themselves food. Jesus said it wasn't necessary to send them away to get food. "Just feed them," He said. This was hard for the disciples to understand, because they did not have enough food, nor money to purchase the amount of food for so many.

Jesus inquired as to what food was available. Andrew was the one who brought the boy with his small amount of food to Jesus. Andrew, of course, thought that such a small amount was meaningless among so many people.

The small amount did not disturb Jesus; He knew what to do. He gave thanks to God, (for "little is much if God is in it"). Before Jesus blessed the bread, He prepared the people for the blessing by having them sit down in groups. What a blessing it was to see such a miracle and have plenty to eat without buying it.

The widow also was an example of giving all she had. The others gave a lot more money than she did, yet Jesus said she gave the most. How can that be? Two mites would be equal to about one and a half cents, which doesn't seem like much money, but if it's all you have, it is. The others gave a lot of money, but they had plenty more, so it was not such a great sacrifice for them to give.

God is asking us today to give what we have, even though it may be a little. Many young people look forward to the day when they can do great things for the Lord. They hope to get a good job so they

can give large sums of money to the work of God, but God is more pleased if we give to Him what we have today.

Bro. Louis Kimble told of a young man who wanted to pursue a great athletic career so he could help finance the cause of God. Bro. Kimble said that he asked the young man, "Why not give the Lord one of those two dollars you have in your pocket now?" He said the young man's enthusiasm to give to the Lord changed at that suggestion.

Whatever you give to the Lord, give it cheerfully, for the Lord loves this kind of giving. Above all things, God desires that you give Him your heart. Proverbs 23:26 says, "My son, give me thine heart, . . ." If God has your heart, He will have all you have.

—Altina Cox

## Giving

Give, give, give I say,  
It's not only hundreds that count  
Give nickles and dimes today

Give, give, give to the Lord  
Give a smile, a word, a pat on the  
back  
A tract, a book, or a sword

Give, give, give to your God  
Give Him your mind, your heart  
and your soul.

—Altina Cox

## Jesus gave His life for us.

(Answers: 1. Because of the miracles He did. 2. Philip. 3. A boy. 4. five barley loaves and two small fish. 5. yes. 6. It multiplied until there was enough for everyone. 7. To make Him thinking. 8. Two mites. 9. The widow.)

display of emotion touched Mrs. Shelton. She called Tracy to her desk.

"Tracy, I understand how you feel, but you must obey the classroom rules. I will let you go this time, but you must promise to follow the rules of this classroom."

"Yes, Ma'am, I will," Tracy said, as she wiped her eyes. She left the classroom and ran to Sis. Essie's home as fast as she could. From that day, Tracy worked harder than ever to be quiet in the class.

"Sometimes Tracy had to pay a great price for disobedience. At these times, she wished very much that she had obeyed and could still be inside the wall of protection that surrounds the obedient child."

"Tracy soon learned that a price is paid for disobeying playground rules, as well as classroom rules. Tracy followed the playground rules closely, until she began seeing other children stepping outside the wall of protection and nothing bad seemed to happen to them."

"She also thought it challenging to do daring acts on the playground equipment. She learned quickly the art of lightly skinning her knee by putting it on the concrete when the merry-go-round was in slow motion. The object of this was to obtain a bandage from the teachers and show off the injury. This wasn't so bad, but it grew dull after a while."

"Hey, Tracy, I know a neat trick," said Brenda as she see-sawed back and forth with Tracy on the teeter-totter. "I bet you can't do this," she told Tracy as she carefully placed both feet on the seat of the teeter-totter and stood up while the teeter-totter was balancing level in the air. Brenda held on to the handles while she stood. "Now it's your turn," she told Tracy after she was safely seated again."

"Tracy's side went high in the air. Brenda kept her side flat on the ground while Tracy performed her feat. Tracy carefully placed one foot at a time on the seat and stood up. "Let go," suggested Brenda. Tracy eased one hand off the handle and then the other. She had done it! "Ladies and gentlemen, up in the air balancing alone is the magnificent Tracy." *Tadam!*

"At that moment the return to class whistle was blown. Brenda instantly jumped

up and headed for the classroom. Tracy went flying through the air and landed on the metal base and bars of the teeter-totter. "Oh my jaw," Tracy muttered, as she picked herself up off the ground. She hurt all over, but mainly her jaw, for she had banged it on the bars."

"The teacher sent her to the nurse's office, where the nurse put ice on her swollen face. She was then sent to Sis. Essie's home which was near the school. By the time Mother got there, her face was blue and black. "Looks like you lost in the fight," someone said, teasing Tracy. Tracy wasn't very amused, but she did learn not to fight the playground rules, because if you do, you will lose."

"Well, Tracy had learned to obey the playground rules, but she was not content to be totally obedient. "Do you know what I wish?" she asked Mother one day."

"No, dear, you'll have to tell me," Mother answered."

"I wish there was a place in-between heaven and hell where good people could go. If there was," mused Tracy, "people wouldn't have to worry about trying to live saved and obeying all of God's rule's, and people like Grandma and Grandpa wouldn't have to go to hell if they don't get saved."

"You do have wonderful grandparents, but without God, they don't have the true goodness that each one must have to get inside of heaven. Jesus said, "There is no one good but God." "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God." All our human goodness, or righteousness, is like a bunch of dirty rags before God," explained Mother. "Getting saved is just trusting Jesus to wash away your sins, and living saved is not hard, Tracy. It's a wonderful life!" Mother said with a happy smile on her face which showed she was enjoying being a Christian."

"It was apparent by this conversation that Tracy was beginning to understand more about salvation and the need for a change in her life," said Sis. Trudy who had been telling the story during Children's Meeting. "The Bible says, 'The goodness of the Lord leadeth men to repentance.' God was good to Tracy and didn't let her get seriously hurt on the teeter-totter, and in the following episode, we will also see God's goodness to her."

(To be continued)

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 42, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 9 June 2, 1991

## The Price of Disobedience

(Continued from last week)

"It was a beautiful 4th of July! Weeks ago, Mother had promised to take the girls to the lake for a grand picnic and they, at last, were on their way! Shiela, their good friend who lived next door, jumped in the car to go with them. The hot wind burned their faces and tangled the hair of the four excited girls. 'How much farther do we have to go?' asked Tracy.

"It won't be long now, only about three more miles," Mother answered.

"Then we can eat our hot dogs and drink sodas," Sarah told Shiela.

"And potato chips, cookies, and lots of other goodies," added Lisa.

"Mother parked the car close to the water, and Tracy quickly started helping unpack the car. She took out the quilts Mother had brought along and spread them on the ground. The quilts were to sit on, but Tracy didn't want to spend time at the lake sitting on a quilt.

"Look at all these people!" exclaimed Lisa, as Mother took out the picnic basket.

"It's a holiday, so everybody is here," explained Sarah.

"The whole world?" asked Lisa, as her eyes grew large at the sight of all the people.

"No, I just meant a lot of folks," replied Sarah.

"Now can we take off our shoes and wade in the water?" Tracy asked anxiously.

"Yes, you may, but be careful and stay close to the shore. I can't swim, so you will

have to be very careful and not fall into deep water," Mother warned.

