

Vol. 44, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 1 Jan. 3, 1993

# The Lost Puppy

"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for," said Julie to her mother, "the evidence of things not seen." (Hebrews 11:1), as she sat at the kitchen table while her mother was mixing a batch of her favorite cookies, chocolate chip. "What does that mean? We are to memorize that verse for Sunday School next Sunday."

Frisky, Julie's little dog was playing with her shoe lace which she had untied. Julie had received Frisky for her tenth birthday and now they were inseparable. While Julie was in school she followed Sis. Dalron, Julie's mother around, always seeming to be under foot. But when 4:00 came around she seemed to sense that it was time for the school bus to come around the corner. She would sit by the front gate waiting for Julie to hop off the bus.

"Well Julie, faith is to believe what we ask in Jesus' name. If it be His will it shall be done," Sis. Dalron tried to explain to Julie. "I think the best way that I can tell you about faith is with a little story that I read. Wait until I put some of these cookies in the oven to bake."

Julie loved stories, so she was all ready when Mother took some cook-

ies from the oven and put another batch in. "The little boy's name was Samuel," began her mother. "At Christmas time Samuel received several very nice gifts, a sled, several books that he had been wanting, a scarf and mittens to match and other things. He invited some of his playmates to come in to see his Christmas things. His mother noticed that after showing the boys he always mentioned that he got a stamp book from his grandmother. Finally she asked him why he did this. Samuel said, 'Grandmother said and I know that I will have it. I'm not sure what has happened, but I know I will get it.'

"I wonder if you should write to Grandma,' Mother questioned Samuel, 'and ask what has happened.'

"'Yes, I think I'll do that tonight,' Samuel said to mother. 'I know she hasn't forgotten. Maybe it has gotten lost in the mail or something.'

"Samuel sat down after supper and wrote to his grandmother, thanking her for the stamp book. He said that he had not received the book yet and wondered if it might have gotten lost.

"It wasn't long before he received a phone call from Grandmother. 'I'm sorry that I haven't sent your stamp book out yet,' Grandmother was tell-



### II Chronicles 14:1, 9, 11, 12

- 1 ...In his days the land was quiet ten years.
- **9** And there came out against them Zerah the Ethiopian with an host of a thousand thousand...
- 11 And Asa cried unto the LORD his God, and said, LORD, it is nothing with thee to help, whether with many, or with them that have no power: help us, O LORD our God; for we rest on thec...
- 12 So the LORD smote the Ethiopians...and the Ethiopians fled.
  II Chronicles 15:1-2, 12, 19
- 1 And the Spirit of God came upon Azariah...
- 2 And he went out to meet Asa, and said...The LORD is with you, while ye be with him; and if ye seek him, he will be found of you; but if ye forsake him, he will forsake you.
- 12 And they entered into a covenant to seek the LORD God of their fathers with all their heart and with all their soul:
- 19 And there was no more war unto the five and thirtieth year of the reign of Asa.

#### II Chronicles 16:1-2, 4, 7-8, 12-13

- 1 In the six and thirtieth year...Baasha king of Israel came up against Judah, and built Ramah, to the intent that he might let none go out or come in to Asa king of Judah.
- 2 Then Asa brought out silver and gold out of the treasures of the house of the LORD...and sent to Ben-hadad king of Syria...
- **4** And Ben-hadad...sent the captains of his armies against the cities of Israel;...

- 7 And at that time Hanani the secr...said unto him, Because thou hast relied on the king of Syria, and not relied on the LORD thy God, therefore is the host of the king of Syria escaped out of thine hand.
- 8 Were not the Ethiopians...a huge host, with very many chariots and horsemen? yet, because thou didst rely on the LORD, he delivered them into thine hand.
- 12 And Asa in the thirty and ninth year of his reign was diseased in his feet, until his disease was exceeding great: yet in his disease he sought not to the LORD, but to the physicians.
- 13 And Asa...died in the one and fortieth year of his reign.

The Message: Asa was blessed as long as he had faith and trusted in God. When he trusted in man things didn't turn out well.

#### Questions:

- 1. How long was there quietness in the land?
- 2. How many were in the host with Zerah?
- 3. In whom was Asa trusting?
- 4. What warning did Azariah give Asa?
- 5. How many years did Asa not have war?
- 6. What happened in the thirty-sixth year?
- 7. To whom did Asa go for help in this war?
- 8. From whom did Asa seek help when diseased in his feet?
- 9. When did Asa die?

#### Verse to Memorize

Asa...said, LORD, it is nothing with thee to help, whether with many, or with them that have no power: help us, O LORD our God; for we rest on thee.... II Chronicles 14:11.



As a began his reign with a heart of faith in God. He did that which was pleasing to God, and God blessed his reign with ten years of peace.

After those ten years of peace, an Ethiopian army of 1,000,000 men came against his army of 580,000. As a knew he could not defeat the larger army alone. He would need help. So he called on God for help.

He said, "Lord it is nothing for you to help whether we have many soldiers or just a few, or if we have great power or little power. Help us O Lord, our God. We are resting on thee. In your name we are going against this big, big army. You are our God, let no man prevail against thee."

Asa went against this enemy in the name of the Lord, just as David went against the giant in the name of the Lord. Both Asa and David had great faith in God, and God gave each one a great victory.

After this wonderful victory, God sent this message to Asa. It said: "The Lord is with you, while you are with him. If you seek him, he will be found of you. But if ye forsake him, he will forsake you. You know that Israel has been without the true God and without his teachings for some time. But when they called on Me in their troubles, I helped them. Now be strong and do good and you will be rewarded for your work."

When Asa heard this message, he took courage and put away the idols out of the land. He also had a great worship service and offered 700 oxen and 7,000 sheep unto the Lord. The people feasted together and made a covenant to seek the Lord with all their heart and with all their soul.

Keeping this promise brought happiness in the land until Asa had been king for thirty five years. The very next year, the other king in Israel came to the border of Asa's territory and began building a city to block Asa's transportation route.

Asa became afraid and did a very foolish thing. He took gold, silver and treasures out of the house of God and his own house and sent it to the king of Syria asking for help of the Syrian's army. The Syrians had been enemies with God's people for many years. But the Syrian king came to help because he was paid to do so.

God was very displeased with Asa's lack of faith, so he sent Hanani with another message. It said, "Were not the Ethiopians a huge host, yet you trusted in me, and I delivered you. My eyes are always running to and fro throughout the whole earth, so that I can show myself strong in behalf of those who have a perfect heart and trust in me. Because you have lost faith in me, you shall have wars from now on."

Asa became very angry when he heard this message, and he ordered Hanani to be put in prison.

A few years later, he became diseased in his feet. The disease was great, and he suffered a lot, but instead of calling on God for healing, He went to the physicians for help. They could not heal him. Later he died.

Asa received many blessings from God, when he trusted in God. How sad that he died without faith.

-- Charlotte Huskey

ing Samuel. 'I have looked everywhere in town, and I've tried sending for it in the catalog, but they just don't have the one like you want. I think I'll send you the money and you can buy it there in your town.'

"'See,' Samuel told his mother, 'I knew Grandma wouldn't forget. It was just taking longer for her to find the book.'

"So you see, Julie," mother said.
"We have to believe that God is working even when we don't see any evidence of it." She took another cookie and said, "I really understand about faith now."

Julie tried hard to memorize the scripture all that week. To her it was important and one that she truly wanted to put in practice in her life.

One day Julie came bursting into the kitchen door. "Mother, have you seen Frisky?" she said all out of breath, "I've hunted everywhere that I think she might be. But I can't find her."

"The last I saw her, she was in the backyard," Mother said anxiously. "Have you looked under your bed? sometimes she loves to sleep under there, and maybe she just hasn't heard you calling."

"I'll go look," Julie exclaimed, as she ran upstairs, "but I'm sure she would have heard me calling."

"Frisky isn't under my bed," Julie announced breathlessly as she dashed back outside to look for the dog.

When Dad got home from work, he drove her around the neighborhood, but Frisky wasn't to be found. "I wonder where Frisky could be? She has never run away before," Julie said, almost in tears.