"In a flash the girl shoes were off and they were splashing in the cool water. The sand cushioned their feet and the water swished back and forth between their toes. 'This is just like the ocean,' said Shiela.

"How do you know?" asked Tracy. 'You haven't gone any farther than Oklahoma, and that's a long, long way from the ocean.'

"I saw it in my library book," Shiela said to defend herself.

"The ocean is much bigger than this," Sarah assured them.

"Mother came near where the girls were wading and said, 'I can see you girls are working up quite an appetite, but let's take a walk along the sand before eating.'

"The girls walked with Mother. They saw many people picnicking, playing games, and swimming. They saw sailboats and motorboats. There were some people water skiing. There was a man with very pink skin and gray hair, sitting in a large motorboat. 'How are you folks?' he asked.

"Fine," they all answered, without hesitation.

"How would you like to take a boat ride?"

"Can we, Mama?" the girls shouted eagerly.

"Oh, I don't care much about going in the water, Sir," Mother answered. 'And certainly not in a boat.'

"My boat is very safe," the man answered. 'Come on, let the girls have a little ride. We have life-jackets to fit everyone,' he said, holding up a life-jacket for Mother to see.

(Continued on page four)

## WORDS OF GOLD



### One Thing He Knew

John 9:1 . . . As Jesus passed by, he saw a man which was blind from his birth.

2 And his disciples asked him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind?

3 Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him.

6 When he had thus spoken, he spat on the ground, and made clay of the spittle, and he anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay.

7 And said unto him, Go, wash in the pool of Siloam, . . . He went his way therefore, and washed, and came seeing.

8 The neighbours therefore, and they which before had seen him . . . said, Is not this he that sat and begged?

9 Some said, This is he: others said, He is like him: but he said, I am he.

10 Therefore said they unto him, How were thine eyes opened?

11 He answered and said, A man that is called Jesus made clay, and anointed mine eyes, and said unto me, Go to the pool of Siloam, and wash: and I went and washed, and I received sight.

12 Then said they unto him, Where is he? He said, I know not.

18 But the Jews did not believe concerning him, that he had been blind, and received his sight, until they called the parents of him that had received his sight.

19 And they asked them, saying, Is this your son, who ye say was born blind? how then doth he now see?

20 His parents answered them and said, We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind:

24 Then again called they the man that was blind, and said unto him, Give

God the praise: we know that this man is a sinner.

25 He answered and said, Whether he be a sinner or no, I know not: one thing I know, that, whereas I was blind, now I see.

**Central Thought:** The man born blind didn't try to answer hard questions, he simply gave his testimony.



### Questions:

1. How long was this man blind?
2. What question did the disciples ask?
3. Why was the man blind?
4. What did Jesus use to anoint the man's eyes?
5. Where did Jesus send him to wash?
6. Did the Jews believe the young man?
7. Who did they ask to confirm the report?
8. Did his parents answer all their questions?
9. What one thing did the young man know?

### Bible Verse

**"...One thing I know, that whereas I was blind, now I see." John 9:25**

# Let's Talk

Here we have a story of a man who was blind from his birth. He had never seen the sun nor the moon, the grass, flowers, nor even the face of his mother and father.

While he was young, his parents took care of him like all good parents do. As he grew older, he earned his way by begging. Then one day Jesus passed by.

In Jesus' time, the people thought that all trouble was a result of sin. Many times, under the Mosaic Law, the Lord did cause suffering to those who sinned, and sometimes the suffering extended to their offspring. Seeing the man, blind from birth, the disciples wondered who had sinned. Jesus told His disciples that this affliction occurred only that the glory of God might be shown.

It is the same way today. Many times God does allow some affliction or trouble to get our attention. Some may result from reaping sinful acts, and others are just that God may be glorified by healing or delivering that individual.

Jesus anointed the young man's eyes and sent him to the pool of Siloam. This pool's waters flowed down from Mt. Zion. Here the blind man washed his eyes and was able to see.

Jesus could have healed him without the clay, or without the man washing, but we can receive a spiritual lesson from this. The weight of the clay on his eyes is like the weight of sin. The anointing is like conviction on a soul. Jesus could have led the man to the pool, but he sent him. This required volunteer action from the man. So it is, when the Lord talks to a person about salvation, they must make the steps to the fountain filled with blood that flows from Jesus' side. Here they can wash and be clean and leave their heavy load of sin.

The people were not sure if this man was the blind beggar. When a person is blind, their steps are not as sure. They

look and act differently than those who have sight.

This also occurs in salvation, "Old things are passed away and all things become new." The man didn't need his stick nor his begging cup any longer. He could work and go about as others. He had been visited by Jesus.

The great change that salvation makes often causes others to wonder if they are seeing and hearing the same person. The change is so great in both their looks and actions.

Another spiritual point in this lesson is that the man didn't attempt to answer all the questions that were asked him. This is a good example, especially for new converts and young people. Sometimes even older persons must follow this example. Many times people ask hard questions about the Bible. Sometimes it is because they want to know, but most of these questions are just to intimidate or argue. If you don't have an answer that will satisfy them, just follow the age old advice. "Talk what you know and let the rest go." The Bible also gives us some advice about this. It says, "Let your words be few."

It is best not to talk much to some people, because some may be trying to trap you or persuade you to their point of belief. Just tell them that you don't know all the answers, and tell them what you know, even if it is just, "I once was a sinner, but now I am saved!" —Altina Cox



(Answers: 1. From his birth. 2. "Who sinned?" 3. So the works of God could be manifested in him. 4. Clay. 5. To the pool of Siloam. 6. No. 7. His parents. 8. No. 9. "I was blind, now I see.")

"Please, Mama, please," begged the girls.

Mother took a good look at the life-jackets, and at the man. His two companions were his daughter, about 13, whom he said was a good swimmer, and another man. After much begging, and what seemed to Tracy a long, long time, Mother gave in and said, 'All right.'

"The men helped Tracy, Sarah, Sheila, and Lisa into life-jackets. Mother also put one on. 'Climb in!' he said excitedly, 'and off we go!' The motor sounded loud and powerful as it roared out into the water. The cool breeze from off the water felt great on Tracy's up-turned face. The other girls watched the trail of bubbles which followed the boat. The man guided the boat out to the middle of the lake, leaving the shore and all the people almost out of sight. Tracy wondered if the lake was almost as big as the ocean, for there was so much water on every side.

"Suddenly the motor was silent! 'Oops, we're out of gas,' the man explained with a strange look on his face. 'We'll have to swim back to shore.'

"Tracy looked again at the shore so far away and at the tiny people walking around. She remembered Mother had said, 'Don't get in deep water, because I can't swim.' How would Mother get back to shore?

"This motor can't run without gas,' the red-faced, gray-haired man said again. 'We have no oars with which to row. The only way to get back to your car on the shore is to swim.' His daughter was an excellent swimmer, so he had her jump out of the boat and swim a distance. Tracy thought it looked easy.

"I'm sure I could do that," she thought. The girl swam back and climbed into the boat.