"Well, I know God knows where she is", Dad said trying to encourage her, "and He can take care of her too."

"I know, but it is scary not having her in the house with me where I know she will be all right," Julie said sadly. "I'm going to pray that God will bring her back to us. I remember the verse that I've been memorizing this week about faith." That night Julie prayed earnestly for her little dog, Frisky. "Please God", she prayed, "take care of Frisky and bring her back safe and sound."

Several days later, they still hadn't heard or seen Frisky. Mother said, "Faith is like your A-B-C's. A—is to Ask God for your every need. B—is to Believe that He hears and is answering. C—is to claim it to be done."

"That's right," Dad said, "Ask, Believe then claim it to be done. Let's go around the neighborhood again today. Maybe someone has heard about her by now." Just as they started to go out, there was a knock on the door.

"Is this your dog?" asked a young man, "I heard that you folks were looking for a small dog." Before he could get done speaking, Julie exclaimed, "Frisky!" Frisky was trying to get to Julie.

Dad asked, "Wherever did you find her?"

"She got caught in my neighbor's garage." the young man exclaimed.

That night when Julie prayed, she surely thanked God for bringing Frisky back to her once again and helping her to learn a precious lesson in faith.

—Sis. Dorothy Wilkins

(Answers: 1. Ten years. 2. A thousand, thousand. 3. In God. 4. That God would be with him as long as he did not forsake God. 5. Until the thirty-flith year of his reign. 6. The king of Israel came against him. 7. To the king of Syria. 8. The physicians. 9. In the forty-first year of his reign.)

Second class postage paid at Guthrie, OK. Published quarterly in weekly parts by Faith Pub. House, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, OK. Charlotte Huskey, Editor. One subscription, \$4.00 per year [52 papers]. Includes junior and primary sections. Postmaster: Please send address corrections to above address.





Vol. 44, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 2 Jan. 10, 1993

# Michael's New Friend

"Uh, oh, look who's coming," David said, as he leaned toward Michael as they walked down the hall at Union Junior High School.

"Who are you talking about?" Michael asked as he looked over the crowd of young people coming their way.

"I mean Leroy," David quickly answered, "can't you see him?"

"Yes, I see him. What's wrong with him?" Michael wondered.

David looked at Michael exasperated, "Look at the way he is dressed. His shirt is in a mess and his sweater has a hole in the elbow. Plus, his jeans are all crumpled up."

"Maybe he just can't help it," Michael announced. "Never can tell why these things happen."

"I, for one, would rather not be seen with him," David groaned, "he just doesn't fit around here."

"Oh, I don't know about that," Michael was telling David, "I rather like him. Besides the Bible tells us not to be a respector of persons." (James 2:1)

"I suppose so," David said, "but I'd rather be careful around him."

"Well, I'm going to try to be a friend to him in any way I can," Michael informed David. "He looks like he sure could use a friend. He's always so sad."

The boys went to their classes hurriedly. The tardy bell was about to ring, and one thing they didn't want to do was be late for class.

After school Michael saw Leroy walking alone, as usual. His head was down and his shoulders were all hunched up. Indeed he looked very sad. "Wait up. Leroy. We can walk together for awhile." Michael shouted. Leroy looked around to see who had called him. When he saw it was Michael he stopped to wait for him to catch up.

"Why do you want to walk with me?" Leroy inquired. "Most of the boys don't want to be bothered with the likes of me."

"I just want to know you better and be friends," Michael said, out of breath. "We live pretty close to each other, and it would be neat to get together sometimes."

"I'd like that," Leroy told Michael. "Not many of the boys want to go around with me. Probably the way I dress, but I really can't help it. My Dad died a few years ago and Mom tries to do the best she can. Now she has been sick so much lately that she can't work, and what I get from peddling papers doesn't go very far."



New Words 1. Increase in thine house

# means the children born in the family. I Samuel 1:11, 20, 24

- 11" Hännah...säid, O LORD of hosts, if thou...wilt give unto thine handmaid a man child, then I will give him unto the LORD all the days of his life...
- 20 Wherefore it came to pass,... that she bare a son, and called his name Samuel...
- 24 And when she had weaned him, she...brought him unto the house of the LORD in Shiloh: and the child was young.

### I Samuel 2:11, 12

- 11 And Elkanah [and Hannah] went to Ramah to his house. And the child did minister unto the LORD before Eli the priest.
- 12 Now the sons of Eli...knew not the LORD.

### I Samuel 2:22-27, 29

- 22 Now Eli was very old, and heard all that his sons did unto all Israel;...
- 23 And he said unto them, Why do ye such things? for I hear of your evil dealings by all this people.
- 24 Nay, my sons; for it is no good report that I hear: ye make the Lord's people to transgress.
- 25 ... Notwithstanding they hearkened not unto the voice of their father,...
- **26** And the child Samuel grew on, and was in favour both with the LORD, and also with men.
- 27 And there came a man of God unto Eli, and said:...
- 29 Wherefore...honourest thy sons above me, to make yourselves fat with the chiefest of all the offerings of Israel my people?

#### I Samuel 2:30-31, 33, 36

- 30 Wherefore the LORD God of Israel saith, I said indeed that thy house, and the house of thy father, should walk before me for ever: but now the LORD saith, Be it far from me; for them that honour me I will honour, and they that despise me shall be lightly esteemed.
- 31 Behold, the days come, . . . that there shall not be an old man in thine house.
- 33 ... all the increase of thine house shall die in the flower of their age.
- 36 And it shall come to pass, that every one that is left in thine house shall come and crouch to him for a piece of silver and a morsel of bread....

# The Message: God blesses those who honor and respect Him.

### Questions:

- In what way did Hannah show her respect to God?
- 2. Did Hannah respect God by keeping her promise to Him?
- 3. How did Samuel show respect to his mother?
- 4. How did Samuel show respect to God?
- 5. In what way did Eli's sons show disrespect to God?
- 6. How did they show disrespect to the people?
- 7. How did they show disrespect to their father?
- 8. Who is the man who will be respected or honored?
- 9. Who is the man who will be disrespected?

# Verse to Memorize

The LORD saith,...them that honour me I will honour, and they that despise me shall be lightly esteemed. I Samuel 2:30.



"Get out of here you rascal," shouted Juan to a thin, sick looking puppy. Looking at the boy with pleading eyes, the puppy tucked his tail and crouched to the ground. "Get out of here," Juan demanded again, giving the dog a hard kick.

"Stop," cricd Tricia. "He hasn't done any harm. Besides puppies hurt when they are kicked just like you hurt when someone kicks you."

"Who cares if a dog hurts?"

"I do," she said, calling the puppy, and giving it part of her sandwich.

"Look what I have," George called to Tricia one day as she walked home from school. "I have baby mocking birds."

"What will you do with them?"

"Our Aunt Suzanna will care for them. She has a beautiful red cardinal, she raised from a baby," answered Mary, George's sister. "She fed it corn meal on a tooth pick."

"How interesting," Tricia exclaimed.
"May I go with you to see it."

"Sure."

"Look at the Sissy Georgie Poorgie," Juan called. "He's baby sitting baldheaded birds. I'd like to see my cat get her paws on them." Then he, Paul, and Duke ran away laughing.

"Don't let their laughing bother you," Tricia told George. "Someday they may wish they had cared for God's animals."

"That's right. I read about a poor boy finding a baby bird while he was gathering wood in the mountains near his home," George added. "He and his brother raised the bird. After it had grown feathers, they realized it was a bald eagle. The boys were rewarded \$1,000 for saving the eaglet."

"Wow! Why so much money just for a bird?"

"It's because the bald eagle is one of the endangered species," George explained. Then a look of fear came over his face as he shouted, "Look! Juan and Duke are throwing rocks at that old tramp."

"Oh, I know him," Tricia said. "He lives in a hut on the side of the hill down below our house. Sometimes he comes to our house for food. I guess he's too old to work."