"Now, it's your turn," he said looking first at Tracy, then at her friend Shiela, and her sisters, Sarah and Lisa. Sarah huddled close to Mother, and Lisa clung to Sarah. Mother looked pale, but calm, although Tracy knew

she must be very frightened. 'Who wants to be first to try swimming to the shore?' the man questioned.

"No, no!" shouted Mother. 'They don't know how to swim, and neither do I. I told you I didn't want to come because I couldn't swim.'

"He completely ignored what Mother was saying and continued encouraging the girls to try and swim. 'Oh, you'll be all right, you have on life-jackets,' he said. 'See, my daughter didn't have one. There's nothing to be afraid of. Whose going first?'

"I will," Shiela volunteered.

"Oh, Shiela," Mother sighed. 'Are you sure you will be all right. I wish you wouldn't.'

"Shiela paid no attention. She climbed over the side of the boat, clinging to it tightly. Before long she was screaming, 'Mama! Mama!' When they got tired of hearing her scream, they pulled her back into the boat.

"How about you?" the man said, pointing to Tracy. Shiela's attempt had sparked more interest in Tracy. 'At least I could do better than Shiela,' she thought.

"Okay," she said accepting the dare.

"Oh, Tracy, you mustn't get in that deep water," Mother cautioned. 'It is very dangerous.'

"Oh, come on," the man urged. 'Your mother's just afraid. It's lots of fun to play in the water.'

"Tracy was sure it would be fun. 'At least if I do get frightened, I'm not going to scream,' she said to herself and climbed into the water. Tracy smiled triumphantly as she held tightly to the side of the boat and bounced around in the cool water.

"Let go of the boat," the man chided. Tracy thought her life-jacket would keep her on top of the water, so without one thought of fear, she accepted the next dare and bravely pushed away from the boat.

(To be continued)





# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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## The Price of Disobedience

(Continued from last week)

"The next thing Tracy knew, dirty water was filling her open mouth and forcing its way up her nose and down into her lungs. Oh, it hurt so bad. Everything was dark, for water had also filled her eyes. She could feel herself sinking deeper and deeper into the dirty water. 'What happened to the life-jacket?' she thought. 'It was to keep me from drowning.' Suddenly she felt herself rising and she began fighting the water, trying with all her might to reach the boat. Vainly she struggled with the water, thinking any minute she would feel her hand hit the boat. 'Oh, God help me now!' she prayed silently in her mind.

"Get her out!" Mother demanded as she and the girls watched Tracy bobbing up and down in the water. 'She's drowning! Tracy's drowning!' the girls wailed.

"Go help her," the man said to his daughter. The girl dove in and the next thing Tracy knew, someone was under her, pushing her up out of the terrible water. The red-faced man caught her hand and pulled her into the safety of the boat again.

Tracy fell into Mother's lap. She was conscious, but felt very sick and too tired to care about anything else that might happen.

"The girls hovered over Tracy to see if she was all right, while the boat engine roared to life and she felt them racing across the water. 'How did he get that motor started if

it had no gas?' Tracy wondered as she drifted off into a half-conscious sleep.

"Mother tenderly lifted Tracy out of the boat and laid her in the back seat of the car. Tracy could faintly hear Mother as she prayed for her to get well and for God to forgive the man for playing such a cruel trick on them. 'Thank you, Lord,' she said, 'I know that Tracy will be okay, even though she has swallowed far too much of that dirty water.'

"Two hours later, Tracy awakened with a tremendous headache and terrible pains in her stomach. When she lifted her head to see what had happened to Mother and the girls, the trees, the picnic table, and the sky seemed to be spinning around and around. Tracy closed her eyes and lay down again. Mother was close by and when she saw Tracy moving she came over and asked, 'How are you.'

"I'm sick, but I'll be okay," Tracy said. She could hear the girls laughing, and wanted to be part of the fun too. Forcing herself, she slowly got out of the car.

"Maybe you should try to eat a little lunch," Mother suggested, helping Tracy to the picnic table. Tracy took a few sips of lemon-lime soda. She could see Lisa was blowing bubbles, and Sheila and Sarah were having great fun playing with a frisbee.

"Want to play?" questioned Sarah, as the girls came running to see Tracy.

"I'm too sick," Tracy answered, as she made her way back to the car.

"Girls, I think we had better go home and put Tracy to bed. She is awfully sick if she

(Continued on page four)

## WORDS OF GOLD



### Christ and the Children

Matthew 18:1 At the same time came the disciples unto Jesus, saying, Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?

2 And Jesus called a little child unto him, and set him in the midst of them,

3 And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.

4 Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

5 And whoso shall receive one such little child in my name receiveth me.

6 But whoso shall offend one of these little ones which believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea.

21:15 . . .When the chief priests and scribes saw the wonderful things that he did, and the children crying in the temple, and saying, Hosanna to the son of David; they were sore displeased,

16 And said unto him, Hearest thou what these say? And Jesus saith unto them, Yea; have ye never read, Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings thou hast perfected praise?

Mark 10:13 . . .They brought young children to him, that he should touch them: and his disciples rebuked those that brought them.

14 But when Jesus saw it, he was much displeased, and said unto them, Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God.

15 Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein.

16 And he took them up in his arms, put his hands upon them, and blessed them.

**Central Thought:** Christ displayed the great love and care for the children that He wants others to show.



#### Questions:

1. Who asked the question about being the greatest?
2. Who did Jesus call unto Himself?
3. Is it dangerous to offend children?
4. Why were the rulers displeased with the children?
5. What is perfected by the mouths of babes?
6. Why did mothers bring their children to Jesus?
7. How did Jesus feel about His disciples' reaction?
8. Should little children be allowed to come to Jesus?
9. What did Jesus do to the children?

#### Bible Verse

**“. . .Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God.”**  
**Mark 10:14**



# Let's Talk

The gentleness of Christ is fully manifested in His dealings with children. He is the majestic God of heaven, robed in human flesh, sent to save a world of lost sinners, yet, time and time again, He takes time out of His busy schedule to bless the children.

The disciples were having an argument about who would be the greatest. Would it be John, the beloved Apostle? Would it be Peter, who would preach and 3,000 would be saved in one day? Would it be James, the brother of Jesus, or maybe Matthew?

Jesus settled the question by setting a child in the midst of them. He then told them to become as the little child—humble, honest, and free from sin, guilt, or wrong. They must be eager to learn, be good imitators, carefree, and totally dependent upon God, as children are totally dependent upon their parents.

I took special note of the children recently. It was the 16th of January. Our nation had just begun to fight in the war. There was much concern all over the world. Some were having protests. Others were praying and crying. A sister called and with a trembling voice said, "There is a strong possibility that terrorists will attack the place where my husband works." I listened to the radio, and thought of the innocent families in Iraq that were probably terrified. I too was touched and praying.

Amid all the turmoil, I heard the voices of laughter. I looked out the back window and saw my little children's happy faces as they giggled and chased bubbles floating through the air. "They have not a care in the world!" I thought. "Yes, Lord, this is how you want us to be. We must fully cast our cares on you and not worry, because you are our Father."