"Stop it, you boys," she called, running toward them as if to make them stop. George and Mary watched as she ran.

"So Mr. Tramp is your sweetheart instead of Georgic Poorgie," Paul shouted.

"Tricia loves Mr. Tramp. Tricia loves Mr. Tramp. Ha, ha, ha," Duke echoed Paul's accusation.

"Cod tells us to love all His creation," Tricia shouted to the boys as they ran on toward their homes. "Someday you'll be old and maybe poor, too."

As George, Mary, and Tricia climbed the hill to see the red bird. George asked, "Are you excited about the governor visiting our school?"

"Oh kind of," she added. "Really I'm nervous about having to give the welcome speech."

"Don't worry, you'll do alright. Remember, he's just a part of God's creation," Mary assured her.

"But what if I make a mistake?"

"The professor chose you because you would be less likely to make a mistake than anyone else in the school."

"Maybe so. I'm glad he respects me in that way."

"Everyone respects you," George added, and you respect everyone, just like the old tramp. I wouldn't have had the courage to defend an old tramp, even though I do feel sorry for him and would never throw rocks at one."

"Mom always says that the way we treat others is the way we will be treated," Tricia said. "So I always try to be as good to others as I would want them to be to me if I were them and they were me."

"That sounds like a good thing to do. I shall try acting that way myself," Mary said.

"And so shall I," George added.

-Charlotte Huskey

"Leroy, you and I are about the same size. Maybe some of my clothes will fit you. Come on home with me and we'll see what we can find."

"I really can't right now. I have to get on my paper route. It will soon be dark, and Mother will be worried about me," Leroy told Michael.

"Come whenever you can, maybe later tonight. I'm sure we'll be home." As Leroy and Michael went their separate ways, Michael noticed Leroy was walking straighter and was whistling a little tune. That made Michael feet better too.

After this the two boys were seen together more and more. They became good friends. Michael invited Leroy to church, but he wasn't interested. Michael prayed for him and told others to pray, including David. Leroy did want to go to the young people's gatherings but could not because of his paper route, and he tried to be with his mother as much as possible.

One night the young people were gathered at Bro. and Sis. Walter's house. They were all having a good time playing a game of volleyball. Michael's team was winning when Michael was called to the phone. Someone was phoning for Leroy. He had been in an accident and was calling for Michael to come to him. Michael made ready to go right away. The boys said, "Come on, you can finish the game and then go."

"No, I think I need to go right now. Leroy needs me," Michael told them, and he was gone.

When Michael got to the hospital, he had to wait for them to get Leroy into his room. While he waited, he spent the time praying for Leroy.

"I knew you would come," Leroy told Michael. "I know you have invited me to church so many times and I turned you down. Now I need you to pray that God will help me to get saved. Mother has always told me about Jesus, but I just didn't believe I needed him. I figured I could take care of Mom and me. God has been talking to me lately, and I want to get saved. Do you think that I can?"

Michael knelt beside Leroy's bed and prayed, "Thank you God for answering prayer. Now Leroy has come to the place that he feels his need to be saved. Please answer his prayer and save his soul. Amen."

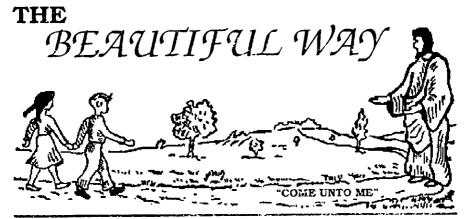
Then Leroy prayed, "Oh God, I have resisted you for so long when all the while you have had mercy on me. Please come to my rescue and save me. Clean me up, and help me to live for you. Amen."

Michael was so happy he could hardly contain himself. "Wait until I tell the others. We've all been praying for you."

When Michael told the others the next day, they all rejoiced with him. David came to him saying, "I guess you were right, we shouldn't show respect of persons. If you hadn't befriended Leroy he probably wouldn't be saved now. I have learned a good lesson. Just because a person doesn't look like I think they should, gives me no right to put them down."

-Sis. Dorothy Wilkins

(Answers: 1. She showed that she respected God as the giver of life by asking Him to give her a son 2. Yes. 3. By obeying her and staying at the temple, although he probably wanted very much to return home with his parents. 4. By serving him at the temple, 5. By disobeying God's commandments, 6. By causing the people to sin against God. 7. They did not listen when he told them to not do as they were doing, 8. The man who honors and respects God. 9. The man who dishonors or disrespects God.)



Vol. 44, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 3 Jan. 17, 1993

# **Dolly Learns**

"Dolly," exclaimed Marion, as she took the piece of needlepoint from her, "If you weren't so impatient all the time, you wouldn't have so many tangles in your yarn."

"I suppose so," Dolly said, gloomily. "I just don't like doing this old stuff, and Mother is so sure that I need to know how to do it."

"Well, maybe someday you'll be glad that Mother thought it important for you to know," replied Marion, all the while untangling the yarn for Dolly.

"You have so much patience with things like this," Dolly told Marion as she tried to help. Now she was wishing that she hadn't been so careless and impatient.

"Mother is right, of course," Dolly was saying to Marion, "she does such beautiful work. I wish mine was as nice."

"It all takes time and practice, Dolly," Marion explained. "Remember, Mother has long years of experience in needlepoint. I don't think she learned all there was to know about it when she first started. Grandma probably had to help her to get all the stitches right too."

"Maybe if I ask Mom to show me more of what to do it may be easier," Dolly murmured. "I think I'll go right now and see if she has time to help me."

Mother was busy right then, so Dolly had to wait for her help. Waiting was not easy for her. She fidgeted and sighed all the while she waited for her mother to get done.

Finally Mother was finished and sat down to help Dolly. "I wish I could do my needlepoint as fine as you do," sighed Dolly.

"Well, maybe you will," Mother said, "if you will learn to be patient."
"You are always in such a hurry to get things done that you end up having to do it over or untangle the yarn."

"I know. I want to get things done in a hurry. There are so many other things that I like to do," Dolly was telling her mother. All the while Mother was looking Dolly's work over to see what needed to be done.

"Look here, Dolly, " Mother was showing her a place that she had entirely skipped. "Please pay more attention to your work and it will be much easier."

"I'm sorry," Dolly said, "that's why I had trouble getting the pattern to fit in. When I tried to get it right I just got so impatient that I ended up with my yarn tangled. Marion was good to help me get that taken care of. It was so nice of her."



# The Captive Wait

### Jeremiah 29: 1, 4-14

- 1 ...These are the words of the letter that Jeremiah the prophet sent from Jerusalem unto...all the people whom Nebuchadnezzar had carried away captive from Jerusalem to Babylon;
- 4 Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, unto all that are carried away captives, whom I have caused to be carried away from Jerusalem unto Babylon;
- 5 Build ye houses, and dwell in them; and plant gardens, and eat the fruit of them;
- 6 Take ye wives, and beget sons and daughters; and take wives for your sons, and give your daughters to husbands, that they may bear sons and daughters; that ye may be increased there, and not diminished.
- 7 And seek the peace of the city whither I have caused you to be carried away captives, and pray unto the LORD for it: for in the peace thereof shall ye have peace.
- 8 For thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Let not your prophets and your diviners, that be in the midst of you, deceive you, neither hearken to your dreams which ye cause to be dreamed.
- **9** For they prophesy falsely unto you in my name: I have not sent them, saith the LORD.
- 10 For thus saith the LORD, That after seventy years be accomplished at Babylon I will visit you, and perform my good word toward you, in causing you to return to this place.

- 11 For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of cvil, to give you an expected end.
- 12 Then shall ye call upon me, and ye shall go and pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you.
- 13 And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.
- 14 And I will be found of you, saith the LORD: and I will turn away your captivity, and I will gather you from all the nations, and from all the places whither I have driven you, saith the LORD; and I will bring you again into the place whence I caused you to be carried away captive.

The Message: The captives were to wait patiently for seventy years and then God would deliever them so they would return to their own country.

#### Questions:

- 1. To whom was Jeremiah writing?
- 2. How do we know the people were to stay a while?
- 3. Were the people to marry in this country?
- 4. What kind of citizens were they to be?
- 5. How many years were they to live in captivity?
- 6. What kind of thoughts did God have for them?
- 7. What would God do when they prayed?
- 8. When would the people find God?
- 9. What would God do for them after seventy years?

#### Verse To Memorize

Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us run with patience the race that is set before us.

Hebrew 12:1.



It had been a great day for John. Often he had wanted to go with his father to see the deep well he was drilling. Today Father had taken him. "You have to be careful and not fall into the well," Father said half joking as John jumped out of the car. Not much danger though, it's all cased in and I doubt you could fit into the pipe."

John looked curiously at the big well drilling equipment. Then he looked carefully at the well. It's just a deep dark hole in the ground," he said, a little disappointed. After watching the men work a while, John ran across the field to scare up a meadow lark he had seen swoop down to the ground. Then he got out his kite. He so wanted to fly his kite in the open field where it would go high, high, high. Back and forth he ran until he got it up. Then he lay down on the grass and watched the kite dive, dip, and soar as he maneuvered the string.

The sun was hot, so John became thirsty. He tied the string to a heavy iron pipe he had to keep it from flying away. Then he went toward the truck in search of a drink.

Very close to the truck he looked back, and the next thing John knew he was falling down into the well. The rough sides of the pipe were peeling his arms as he fell. "Help, help, help," he screamed.

Father quickly tied a loop in the end of a rope and lowered it to John. "Work this down beside yourself and get both feet into it. Then hold tight. We'll pull you up."

John did as he was told then called, "I'm ready."

The men pulled and pulled, but John wasn't moving. "You feel like you weigh a ton," his dad called cheerfully.

"It's not funny being in this well,"

John called back. "Get me out. I'm

about to die."

Minutes passed. An hour passed. John was still down in the well. By this time a rescue squad had arrived.

"Because your son is hot and excited, his body is larger than normal," the resuce squad leader told John's father. "He must relax and get calm or we cannot get him out."

They lowered wet towels and ice cubes which John caught with his teeth and sucked. "You must be patient and be calm," his father called. "Then we can get you out."

John tried his best to be patient. He remembered different times when being patient had been good for him. Now he tried real hard.

Soon he felt himself being lifted and before long John could see clearly the face of his father. Then he was out of the well and in his father's arms.

The people in our Bible story also had to be patient. They had been taken captive into a strange land. Some of the group who were captive were prophets, but they were not true prophets of God. They did not want to stay in captivity, neither did they have the mind of God. They told the people that if they would just have faith in God that soon God would deliver them.

Jeremiah was the true prophet of God, but he was still in their home country. He sent a letter to the people. The letter is the Bible verses we read. Jeremiah told the people to build houses, to plant gardens, to let their children get married, and be good peaceful citizens. God would deliver them 70 years later.

They had to be patient for a long time, but God delivered them, as He said He would.

-Charlotte Huskey

"Honey, I wish you would learn to have more patience," Mother said, as she started to straighten Dolly's work. "Did you know the Bible tells us that, 'In your patience possess ye your souls,' (Luke 21:19) and there are many other scriptures in the New Testament. So it is important that we learn patience to help us to live a life pleasing to the Lord. It might be good to look up the verses on patience sometime. It might help you to realize how important patience is in our lives. Here Dolly, I have this fixed for you. Try to be careful now, and it will go easier."

"Thank you, Mother. I appreciate you helping me, and I will ask the Lord to help me be more patient," Dolly told her mother as she went in the living room to do some more work on her needlepoint.

Each day Dolly tried to do some on her needlepoint. and after a while it became easier for her to accomplish her work. All the while she was getting her work to look much better, she was also praying that God would help her be more patient not only in this work, but also with other people.

Uncle Glenn was going on a fishing trip, so Aunt Sophie came to visit for a few days. She loved doing any kind of crafts, sewing, etc. Naturally, she was interested in the girls' hand work. Marion had been busy with an embroidered tablecloth.

"Marion, that is beautiful," Aunt Sophie told Marion, "how long have you been working on that?" "About six months," Marion answered, "but wait until you see what Dolly has been doing."

"Dolly has been doing some hand work too?" Aunt Sophie exclaimed, "I didn't think she would be able to do anything because she was so fidgety and always in a hurry." "Well, you just wait and see what she has done." Marion was as excited about Dolly's work as she was about her own. Dolly was at a neighbor's house, so they had to wait until she came home.

"Here comes Dolly now." Mother happened to see her from the kitchen window. As she came in the door, Mother told her that Aunt Sophie was to stay for a few days. Dolly was glad to hear that. She loved being around her Aunt Sophie because she was so pleasant and always willing to help the girls in any way she could.

"Oh, Aunt Sophie, it's so good to see you again," Dolly said. "It's been such a long time."

"I know. When Glenn said he was going fishing I thought this to be the perfect time to visit," she told them all.

"Marion has told me about your needlepoint I can hardly wait to see it," her aunt told Dolly.

"Yes, I surely do want you to see it," Dolly was telling her as she went to her room to get it. "It was a long hard struggle, but the Lord helped me to quiet down and be patient enough to do it. I had to pray for Jesus to be my helper."

"And you did a beautiful job too," Aunt Sophie told her. "It is really a lovely piece of work."

-Sis. Dorothy Wilkins

Answers: I To the people from Jerusalem who were captive in Babylon. 2. Because they were to plant gardens and eat of the fruit. Also they were to have grandchildren. 3. Yes. 4. Good, peaceful citizens, 5. 70, 6. Thoughts of peace, to give them an expected end. 7. He would hearken to them. 8. When they search for him with all their heart. 9. He would gather them again into the place they were before being captive.)





Vol. 44, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 4 Jan. 24, 1993

# A Surprise Birthday Gift

William, Keith, and Mark were all busy in Keith's room with their homework. They were brothers near the same age and enjoyed doing about everything together. Homework was also done together, enjoying each other's company.

Suddenly Keith said, "Guess what, fellows? Mom's birthday is next month. Have you any ideas what to do for her or to buy her?"

"Oh dear, I forgot all about it," William answered, "I'll have to think it over." Mark didn't have anything in mind either. So they all agreed that they would think it over and decide later.

The next evening during their homework session Keith asked, "Have you thought of Mom's birthday and what we should try to get her?"

"I thought about that new coat she has been wanting," William answered. He had remembered how excited she was about it and wished that he could have gotten it for her.

Mark had a special idea. "Do you think we could get enough money to let her visit Aunt Margaret? She has wanted to go for a long time. I know she wouldn't take the money for a trip. But if she would need a new coat, Dad would see that she bought it."

"That's a great idea," William and Keith said.

"First, we'll have to find out how much it will be for a plane ticket to Arizona," William said, "I can call tomorrow, if you want me to."

"Yes, you do that," Mark said, "and I'd like to keep it a secret from her. Maybe we can tell Dad," he added, "he can help us keep the secret."

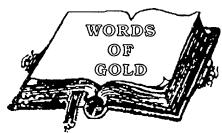
The boys were excited about this new project, for they truly loved their mother

"One thing for sure," Mark told his brothers, "we'll really have to work together on this. All the money we earn will have to go towards Mom's birthday gift." They all had jobs after school. William worked at a convenience store, Mark helped at a gas station, and Keith had a paper route.

William called about the plane fare the next day and found out that the ticket would cost \$56.36. That would be a lot of money for the boys to save in such a short time, but if they worked together they might make it.

Mark told his Dad about the gift they wanted to give to Mother. He was very pleased and promised to help all that he could to keep the plans from their mother.