It is also wonderful to hear the voices of children worshiping God. The rulers of the synagogue were disturbed when they

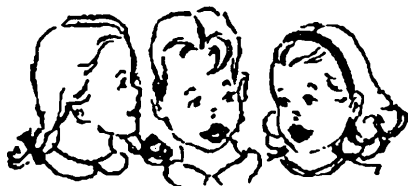
heard the children worshiping Jesus as God, for they would not accept Jesus as the Son of God. However, it was a joyful sound to Jesus. He said to them, "Haven't you read from the Holy Scriptures that God has perfect praise from the mouths of babes?"

Sometimes older children get annoyed and embarrassed when smaller children sing loud or off-key. Let us be glad that they are using their voices to praise the Lord.

The children hanging around trying to get Jesus' attention were annoying to the disciples, but Jesus was much displeased with their attitude. Jesus knew the mothers had brought their children to Him because they were sick, or to receive instruction from Him. He knew they were not being selfish, but that they and the children truly loved Him and just wanted a loving touch from Him. Jesus ignored the disciples' disgust and called the children, saying that His kingdom was made up of children of all ages (from one to one hundred).

Sometimes small children, two or three years old, come forward for prayer. They are not sick nor do they need to be saved. Some may think these children should be sent back to their seat, but no! let the children come and be touched by Jesus that He may bestow on each little one, blessings that are rich and sweet.

—Altina Cox



(Answers: 1. The disciples. 2. All the child. 3. Yes. 4. Because they shouted praises to Jesus in God's temple. 5. Praise. 6. So Jesus could touch them. 7. He was displeased. 8. Yes. 9. He took them in His arms and blessed them.)

refuses to eat or play. You can all ride in the front seat, so she can lay down in the back.'

"I'm glad I'm not Tracy," said Lisa as they were riding home.

"Yes, I am too. She missed out on all the fun today," replied Sarah.

"Girl, was I scared when I got in that water," said Shiela, remembering the terrifying experience.

"I guess Tracy wishes she had listened to Mama instead of that mean old red-faced man," Lisa said.

Tracy groaned, just thinking of how she wished she had obeyed Mother. The frightening experience of almost drowning was punishment enough, besides missing the fun and picnic. And this terrible headache and her stomach still churning were almost unbearable. What a price she paid for disobedience. How she wished she was on the right side of the wall of obedience instead of the wrong side. 'Why didn't I stay on the other side?' she questioned herself.

(To be continued)

## Pleasant Gifts

"Who giveth us richly all things to enjoy."  
(1 Tim. 6:17.)

Think a little this morning of God's great kindness to you. How very good He is to you! how can anybody go on all day long, and never see how good He is, and never look up and bless Him? Most especially on bright pleasant days, when He giveth us more even than usual to enjoy! He "giveth." Not one single pleasant thing, not one single bit of enjoyment comes to us but what He giveth. We can not get it, we do not earn it, we do not deserve it; but He *giveth* lovingly, and kindly, and freely. Suppose He stopped giving, what would become of us?

"Richly." So richly, that if you tried to write down half His gifts to you, your hand would be tired long before you had finished. You might easily make a list of the presents given you on your birthday, but you could not



make a list of what God gives you every day of your life.

"All things." All the things you really need, and a great many more besides. All the things that will do you good, a great many more than you would ever have thought of. *All things*, every thing that you have at all!

So, you see, He means you to be happy with what He gives you, to smile and laugh and be glad, not to be dismal and melancholy. If you do not enjoy what He "giveth," that is your own fault, for He meant you to enjoy it. Look up to Him with a bright smile and thank Him for having given you richly all things to enjoy.

—Frances Havergal

## "On Mine Account"



"Put that on mine account." (Philem. 18).

When St. Paul asked Philemon, in a most beautiful letter, to take back Onesimus, who had run away from him, he said, "If he hath wronged thee, or oweth thee ought, put that on my account." Onesimus had been a bad servant to Philemon; and being willing to come back and do better, would not pay for what he had wronged him in before, and would not pay his old debts. And he evidently had nothing himself to pay them with. But St. Paul offered to pay all, so that Onesimus

might be received, "not now as a servant," but as a "brother beloved."

This is an exquisite picture of what the Lord Jesus Christ does. He not only intercedes for us with Him from whom we have departed, and against whom we have sinned; but, knowing to the full how much we have wronged God, and how much we owe Him, He says, "Put that on mine account."

And God has put it all on His account, and the account has been paid, paid in blood. When "the Lord laid on Him the iniquity of us all," Jesus saw and knew all your sins; and He said, "Put that on mine account." Oh what wonderful kindness and love of God our Saviour!

—Frances Havergal

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 42, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 11 June 16, 1991

## The Price of Obedience

(Continued from last week)

"A surprise is coming today," Mother told the girls.

"Is it for my birthday?" asked Tracy, who had just turned ten.

"It's for you, Lisa, and Sarah. It's a big surprise! Big enough to share with all the children in the neighborhood."

That afternoon a truck delivered a heavy-duty gym set. As soon as it was set up safely, the girls began playing. Soon their friends came over and what fun followed. They played and played and played until Mother called them in to get ready for bed.

Tracy had already found out that the glider was especially fun. Two people shared it much like a teeter-totter, but it just went back and forth like a swing. Back and forth, back and forth, Tracy and Sarah would swing. Back and forth, back and forth, Tracy and a friend would swing. The glider was almost always going, that is, until one day.

"Oh, Mother, Mother, the glider broke," the girls wailed as they ran toward the house.

"Can you fix it?" Tracy asked.

"Mother examined the glider. 'I don't believe I can,' she said, shaking her head. 'And you must not play on it, until it is fixed. Someone could get hurt.'"

Tracy, who was very creative, could fix most any thing. 'It's a shame to waste such a fun toy,' she reasoned, so she set to work figuring out how to mend the glider. One side of the glider had broken loose at the handles,

leaving the jagged pieces of metal exposed. After some thinking, Tracy devised a way to still use the glider. 'What a genius you are,' Shiela remarked to Tracy after Tracy explained it. It took some art, but soon Shiela and Tracy learned how to do this, and working together they spent many happy hours swinging on the glider. To them the glider was mended and as good as new.

"One afternoon the children were playing outside and the gym set was sitting idle. 'Hey, Shiela, let's play on the glider,' suggested Tracy. The girls raced to the glider. Shiela bounced on the glider seat and pressed the handles together, just as Tracy grabbed at the broken handle. Her two fingers went into the ugly jagged hole where the handle was ripped from the bar. When Shiela pressed the handles together it triggered the other end of the glider to squeeze the hole closed on Tracy's fingers. The sharp jagged edges of the broken metal pierced into Tracy's fingernails and ripped the flesh off her fingers as she snatched her hand away. 'Shiela,' she screamed, but it was too late. Shiela saw the blood and began screaming also.

The screams of the two girls brought Mother to the window. She met Tracy halfway to the house, a long line of neighborhood children trailing her.

"Mother took Tracy's hand in hers and began to pray. Then she washed the mangled fingers, praying all the while that God would heal them without any infection.

"Again Tracy was hurt because she had stepped outside the protective wall of obedience. For many weeks her hand hurt. This

(Continued on page four)

## WORDS OF GOLD



### Healing The Demoniac Son

Mark 9:14 . . . When he [Jesus] came to his disciples, he saw a great multitude about them, and the scribes questioning with them.

15 And straightway all the people, when they beheld him, were greatly amazed, and running to him saluted him.

16 And he asked the scribes, What question ye with them?

17 One of the multitude answered and said, Master, I have brought unto thee my son, which hath a dumb spirit;

18 And wheresoever he taketh him, he teareth him: and he foameth, and gnasheth with his teeth, and pineth away: and I spake to thy disciples that they should cast him out; and they could not.

19 He answereth him, and saith, O faithless generation, how long shall I be with you? how long shall I suffer you? bring him unto me.

20 They brought him unto him: and when he saw him, straightway the spirit tare him; and he fell on the ground, and wallowed foaming.

21 And he asked his father, How long is it ago since this came unto him? And he said, Of a child.

22 . . . Ofttimes it hath cast him into the fire, and into the waters, to destroy him: but if thou canst do any thing; have compassion on us, and help us.

23 Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth.

24 And straightway the father of the child cried out, and said with tears, Lord, I believe: help thou mine unbelief.

25 When Jesus saw that the people came running together, he rebuked the foul spirit, saying unto him, Thou dumb

and deaf spirit, I charge thee, come out of him, and enter no more into him.

26 And the spirit cried, and rent him sore, and came out of him: and he was as one dead: insomuch that many said, He is dead.

27 But Jesus took him by the hand, and lifted him up; and he arose.

**Central Thought:** A father seeks compassion for his son and Jesus delivers the son.



## Father's Day June 16

### Questions:

1. What kind of spirit did the boy have?
2. What did the spirit do to the boy?
3. Could the disciples cast the spirit out?
4. What did Jesus tell the man to do?
5. What is possible by believing?
6. What did the man ask Jesus to do?
7. Did Jesus deliver the boy?
8. How did the boy act immediately after the spirit left?
9. Was the boy dead as some thought?

### Bible Verse

**"Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear him." Ps. 103:13**



It's Father's Day! Remember to do something special for your daddy today.

When you think of a father, what comes to your mind? Do you think of someone strong and dependable? Do you picture him providing for and protecting his family? Do you think of the times you were in trouble and he was there? Thank God for fathers!

We are also very thankful for our heavenly Father, "with eyes full of mercy and a heart full of love." Even the children who do not have a father or have one who has disappointed or hurt them, can share with us the joy of this heavenly Father.

I do not know if there was a special day for fathers while Christ was here on earth, but the young man in our lesson should have been very thankful for his caring father.

The poor boy was possessed by the Devil, which caused him to have terrible seizures. The father took his son to the disciples, but they were unable to deliver his son. Now the multitude questioned the embarrassed disciples, but Jesus appeared just in time. After hearing what had happened, Jesus told the man to bring his son to Him.

"If you can do anything, have compassion on us and help us," the father pleaded. Jesus put the "IF" back to the man.

"If thou canst believe," Jesus said, "All things are possible to him that believeth." The question is never in Christ's ability, because He has all power. The question is in the faith of the seeker.

When the man heard that *all things* were possible, he knew it included healing for his son. Then he begged Jesus to help him completely believe.

Jesus rebuked the spirit and told it not to enter the boy again. Jesus didn't just stop the convulsion that was in progress, but He gave the boy a perfect cure so he never again was troubled by the spirit.

There are children today who need deliverance. Many parents are seeking help from psychologists, psychiatrists, or using drugs to suppress their child's violent behavior, but many of them never find deliverance and end up living years in mental institutions. It would be far better if more parents brought their children to Jesus.

Some of you may have questions about seizures or convulsions. Not everyone who experiences a seizure or convulsion is troubled by the Devil, as the boy in our lesson was. Sometimes high fever, injuries, or other illnesses can cause seizures and/or convulsions.

Whatever the case or cause, there is deliverance in Jesus. It is still true today that "All things are possible to him that believeth."  
—Altina Cox

## BIBLE EXERCISE

Can you name these fathers?

1. His daughter was brought to life by Jesus. (Mark 5:22, 35, 42)
2. A father who loved God more than his own son. (Heb. 11:17)
3. Our earth's first father. (Gen. 4:1)
4. The father of Israel's greatest king. (I Sam. 16:11-13)
5. The father of Israel's first king. (I Sam. 10:21-24)
6. The father of two apostles. (Matt. 4:21-22)
7. The father who lived 969 years. (Gen. 5:27)
8. This father was 182 years when his first son was born. (Gen. 5:30)
9. The father of Shem, Ham and Japheth. (Gen. 6:10)

Answers: 1. A demon spirit. 2. It tormented him, threw him on the ground and caused him to foam at the mouth and grasp his teeth. Sometimes it tried to throw him into the fire and water. 3. No. 4. To bring his son to him. 5. "All things." 6. To help his unbelieved. 7. Yes. 8. As if he were dead. 9. No.

gave her a daily reminder of her act of disobedience. When those weeks were finally over and Tracy's fingers were healed, both fingernails slowly came off as they grew out. Every time things caught on these loose nails, pain shot up Tracy's hand and arm.

"Through all this suffering, Tracy invented a little song that fit the story of her life. It was sung to the tune of 'This Old Man.' The words were simply this: 'Disobey, disobey, you will repay. . . . Over and over she sang this little song, thinking of the high price she had paid for disobedience.

"Being ten years old, Tracy knew fully the difference between right and wrong. She knew also that trouble caught those who left the protective walls of obedience. She began to feel the Lord convicting her soul in a greater way than He had before. The fall revival was now in progress. Mother, of course, was attending every night and taking the girls with her.

"Tracy didn't want to give her life over to Jesus. She didn't want Jesus to have His way, because she thought it would be more fun to have her own way. She tried hard to sleep during the service so she wouldn't be bothered with the thought of obeying Jesus. Sometimes, when she couldn't sleep, she would pretend to sleep, hoping she wouldn't have that uneasy feeling. Although she tried ever so hard, it seemed she'd always awaken during the middle of the altar call.

"One night someone called song number 458, and the congregation sang, 'Tomorrow's sun may never rise . . . This is the time, oh, then be wise, Be saved, oh, tonight. Oh, why not tonight? Oh, why not tonight?' Several young people and children got saved. How happy it made everyone. One of the older saints exhorted the congregation to come and be saved tonight. Tracy could feel the Spirit of God tugging at her, but she did not yield.

"It was Sunday morning, the last day of the revival. Tracy wore her favorite dress. It had large flowers printed on an orange background. Mother was helping prepare food in the dining hall, so Tracy sat in church with her best friend, Joyce, who wasn't saved either.

"Tracy was still uncomfortable about not being saved. She looked about the crowd.

She saw many visitors. 'Great!' she said to herself, 'I know I won't get saved this morning. I'm too embarrassed to go to the altar in front of all these people.' Tracy looked around again. Her eyes met those of Bro. Kenny, who made it his point to motion to the children to turn around and keep their eyes up front. 'I wish he'd stop doing that,' Tracy whispered to Joyce.