"Whatever are the boys so secretive about?" Mother asked Dad. "About



# The Men With Half A Beard

#### II Samuel 10:1-7, 9-14

- 1 ...It came to pass after this, that the king of the children of Ammon died, and Hanun his son reigned in his stead.
- 2 Then said David, I will shew kindness unto Hanun the son of Nahash, as his father shewed kindness unto me. And David sent to comfort him by the hand of his servants for [the death of] his father. And David's servants came into the land of the children of Ammon.
- 3 And the princes of the children of Ammon said unto Hanun their lord, Thinkest thou that David doth honour thy father, that he hath sent comforters unto thee? hath not David rather sent his servants unto thee, to search the city, and to spy it out, and to overthrow it?
- 4 Wherefore Hanun took David's servants, and shaved off the one half of their beards, and cut off their garments in the middle, even to their buttocks, and sent them away.
- 5 When they told it unto David, he sent to meet them, because the men were greatly ashamed: and the king said, Tarry at Jericho until your beards be grown, and then return.
- 6 And when the children of Ammon saw that they stank before David, the children of Ammon sent and hired the Syrians of Beth-rehob, and the Syrians of Zoba, twenty thousand footmen, and of king Maacah a thousand men, and of Ish-tob twelve thousand men.
- 7 And when David heard of it, he sent Joab, and all the host of the mighty men.
- 9 When Joab saw that the front of the battle was against him before and be-

- hind, he chose of all the choice men of Israel, and put them in array against the Syrians:
- 10 And the rest of the people he delivered into the hand of Abishai his brother, that he might put them in array against the children of Ammon.
- 11 And he said, If the Syrians be too strong for me, then thou shalt help me: but if the children of Ammon be too strong for thee, then I will come and help thee.
- 13 And Joab drew nigh, and the people that were with him, unto the battle against the Syrians: and they fled before him.
- 14 And when the children of Ammon saw that the Syrians were fled, then fled they also before Abishai....

The Message: We should cooperate with others in their time of need, as David, Joab and Abishai did.

# **Questions:**

- 1. Why did David send servants to Hanun, king of Ammon?
- 2. Hanun's princes believed David had sent his servants for what reason?
- 3. What did Hanun do to David's servants?
- 4. How did David comfort his servants?
- 5. Did the people of Ammon feel good about what they had done?
- 6. How many men did they hire to fight against David?
- 7. How did Joab and Abishai cooperate to win the battle?
- Explain how David and his servants cooperated.
- Discuss ways children may cooperate with their family to make their home a happier place.

# Verse To Memorize

...Five of you shall chase an hundred, and an hundred of you shall put ten thousand to flight:... Leviticus 26:8.



"The king of Ammon did good to me when I was a fugitive fleeing from the wrath of King Saul," thought King David. "What may I do to repay the kindness?" Then he remembered that King Hanun's father had died. So David sent servants to comfort Hanun in his sorrow.

Hanun seemed to be grateful for the comfort of David's servants, but one of his own princes asked, "Do you think David's servants have come only to comfort you?"

"No," several princes cried, "They have come pretending to comfort you so they can spy out our country. They will then know better how to overthrow us."

"Send them away at once," another cried.

"Send them away, without punishments?" questioned another.

"No, no," said still another. "I'll tell you what to do."

So the princes all listened and thought his plan a very good one.

In those days men were very ashamed to be immodest. It was called "uncovering their nakedness," and a very shameful thing it was to uncover their bodies.

Hanun and his wicked princes lined up David's servants and one by one they cut their robes off very short. So short they looked liked mini skirts. Then they shaved half of each man's beard. "Go home, now," they shouted, "and don't come again to spy on our country unless you want something worse to happen."

How strange David's servants looked. Half of each face was covered

with heavy beard and the other half cleanly shaven, and their robes just half as long as they had been. The Ammon princes laughed heartily as the modest men tried vainly to cover their hairy legs with their short robes.

News soon reached David about how his servant's were mistreated. He sent to meet the men and showed compassion to them, just as he had tried to show to King Hanun. "Stay here in Jericho until your beards have grown out," he told them. "I will cooperate with you and supply your needs while you stay hidden away."

Having already thought that David was spying on their country to overthrow it, the Ammons were now sure that David would be angry and start a war. They hired 20,000 soldiers of the Syrians, 1,000 from Maacah, and 12,000 from Ishtob.

When David heard this, he sent his dependable captains, Joab and Abishai. Together they divided the troops and organized the battle. Joab would fight against the Syrians, while Abishai combatted the Ammonites. They would watch the progress of each battle and help one another when needed. They would cooperate with each other to win.

When Joab and his soldiers drew near to the Syrians, the Syrians turned and ran. When the Ammonites saw the Syrians running in defeat, they also ran. So Israel won a victory that day without fighting.

It all started with a misunderstanding, but it ended with a clear understanding that God's people were winners again! —Charlotte Huskey every time I come into their room they stop talking and look so mysterious."

"Well, the boys have a great plan on their minds," Dad told her. "It seems that you know more than you are letting me know about," Mother said as she took the roast from the oven. Dad hurried form the kitchen as soon as he could. By now he too was having a hard time keeping it from Mother. Next week was Mother's birthday. The boys were pretty close to their goal of paying for the ticket.

Finally, the money was all together and they sent Dad to buy the ticket on his way home from work. That way Mother wouldn't have any suspicions of what was going on. It was a great feeling that they had all worked together for their mother's happiness.

"Tomorrow is Mother's birthday," Keith said as they gathered for their homework, "I can hardly wait to see Mom's face when she sees that ticket."

"Me either," chorused Mark and William. They could hardly concentrate on homework.

The big day finally arrived! All were anxious for supper to be over, the dishes done, and for Grandpa and Grandma to arrive.

"Here they come," shouted the boys, as Grandpa and Grandma pulled into the driveway. When they came in there were hugs all around and pleasantries spoken.

Grandma handed her present to Mother. It was a set of embroidered pillowcases. Mother was so pleased with them. She hugged Grandma saying, "Thanks a lot. They are beautiful."

Next Dad brought out his nicely wrapped gift. It was the coat the boys had thought maybe they might buy for her. "Oh my," mother said, "I surely never expected to get this." She went over to Dad and gave him a big kiss, then thanked him.

The boys were anxious to give Mom their gift too. They handed her the envelope and waited for her to open it. When she saw what it was she could hardly contain her happiness. "Boys, how did you know I wanted to visit Aunt Margaret?" was all she could say.

"Last summer you had mentioned it to all of us," William told her, "after she wrote to tell us she had her new baby. So this is to send you on your way." Mother went to all the boys, thanking each one. "I know it was a real sacrifice for you, and I want you to know that I surely do appreciate it all very, very much."

--Sis. Dorothy Wilkins

(Answers: 1. David wanted to retum kindness because Hanun's father had shown kindness to him. To spy out the land so he could overthrow them. 3 He cut off their clothes in the middle, and shaved half of each man's beard. 4. He sent men to comfort them and told them to slav at Jericho until their beards had grown again, 5, No. 6, 33,000 men. 7. Joab and his soldiers were to fight against the Syrians first, Abishai and his soldiers were to help if needed. Then Abishai was to go against the Ammonites, Joab was to help him if needed, 8. David's servants went with the message of kindness. David sent help to his servants after they had been mistreated. 9. Children can do household duties such as taking out trash, making beds, cleaning, vacuuming, cleaning the kitchen, helping younger brothers or sisters. Being respectful also adds cooperation to a famlly. Being content, taking good care of things, and many other things strengthen the spirit of cooperation.)



Vol. 44, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 5 Jan. 31, 1993

### Two Rabbits

When I was a boy we lived on a cattle ranch in Texas. There were many coyotes on the prairies which preyed on the young calves, so Father bought a beautiful greyhound to protect them. We called him Blackie and when he was not chasing coyotes, he liked to chase rabbits.

Often I would throw my hat into the air and shout as I watched Blackie chase a jack rabbit. The rabbit would lay back both ears and race for his life with the dog at his heels. He was a wonderful runner, but he couldn't outrun a greyhound.

I noticed that a jack rabbit would never run into a place of safety. There were many badger holes, haystacks, granaries, and even hollow logs he could have taken shelter in, but he never did. Too proud to hide, too selfconfident to run to shelter, spurning the hole in the ground or a ledge of rock, the jack rabbit depended on his strong hind legs— and lost!