"After the preacher had finished talking, someone called number 466A. Tracy gave a sigh of relief. 'Profit and Loss' she said to herself. This song is happier than some songs. I always feel so fearful when number 399 is sung: 'Where is thy refuge, sinner? Look where your pathway will end, Repent, or you'll perish forever, Awful destruction's at hand; Heaven or hell you are choosing, Fixing and sealing your fate, . . . Lost! too late! Lost forever, . . . Oh, how sad!'

"Tracy smiled because they were not singing it. She thought everything was in her favor to pass the last Sunday without getting saved. The congregation began singing: 'Here is a question up to all on the earth, . . . What will your profit or your fortune be worth, To gain all this world, then lose your soul?'

"Tracy felt like something was urging her to go to the altar. She squirmed a bit and tried to sing. She looked up and saw Sarah and some of the other children go to the altar. The conviction became heavier. Tracy turned to Joyce. She was under conviction, too. 'If you go to the altar, I'll go,' she told Joyce.

"Joyce said, 'If you go first, I'll go.'

"Tracy turned to the person sitting beside her. 'Excuse me,' she said, and to the altar she went, with Joyce following. On her way she met her little sister, Lisa, coming also.

"Mother wiped tears of joy from her eyes, when she was told that her three girls were praying at the altar. She came into the church and gave each of them a big hug as they arose with shining faces. Tracy knew her mother was very happy, but Tracy didn't think it was possible for Mother to be as happy as she was, for now she had Jesus within her heart—a power that would help her to stay inside the protective walls of obedience. Tracy paid a new price that day, and obtained a wall of salvation that would last while the ages roll. —Aldina Cox



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 42, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 12 June 23, 1991

## Don And God

Don hung the curry brush on the nail and gave Sugar a loving pat. "You look slick as a brand-new dollar," he said. "Lord Huton will be proud of you."

Don was also proud of Sugar and Nancy. They were one of the best team of horses to be found anywhere in London. Don closed the stable door carefully, bid the horses good night and went into the house. He ate a hot supper of roasted lamb, boiled potatoes, Yorkshire pudding, and plum pie.

That night he lay on his bed thinking what a lucky guy he was. His boss, Lord Huton, was kind, paid good wages, gave him plenty to eat, and a private bedroom. "Not many boys my age have such a good deal" he said. "I think I would be the happiest guy in the whole wide world if Mother would just quit bugging me about—well about her Jesus, or giving my heart to God, as she calls it. I'm a good, honest guy; I just want to have a little fun with the other young folks."

Three days later, Don's mother came to visit. They enjoyed a nice little chat, but when she was ready to leave, she said, "Son, I would like to pray with you before I leave."

Don wanted to say, "I've heard all the prayers I want to hear," but he respected his mother, so instead of being rude, he meekly said, "Okay," and bowed his head.

"O, God," she prayed with all her heart, "open Don's eyes and let him see how you love him and died on the cross that he might be saved. Help him understand how awful hell will be if he doesn't change his ways and trust you as his Saviour."

When she finally finished praying, Don said, "Mother, I am old enough to choose what I want to do. Now please don't keep pestering me about your religion."

"Oh, I didn't mean to be a pest," she apologized. "And it's not religion that I want you to have. You need to be saved."

"Saved from what?"

"Saved from sin. Son, you need to be born again."

"Now Mom, I'm a grown man. I can't be your baby again."

"But Jesus said, 'Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.'"

"I don't want to be a little child again. And I sure don't want to be converted. Never again speak to me about salvation."

"Oh, Don, I can't do that. As long as there is breath in my body and you are not a Christian, I will caution you about the danger of your soul."

"Then I shall move away," Don said angrily, "So far away that you can't come and preach to me."

She left. Don felt awfully mean. He wanted to run after her and apologize, but he just couldn't make himself do it.

The more Don thought about moving away from his mother, the more he thought it was the very best thing for him to do. But he knew he would miss seeing her; she was a nice woman. "After what I said, maybe she won't speak to me about God," he said.

In two weeks she came again. She brought some homemade cakes, the kind he liked best. She told him all the news about his

(Continued on page four)

## WORDS OF GOLD



### Weary Youth

Acts 20:7 . . . Upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight.

8 And there were many lights in the upper chamber, where they were gathered together.

9 And there sat in a window a certain young man named Eutychus, being fallen into a deep sleep; and as Paul was long preaching, he sunk down with sleep, and fell down from the third loft, and was taken up dead.

10 Paul went down, and fell on him, and embracing him said, Trouble not yourselves; for his life is in him.

11 When he therefore was come up again, and had broken bread, and eaten, and talked a long while, even till break of day, so he departed.

12 And they brought the young man alive, and were not a little comforted.

Isaiah 40:28 . . . Hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? . . .

29 He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength.

30 Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall:

31 But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

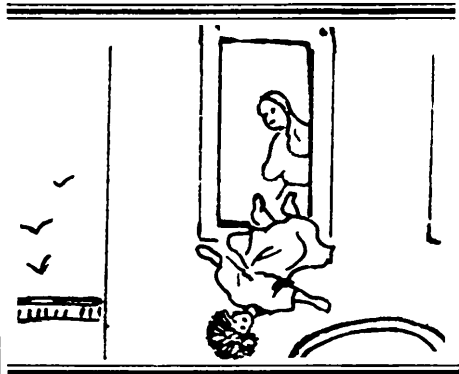
Hebrews 12:1 . . . Let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily

beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,

2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; . . .

3 For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds.

**Central Thought:** Guard against weariness, because it causes one to become faint or fall asleep.



#### Questions:

1. How late was it when Paul stopped preaching?
2. Where was Eutychus sitting?
3. What happened during the preaching?
4. What was the result of the fall?
5. Did Eutychus come back to life?
6. Does God ever become weary?
7. What can happen to youth or young people?
8. Does waiting on God prevent weariness?
9. To whom should we look to avoid weariness?

#### Bible Verse

" . . . Let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not." Gal. 6:9



Have you ever gotten sleepy and it seemed that no matter how hard you tried, you just couldn't stay awake? Has this ever happened during a sermon? If it has, I certainly hope that you weren't sitting in a window as Eutychus was.

I don't know why he chose to sit in a window, unless there were not enough chairs, or maybe he thought the breeze from the night air might help to keep him awake. The brethren had gathered in a third-story room for their meeting. Paul was going away the next morning, and he had a lot of things to tell them. There was a possibility that he might never come again, so they all eagerly listened. Eutychus was listening too, and then he probably nodded a time or two, before he fell asleep. Finally, he went into a deep sleep and became unaware that he was sitting in an open window, so very high from the ground.

The next thing he knew, he was tumbling down the side of the building. Hitting the ground three stories below is the last thing he knew.

Paul stopped preaching and rushed to his side. He took the young man in his arms, praying all the while. The Lord intervened and restored the boy's life.

When I was about your age, I remember Bro. Leslie Busbee asking during his sermon, "Are you as patient with the long-winded preachers (those who preach a long, long time) as you are with the short-winded ones? As a child I enjoyed listening to the preaching, but I liked best those who preached 30 minutes or less. As I got older I realized that the message spoken is more important than how long it is. A long message preached under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit can seem short, especially when you're really listening.

Regardless of the length of the sermon, stay awake. Sometimes you may get sleepy,

but do not intentionally go to sleep during the preaching. This would be disrespectful.

Suppose you were sitting talking to a friend telling them something very important. How would you feel if they dropped off to sleep in the middle of your conversation. I imagine you would think they were rude.

God has something important to tell us. He uses the preached Word as a way of talking to us. Give God respect by staying awake and listening. Take notes or follow along in your Bible. This will help you stay awake.

To become weary simply means to become tired, and to faint is to become weak and maybe lose consciousness. This can happen physically and spiritually. If you feel yourself becoming tired of living saved or reading or praying, go to God and He can refresh and strengthen you. God never wearies, and if we rely on His strength and wait on Him, we can also run this Christian race. We can run and not get weary and walk and never faint. —Altina Cox

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### **We Shall Run and Not Be Weary**

"We'll run and never falter by the way,  
For Jesus' word is true;  
He's promised, if we ever will obey,  
To bring us safely through.

The heavy weights of sin are laid aside,  
My heart is free and light;  
There's nothing we may fear which can betide,

Our hope is clear and bright.

We shall run and not be weary,  
We shall walk and never faint;  
We're traveling to our happy home,  
We'll walk and never faint."

—B. E. Warren

(Answers: 1. It was midnight. 2. In an open window. 3. He went to sleep and fell out of the window. 4. He died. 5. Yes. 6. No. 7. They can become weary and faint. 8. Yes. 9. To Jesus.)

friends and family. When Don was beginning to believe she wasn't going to say anything about him getting saved, she said, "He that believeth on the Lord Jesus Christ shall be saved." Son, do you believe in Jesus for the saving of your soul?"

Don wanted to explode. He wanted to shout, "Mother, I told you I'm moving far, far away if you don't stop talking to me about being saved."

"Why don't you answer me?" she questioned.

"I don't want to talk about it. I've already told you that."

"But I will, as often as I see you." Then saying good-bye, she left.

The next time she came, she said, "I will only read a little of the Bible to you. She read, 'And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life; and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.'" (Rev. 20:12-13, 15).

That night before going to bed, Don wrote a letter to his friend, Tom, who was working in the Highlands of Scotland, asking him if he would help him to find a job near him.

"At last I'm away from Mom's preaching," Don said to himself, as the train chugged out of the station. "The Highlands of Scotland," he mused "they are in the northern part of Scotland; London in the southern part of England. I'll be so far away, Mother could never find me, and she doesn't know how to write. Never again will I be molested about my duty toward God."

On Don's first day at work, his new boss, Mr. Alva climbed up on the box seat beside him.

"He wishes to see how well I handle the horses," Don said to himself.

Don had only spoken to the farm manager, but never with Mr. Alva. Scarcely had the horses started moving when Mr. Alva said, "Tell me if you are saved."

The words were as if God, Himself had spoken them! Don began trembling and cold sweat ran down his face. He was terribly frightened, so frightened he could not speak, and could hardly drive. "So God has followed me to Scotland!" he thought. "I ran away from Mother, but I can't run away from God. This must be the way Adam felt when God asked, 'Where art thou?'"

Mr. Alva seemed to sense the problem and began explaining how Jesus came from heaven and died to be the sacrifice for men's sins. "What have you done in return for His love?" he asked. "The best thing you can do is to surrender your life to Him and keep His commandments. For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

His mother often called it the glad tidings of salvation, but today it seemed a message of terror and condemnation. He felt doomed, if he continued to reject God's love. But he could not say how he felt; words would not come.

By the time he returned, he was ill and went straight to bed.

The next day he was too sick to get up. Mr. Alva came to visit. He read the Scriptures and prayed with Don. For three days Don was sick. Each day Mr. Alva read to Don some of the promises for those who live for God. He also read about the doom awaiting those who do not.

After three days of conviction, Don saw there was mercy for him. Yes, Jesus bore his punishment, and although he had hardened his heart against God and against his own mother, he could be forgiven. He begged forgiveness and felt the sweetness of God in his soul. Now he could say, "I love Him because He first loved me."

The next morning he wrote:

Dear Mother,

I am saved. Thanks for speaking to me about my soul. Forgive me for being so hateful and rebellious. My boss is a Christian and he brought me to Christ.

Your Loving Son,  
Don

—Charlotte Huskey

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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## Mini Proverbs

"In vain the net is spread in the sight of any bird." Prov. 1:17.

Reggie liked birds. He couldn't decide whether he liked the owl, parrot, ostrich, penguin, flamingo, pigeon, or hummingbird best.

He asked the zoo keeper about catching birds. The zoo keeper told him how to catch birds and concluded with the verse in Proverbs 1:17, "In vain the net is spread in the sight of any bird."

Reggie intended to catch a bird. He told Mother about his plans. Mother smiled.

That night in family devotions, she read, "And the Lord said unto Satan, Whence comest thou? Then Satan answered the Lord, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it," Job 1:7, and "... The devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about seeking whom he may devour," (1 Pet. 5:8). He is trying to catch souls to cast into hell, mother explained.

"Hell hath enlarged herself, and opened her mouth without measure." (Isa. 5:14). And 'broad is the way that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat.' (Matt. 7:13).

"Why?"

"The Devil is 'more subtil than any beast of the field.' (Gen. 3:1). He works under cover. Many are unaware of his tactics.

"Eve did not know she was being deceived by Satan. She believed him. But Satan is a liar. 'He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he

speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.' (John 8:44).

"If it were possible he would deceive the very elect," (Matt. 24:24). Jesus said, 'My sheep hear my voice, I know them, and they follow me.' (John 10:27). 'A stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him: for they know not the voice of strangers.' (John 10:5). Lest Satan should get an advantage of us God helps His sheep not to be ignorant of Satan's devices. (II Cor. 2:11).

"If Satan's plans were known, proper precautions would be taken against them, for it would be vain to spread the net in the sight of those he wished to ensnare. It is only in this private way that he can hope to destroy and accomplish his purpose.

"The willing and obedient shall escape the enemy's snare.

"In vain the net is spread in the sight of any bird, yet some are like the silly bird that sees the net spread to take her, and yet she is decoyed into it by the bait and does not take the warning which her own eyes give her.

"Reggie and Glenda, don't be like this. Obey, even if you can't see danger ahead."

—Cecelia Bowman

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"The prosperity of fools shall destroy them." Prov. 1:32.

"Today is Mr. Wisner's funeral. See his picture in the paper? It says, 'He never asked anyone for anything. Hard work and man-

(Continued on page four)

## WORDS OF GOLD



### A Young Preacher

II Timothy 1:1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ . . .

2 To Timothy, my dearly beloved son: Grace, mercy, and peace, from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

3 I thank God, whom I serve from my forefathers with pure conscience, that without ceasing I have remembrance of thee in my prayers night and day;

4 Greatly desiring to see thee, being mindful of thy tears, that I may be filled with joy;

5 When I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that in thee also.

6 Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands.

7 For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

8 Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner: but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God;

2:22 Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

I Timothy 4:12 Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.