One day Blackie noticed a little cottontail rabbit and started to chase it. He was only about a third the size of a jack rabbit. I said to myself, "Too bad, little rabbit. You don't have a chance."

But moments later I heard Blackie howling and scratching at a rock half as big as a house. Into a hole under the rock the little cottontail had run and was perfectly safe. He couldn't depend on his tiny legs, but he had the good understanding to run to a place of safety in the rock. Nothing could touch him there.

Years have passed since that time, and I've come to know the Lord Jesus as my Saviour. I've often thought of these two rabbits—the long-legged, proud, independent jack rabbit that never seeks a place of safety, and the timid little cottontail who immediately runs to a safe hiding place at the first alarm—as a picture of two classes of sinners.

Some people say, "I'll take my chance. I have a few sins, but I'm not so bad. I'm not afraid." So they try to outrun sin, Satan, and the judgment of God. They depend on their own strength to reform; their good deeds and their pride keeps them from running to the only place of safety-the Saviour of sinners. They do not like to think that their sins will find them out. but the Bible says, "Be sure your sin will find you out." Numbers 32:23. Again, "God requireth that which is past." Ecclesiastes 3:15. "God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing." Ecclesiastes 12:14.

Dear unsaved friend, God has "appointed a day, in the which He will judge the world in righteousness," Acts 17:31; and "where shall the ungodly



# Do We Well?

# II Kings 7:3-12, 13-15

- 3 ...There were four leprous men at the entering in of the [city] gate: and they said one to another, Why sit we here until we die?
- 4 If we say, We will enter into the city, then the famine is in the city, and we shall die there; and if we sit still here, we die also. Now therefore come, and let us fall unto the host of the Syrians: if they save us alive, we shall live; and if they kill us, we shall but die.
- 5 And they rose up in the twilight, to go unto the camp of the Syrians: and when they were come to the uttermost part of the camp of Syria, behold, there was no man there.
- 6 For the Lord had made the host of the Syrians to hear a noise of...a great host: and they said one to another, Lo, the king of Israel hath hired against us the kings of the Hittites, and the kings of the Egyptians, to come upon us.
- 7 Wherefore they arose and fled in the twilight, and left their tents, and their horses,...even the camp as it was, and fled for their life.
- 8 And when these lepers came...they went into one tent, and did eat and drink, and carried thence silver, and gold, and raiment, and went and hid it; and came again, and entered into another tent, and carried thence also, and went and hid it.
- **9** Then they said one to another. We do not well: this day is a day of good tidings...
- 10 So they came and called unto the porter of the city: and they told them, saying. We came to the camp of the Syrians, and, behold, there was no man there, neither voice of man, but horses

tied, and asses tied, and the tents as they were.

12 And the king arose in the night, and said unto his servants, I will now shew you what the Syrians have done to us. They know that we be hungry; therefore are they gone out of the camp to hide themselves in the field, saying. When they come out of the city, we shall catch them alive...

- 13 And one of his servants answered and said,...let us send and see.
- 14 They took therefore two chariot horses; and the king sent after the host of the Syrians, saying, Go and see.
- 15 And they went after them unto Jordan: and, lo, all the way was full of garments and vessels, which the Syrians had cast away in their haste. And the messengers returned, and told the king.

The Message: The decision the four leprous men made showed good understanding of their own condition and that of their nation.

### **Questions:**

- 1. What decision did the four men need to make?
- 2. What might happen to them if they entered the city?
- 3. What would happen to them if they stayed at the gate?
- 4. What other choice did the men have?
- 5. What might the Syrians do to them?
- 6. What did the men find in the Syrian camp?
- 7. How did they share the good news?
- 8. Was this a means of helping to save their country?
- 9. Did the men use good understanding in making the decision?

#### Verse To Memorize

How much better is it to get wisdom than gold! and to get understanding rather to be chosen than silver! Proverbs 16:16.



The huge gate of the city was tightly closed. Not a person went out, for just outside the wall of the city their enemy was camped. If the gate was even unlatched, the Syrian army might come rushing in and destroy the people.

Inside the city, boys, girls, men and women were very hungry. Since the Syrians had come, the people had not been able to go out to get food. The food in the city had already been eaten. "What will we do?" "What will we do?" each man was asking another. The king did not know what to do, neither did any one of his wise men.

On the ground outside the city gate sat four, poor, sick, hungry men. They were afflicted with a disease called *leprosy*. Since it was very easy for others to catch this disease, all who had it were forced to live outside the city. Usually a friend or family member left food at chosen places for the afflicted people to have. Now no one was able to take them food, so the men had come to the gate hoping to find some help.

After seeing the gate tightly locked and no one coming or going from the city, one of the men asked, "Why should we sit here and die? There is no food in the city. We cannot get help here. Let us go to the Syrians. The worst they can do is to kill us, and they might not. So let's go see."

Away went the poor tattered men. They entered into their enemy's camp, expecting to be met by a fierce general, demanding them to surrender. A heavy silence met them. Carefully they peeked into the first tent. There was food! The hungry men devoured it quickly. Then they looked into other tents. There was not a man anywhere in the camp, so they snatched up clothing, gold and silver and hurrying away they hid it.

Tent after tent was emptied in the same way. Finally one of the men said, "We think we are doing great because we have found all this, but really we aren't. We must share this great news with the king. If we wait something might happen. Let's go right now."

The others agreed.

The city was saved from starvation, because these four starving men had caring, understanding hearts for others.

On page 451 in Evening Light Songs is a song based on this Bible story. Let's sing it.

#### Do We Well?

To the Syrian camp at twilight,
Hungry, thirsty, bleeding, sore,
Came four leprous men of Israel;
Found they there abundant storeGold and silver, food and raiment.
"We must go the message tell,
Tis a day of joyful tidings,
Waiting here we do not well."

#### **CHORUS**

Tis the day of full salvation,
Go, the joyful message tell;
While we wait the millions perish,
And we do not well.

While a few have crossed the ocean,
Leaving all for Jesus' name,
There is room for many othersGo, the gospel news proclaim!
Those who roam in sin's dominion,
Can be rescued yet from hell;
While a moment's left to save them,
If we wait, we do not well.

-Charlotte Huskey

and the sinner appear" then (1 Peter 4:18)?

But the good news of salvation is that God has Himself provided a refuge for the sinner, His own blessed Son whom He sent into the world to be your Saviour and mine.

He is the Rock of Ages, and death, hell and judgment cannot touch a soul that is safe in Christ. Make Him the refuge of your soul this day.

"A man shall be as an hiding place...as the shadow of a great rock in a weary land." Isaiah 32:2.
—Selected

### Aimie's Kitten

Aimie found a poor little stray kitten. It was starved and skinny. It was dirty and its eyes were sore. Aimie took pity on the poor little thing and carried it into the house, but when Father saw it he told her to take it outside again. She could feed it on the porch, but it must not come into the house.

Aimie fed the kitten some milk and its little tummy grew round and full. In the meantime, Daddy was trying to figure out what to do with the kitten. He hoped he could give it away to someone and give Aimie a new dolly instead. Perhaps she would forget the kitten.

Aimie had gone to bed and Father was about to retire when he heard a faint meow coming from the corner of the kitchen. There he saw Aimie's dolly's bed and the kitten curled up inside. Beside it was a dish with some food Aimie had taken from her own supper and a saucer of water. At first Daddy was angry, but then as he thought of how kind Aimie had been to that little kitten his heart melted. He went upstairs and as he gazed at his little girl sleeping so sweetly, he was proud of her. He loved her all the more when he realized what a tender, understanding heart she had.

In the morning Daddy said to his little girl, "Aimie, you can keep your little kitty!" Aimie threw her arms around his neck and kissed him. "Daddy," she said, "That's what I wanted more than anything."

In a few days little Puss showed quite a change. She grew fatter, her fur coat became glossy, the soreness disappeared, and her green eyes fairly gleamed. She became one of the family, loved and cared for.