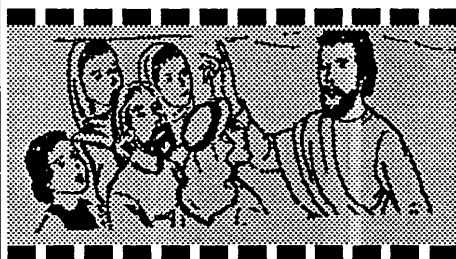
5:1 Rebuke not an elder, but intreat him as a father; and the younger men as brethren;

2 The elder women as mothers; the younger as sisters, with all purity.

II Timothy 3:14 But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them,

15 And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

**Central Thought:** Many of the instructions Timothy received are vital for all young people.



#### Questions:

1. Who did Paul consider as his son in the gospel?
2. Where did Paul first see the faith which Timothy had?
3. What kind of mind does God give?
4. What four things was Timothy to follow?
5. To whom was Timothy to be an example?
6. How should elder men be entreated?
7. Is it important to continue in good teaching?
8. What had Timothy known since a child?
9. By what is all Scripture given?

#### Bible Verse

**"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for instruction in righteousness."**

(II Tim. 3:16)



# Let's Talk

Timothy was a young evangelist who was saved under Paul's preaching. Paul called him "son" and gave him instructions as if he were his own son. However, Paul did not take the credit for Timothy's salvation, as he acknowledged that Timothy had been taught well by his saintly mother and grandmother. They had lived a life of faith before Timothy and trained him in the ways of the Lord. Timothy chose to follow the Lord while he was young, and now God had given him a call to be a minister.

Although everyone is not called to be a preacher, some of the things Paul told Timothy are good for all young Christians.

He told Timothy not to be ashamed. Many youths feel ashamed to be a Christian. They don't mind it as long as they are around the chapel, but when they get among unsaved peers, they do.

There is no good reason to be ashamed of being a Christian or of being different. It's the best position that one can have in life. Paul told Timothy to be an example of the believers. Being an example is far greater than being a coward.

He also told Timothy to keep himself pure and to flee youthful lusts. This means to stay away from things that seem very attractive, but they actually bring harm. Some young people think it looks grown-up to smoke cigarettes or drink alcohol; these and other drugs are impure and harmful. Saying naughty words and dirty jokes are also impure. Television is full of all kinds of impurities. This is why Christians are encouraged not to watch it, because things seen have a great effect on our thoughts.

Also be careful about desiring boy-friends or girlfriends at young ages. Sometimes I hear very young children

talking about a special person in their life. Run away from these types of desires while you're young. There is plenty of time later for these things.

Paul also reminded Timothy about being respectful to the older saints. It is important for children and young people to always be courteous and polite to adults.

Timothy knew the Scriptures from his childhood, but Paul reminded him to continue in them. He warned that Timothy would hear all kinds of things, but he didn't have to be moved. You, too, will hear all kinds of things as you mature, but remember to stay with the true Word of God, that you have been taught.

—Altina Cox

It is very important that young people learn to think for themselves and know what the Bible teaches. Then they must be individual enough to do what they believe to be right. Don't waste time worrying about what your peers think of you. They will think what they wish regardless of what you do. Many times they appreciate those who are willing to be different, because they recognize in them a strength which they secretly admire.

Dean Alfange put it this way. He said, "I do not choose to be a common man. It is my right to be uncommon, if I can. I will not trade freedom for beneficence nor my dignity for a handout (or a friend). I will never cower before any (evil) master nor bend to any threat. It is my heritage to stand erect, proud and unafraid; to think and act for myself, enjoy the benefit of my creations and to face the world boldly and say, this I have done it". —Sis. Charlotte

Answers: 1. Timothy. 2. In his mother and grandmother. 3. A sound one. The word sound has many meanings. In this verse its meaning is free from disease or injury, healthy. 4. Righteousness, faith, charity, and peace. 5. To the believers. 6. As fathers. 7. Yes. 8. The Holy Scriptures. 9. By the inspiration of God.

agement made him rich.' God isn't even mentioned. Where do you think Mr. Wisner went?" asked Glenda.

"Father invited him to church. He said he just barely had enough time for trips, meetings, dinners, and recreation. He hardly had time to sleep. I believe he died unprepared to meet God," Mother answered.

"The twelfth chapter of the Gospel of Luke, says that the ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully. He had thoughts and plans 'but God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?'

"Everyone who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God is a fool.

"Fools value themselves by their worldly prosperity.

"The prosperity of fools helps to destroy them by puffing them up with pride, glueing their hearts to the world, furnishing them with fuel for their lusts and hardening their hearts in their evil ways."

Mother continued reading Scriptures.

"The fool walketh in darkness." (Eccles. 2:14). "Men love darkness rather than light, because their deeds are evil." (John 3:19).

"For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" Matt. 16:26. Some people believe that gain is godliness, but I Tim. 6:7 tells us that we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out.

"So then, 'What is the hope of the [fool] though he hath gained, when God taketh away his soul?' (Job 27:8).

"Only a fool would not prepare to die. One event happens to us all: 'It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment.' (Heb. 9:27).

"Man should seek God's favor. Man should seek salvation just as earnestly as the fool seeks wealth. Man should be ashamed if he is less in earnest after the true riches than the fool is after perishing wealth.

"Why? Because salvation preserves man in life, comforts him through life, causes him to triumph in death, and ensures him a glorious immortality.

"Cut out the clipping, and save it for Father to see."

—Cecelia Bowman

"My son, if sinners entice thee, consent thou not." Prov. 1:10.

"Come on Reggie, join our gang! You'll have fun! We'll take up for you!"

Reggie knew better. He knew the boys in the gang. He didn't like being around them. He remembered the Bible verse, "My son, if sinners entice thee, consent thou not."

Reggie prayed.

Later that day, he told Felix he would not join the gang.

After Reggie finished his lunch, he read, "Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners." (I Cor. 15:33). "Abhor that which is evil," (Rom. 12:9), and "The eyes of the Lord are in every place, beholding the evil and the good." (Prov 15:3).

Would the boys not like him? He read, "Let none of you suffer as a murderer, or as a thief, or as an evil doer, Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God." (I Pet. 4:15-16).

Would they speak evil of him? He read, "Whereas they speak against you as evildoers, they may by your good works, which they shall behold, glorify God." (I Pet. 2:12).

"I'll get good grades and be good," Reggie told himself.

He told Father about Felix. Father said, "Sinners can do you no harm unless you want to join in with them. God's eternal purpose for man is that his will shall be free. God created human beings with power to choose good or evil. Not even the Devil can lead a person into sin until he consents.

"Sinners love company in sin. They do not threaten or argue, but they entice. Though they entice you, they cannot force you.

"The way of sin is downhill; people not only cannot stop themselves, but, the longer they continue in it, the faster they run, and make haste in it.

"Their wicked way will certainly end in destruction. Yet, they persist in it.

"I'm glad you didn't join the gang. Be an upright, straight-forward young man."

Three weeks later, a rival gang opened fire. A bullet hit Felix and he died instantly.

Reggie was glad he hadn't joined the gang. He would always remember Proverbs 1:10, "If sinners entice thee, consent thou not."

—Cecelia Bowman