Just as Aimie understood that little kitten when it was starved, ill and dirty, so the Lord Jesus understands us-poor and needy, sin-sick, defiled, and without a home. He did not turn us away-He never turned anyone away who came seeking Him, but He cleansed us from our sins. He fed us with Bread from heaven, with the "sincere milk of the Word," and He gave us a home with Himself. Now we are part of the heavenly family, soon to be gathered inside the Father's house of many mansions.

But in order to do all this, He must first die to put our sins away. Have you come to Him yet in your need, dear young reader?

"I am poor and needy; yet the Lord thinketh upon me." Psalms 40:17.

"Christ also hath loved us, and hath given Himself for us." Ephesians 5:2. —Taken from "Messages Of The Love of God."

Answers: I. They were deciding what they must do to keep alive. 2. The people in the city might kill them (because of the incurable disease they had) or they might die because of the famine. 3. They would die. 4. To go into the Syrian camp. 5. The Syrians might kill them. 6. They found food, clothing, gold and silver, and not enemies, 7. They told the king. 8. Yes. 9 Yes.





Vol. 44, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 6 Feb. 7, 1993

# Camping At The Lake

Jerry, Johnny, and Jimmy, the three J's everyone called them, were so excited they could hardly contain themselves. Their parents had given them permission to go camping next weekend. For ever so long they had wanted to go, but were always told that they were too young to go by themselves to the lake. This time, however, their parents decided to let them go. All week they were busy planning what they should take.

"One thing for sure," Jimmy said,
"We want to take our fishing poles.
We want to get in lots of fishing, if
we can."

"I know," Johnny replied, "mine needs fixing. I'm not sure if Dad will fix it for me or not."

"Why wouldn't he fix it for you?" Jerry wanted to know.

"Well, since I got saved," Johnny told the boys, "Dad has been different towards me. He thinks it is a foolish thing to do. He will hardly talk to me now."

"I'm sure if you ask him, he will do it for you, "Jerry told him. "We'll have to pray for your dad to help you." Johnny had just gotten saved a few weeks ago. Jerry and Jimmy had prayed and prayed for him. They were so happy about Johnny giving his heart to the Lord. But Johnny had a real problem. His mother and father weren't saved and didn't even go to church. Johnny started going to Sunday School with Jerry and Jimmy. One time they had a missionary to come and speak to the young people. After the talk Johnny felt a real need of going forward to receive Jesus into his heart.

Finally, the day arrived to start off on their camping trip. The boys seemed to have everything needed. Even Johnny had his fishing pole that his dad fixed for him. Johnny wa's so thankful that God had answered prayer. He didn't have to ask his dad to fix it. Dad saw that it needed to be fixed, so he just took care of it. Johnny was quick to tell his dad thanks and how much he appreciated him fixing the pole for him.

At last they were at the lake, after hiking for about half a day. All the boys were hungry, so the first thing they did was to eat the lunch their mothers had packed for them.



# **Natives Encourage Paul**

**New Words:** 1. The barbarous people were savage non-Christian natives of the Island of Mclita. 2. A viper is a poisonous snake.

### Acts 27:42-44

**42** The soldiers' counsel was to kill the prisoners, lest any of them should...escape. [Paul was one of the prisoners.]

**43** But the centurion, willing to save Paul, kept them from their purpose;...

44 And...they escaped all safe to land.
Acts 28:2-15

- 2 And the barbarous people...kindled a fire, and received us every one, because of the present rain, and because of the cold.
- 3 And when Paul had gathered a bundle of sticks, and laid them on the fire, there came a viper out of the heat, and fastened on his hand.
- 4 And when the barbarians saw the venomous beast [poisonous snake] hang on his hand, they said among themselves, No doubt this man is a murderer, whom, though he hath escaped the sea, yet vengeance suffereth not to live.
- **5** And he shook off the beast into the fire, and felt no harm.
- 6 ...They looked when he should have swollen, or fallen down dead...and saw no harm come to him, they changed their minds, and said that he was a god.
- 7 ...The chief man of the island, whose name was Publius;...lodged us three days courteously.
- 8 ...The father of Publius lay sick of a fever and of a bloody flux:..Paul entered in, and prayed, and laid his hands on him, and healed him.
- 9 So when this was done, others also, which had diseases in the island, came, and were healed:

- 10 Who also honoured us with many honours; and when we departed, they laded us with such things as were necessary.
- 11 And after three months we departed in a ship of Alexandria,
- 12 And landing at Syracuse, we tarried there three days.
- 13 And from thence we fetched a compass, and came to Rhegium: and after one day the south wind blew, and we came the next day to Putcoli:
- 14 Where we found brethren,...and tarried with them seven days: and so we went toward Rome.
- 15 And...when the brethren heard of us, they came to meet us as far as Appiiforum, and The three taverns: whom when Paul saw, he thanked God, and took courage.

The Message: Let us speak kind words and do good things for others to encourage them.

#### Questions:

- 1. What did the soldiers say should be done to the prisoners?
- 2. Why was the centurion unwilling to kill the prisoners?
- 3. Did everyone escape safe to land?
- 4. How did the barbarous people encourage the escapees?
- 5. What happened that could have discouraged Paul?
- 6. Why did the barbarians think Paul was a god?
- 7. Who was healed when Paul prayed?
- 8. As the shipwrecked crew boarded another ship for Rome, what did the Islanders do for them?
- 9. Why did Paul take courage as he neared the city of Rome, where he was to be a prisoner?

### Verse to Memorize

Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest. Joshua 1:9.



"Are you willing to be judged at Jerusalem?" Governor Festus asked Apostle Paul.

"No," Paul answered. "I have done nothing against the Jews, and I am a Roman. Therefore, I should be judged by Roman law. I appeal to Ceasar," he said calmly.

"Your wish is granted," Festus announced.

Later, however, Festus wondered how he could send a prisoner to the great Roman Emperor unless he had committed a crime. King Agrippa helped Festus solve the problem. So Paul was loaded with many other prisoners on a ship sailing for Rome.

Enroute to Rome, a storm hit the sea. The ship was tossed and torn until it pulled into a nearby harbor to stay while the storm calmed. After many days the wind slowed to a south breeze then the ship lifted anchor and sailed again.

Before the day was over another storm was ripping away at the ship's sails. For the next fourteen days they were driven up and down and around the sea by the gale. Finally, they were thrust up near an island and set anchor. While they waited for daylight to come, Paul said, "God showed me in a dream that none

of us shall die, if we stay together. Now let us eat for we are all getting weak, having eaten nothing for fourteen days."

The next morning they tried to sail up the river which flowed from the island, but the ship's bow got stuck in the sand. The turbulent waves beat on the ship until it broke the ship in half.

"Let's kill all the prisoners," the soldiers shouted. "For we will be killed if they escape."

"No," the captain answered. "Everyone jump in and swim to shore."

Some swam and some floated on pieces of the ship's boards, until everyone got to the island. The natives started a fire so they could get warm and dry out their clothes. While Paul was helping gather sticks to keep the fire going a deadly snake bit into his hand and hung on tightly. Paul, being full of faith, shook the viper into the fire and went on working.

When Paul did not swell and fall dead, the natives began shouting, "He is a god!"

Soon Paul was praying for the sick. God healed each one. How happy the islanders were.

When the ship's crew and prisoners left, they were given food and clothing needed to make the journey.

How encouraged Paul felt when he saw the brethren. He shared the blessings of his trip.

-Charlotte Huskey

Be encouraged!

"Just wait' til supper time," Jerry told the boys excitedly, "when we can have fish that we catch." Jimmy and Johnny were all excited too. This was the special part of their camping trip. Jerry, Jimmy and Johnny busied themselves putting up their tent gear. They especially paid attention where they put the food because they didn't want little critters getting into it.

After all was in order they took their fishing poles and other fishing equipment and set out for the lake. Johnny was the first to get his pole in the lake and settled down to wait for the fish to bite.

"Look, it must be a big one," Jerry cried, "the way my pole is bent over." He could just see their supper already in the frying pan. He struggled and struggled, even the boys came to help, but it got away.

Johnny was the next to get one on his line. He got so excited that his foot slipped and he fell in the lake. He came wading out, wet and soggy. He was so embarrassed. The boys tried to encourage him while helping him get dry clothes on.

"Don't worry about a little thing like that," Jerry said, "either of us could have done the same thing. Look at the fish that got away from us."

"Yeah, maybe next time it might be my turn," Jimmy was saying, as he hung Johnny's clothes out to dry on the bushes. Then back to the lake they went.

Pretty soon they were all settled, waiting for the fish to come around and decide which lure that they would like best.

Johnny let out a shout, "There is one on mine again." As he reeled him in they saw it was a real nice one. At last each of the boys had a good catch. As they busied themselves cleaning and getting the fish ready to eat Johnny said, "I was pretty discouraged when I fell in the water. It seems as though those kinds of things happen to me all the time. You encouraged me to keep on, because you said it could have easily happened to you too. I prayed that God would help me not to get discouraged so quick."

"That's right," Jerry said, "now when your dad doesn't act or say things to you that are just right, just pray for him and ask God to help you to live a good Christian life before him. Then perhaps he will see that Jesus has made a difference in your life."

"That's right," Jimmy exclaimed, "we'll pray too. Maybe your mother and father will come to church and find that Jesus can make their lives different too."

Johnny said, "Thank you, Lord, for all your many blessings. Bless this food. Especially, thanks for saving us and helping us each day." And they all said, "Amen."

-Sis. Dorothy Wilkins

(Answers: 1. They said the prisoners should be killed. 2. Because He did not want to kill Paul. 3. Yes. 4. By building a fire so they could get dry. also they gave them a place to stay. 5. A poisonous snake bit him. 6. Because the snake bite did not cause him to die: nor make him sick. 7. Publius' father-in-law, and many other sick islanders. 8. They gave them things needed for their journey. 9. Because the brethren came to meet him.





Vol. 44, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 7 Feb. 14, 1993

# The Big Move

This was a sad time for Marcia, Betty, and Todd. Their father had died five years ago. Now their mother had passed away. What to do next was the pressing problem. Mother had not been well for quite a while, but she was always there to make decisions and help them when a problem arose.

Betty, the oldest, knew she would have to make the decisions now, after looking to the Lord in prayer. She said to Todd and Marcia, "I think we should sell our house and move near Uncle Earl and Aunt Elizabeth."

"Oh, will we really have to move away?" exclaimed Marcia. "I sure don't want to move in the middle of the school year."

"I'm really very sorry," Betty said, "but I see no other way to get by. I'm sure they will be happy to help us in every way they are able. We must have someone to help us in making some of our decisions. I'd better write to them tonight and see if it will be alright."

"It will take some time to sell the house, sort things out, and get rid of furniture and other things we don't need," Todd mentioned to Marcia. "Maybe school will be out by then."

"That's right," said Betty. "We'll just have to trust the Lord to make the way for us. In the meantime, I'd better get busy with that letter."

Betty didn't have time to get her letter in the mail, for the very next day the children received a letter from Uncle Earl and Aunt Elizabeth inviting the children to move near them. They had already found a house for them to live in, if they wanted it. By this the children knew they would be welcome and looked after by their aunt and uncle.

Going through the personal things that belonged to their parents and themselves was the hard part.

Betty said, "Let's start in the attic and work down. Then we'll know that we have everything." In the attic were so many of Mother's treasures they hardly knew what to keep and what to get rid of, as they were all so dear to them. There were all of Dad's books in the library. He had enjoyed them so very much. They had been so much a part of him, and that made them precious to the children.

At last the day had come to move. Uncle Earl came down to help them. It was planned that Todd and Marcia would come back for the few days left in school. They were to stay witl



# Grateful Jehoshaphat

II Chronicles 20:2-4, 15, 17-24, 27

- 2 Then there came some that told Jehoshaphat, saying, There cometh a great multitude against thee...
- 3 And Jehoshaphat feared, and set himself to seek the LORD, and proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah.
- 4 And Judah gathered themselves together, to ask help of the LORD:... 13 And all Judah stood before the

LORD, with their little ones, their wives. and their children.

- 15 And he said,...Thus saith the LORD unto you, Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God's.
- 17 Ye shall not need to fight in this battle: set yourselves, stand ye still, and see the salvation of the Lord . . .
- 18 And Jehoshaphat bowed his head with his face to the ground: and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem fell before the LORD, worshipping the LORD.
- 19 And the Levites...stood up to praise the LORD God of Israel with a loud voice on high.
- 20 And they rose early in the morning, and went forth into the wilderness of Tekoa:...
- 21 And when he had consulted with the people, he appointed singers . . . that should praise the beauty of holiness, as they went out before the army, and to say, Praise the LORD; for his mercy endureth for ever.
- 22 And when they began to sing and to praise, the LORD set ambushments against the children of Ammon, Moab,

and mount Scir. which were come against Judah; and they were smitten.

23 For the children of Ammon and Moab stood up against the inhabitants of mount Seir, utterly to slay and destrov them . . .

24 And when Judah came toward the watch tower in the wilderness, they looked unto the multitude, and, behold, they were dead bodies fallen to the earth . . .

27 Then they returned, every man of Judah and Jerusalem. Jehoshaphat in the forefront of them, to go again to Jerusalem with joy; for the LORD had made them to rejoice over their enemies.

The Message: Jehoshaphat was so grateful for God's promise that he went into the battle praising God.

### Questions:

- 1. Who had come against Jehoshaphat and his people?
- 2. What did Jehoshaphat do when he was afraid?
- 3. What did the men, women and children do?
- 4. What did the Levites do?
- 5. What promise did God give to Jehoshaphat?
- 6. What happened when they began to sing and praise God?
- 7. What did the men of Judah sce from the tower?
- 8. What were the people doing when they returned back to their homes at Jerusalem?
- 9. Jehoshaphat's only battle was against his fears. Do you sometimes battle fears in your mind?

#### Verse to Memorize

...Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God's. II Chronicles 20:15.



King Jehoshaphat was the son of King Asa. Both he and his father had walked in the ways of King David. They obeyed God's commandments. Neither did they allow their people to worship idols. God rewarded them by letting the fear of the Lord fall upon all the kingdoms around Judah. They made no war against Jehoshaphat. Some of the nations which had once been enemics were now bringing him gifts of silver, flocks, rams, and goats.

Jehoshaphat became a very, very great king. He built great castles and cities of stone. He had many riches and was praised by so many people that he sort of lost sight of needing God's help every day. He became careless in his dealings and was not careful to put God first in everything.

He made friends with the wicked king of Israel, whose name was Ahab. Soon Ahab asked Jehoshaphat to help him in a battle.

Jehoshaphat went with Ahab, even though the prophet Micaiah said it was not good to go. While in battle a group of enemy soldiers surrounded him but when he cried to God for help, the Lord moved them to go away and leave him alone. Thus he barely escaped being killed. Although God was very displeased with him for helping such a wicked person as King Ahab, he still loved Jehoshaphat.

Jehoshaphat knew God loved him, so he repented of his actions and again led his people rightly. He sent teachers through the land to teach God's laws. He encouraged the people to fear God, and serve him faithfully and with a perfect and grateful heart. "You must never disobey God," he said.

Peaceful years followed, then one day a great multitude of enemies came against the nation. Jehoshaphat did not go into this battle alone. He began seeking God for help. He fasted and asked all the people to also fast and pray. "We have no might against this great company that has come up against us," he told the Lord in prayer. "Neither do we know what to do, but we are looking to you for help."

The Lord heard their prayers and saw their humble hearts. He said, "Be not afraid of this great multitude. The battle is not yours, it is mine. Tomorrow you will find them at the end of the brook in front of the wilderness of Jeruel. Go out against them, and stand still. You will not have to fight this battle. I am with you."

Jehoshaphat was so happy he arose early the next morning and called his people. He told them, "Believe in the Lord your God, so shall ye be firm and secure; believe his prophets, and you shall receive good." Then he appointed a group of singers and told them to go ahead of the army and praise the beauty of holiness as they went.

When the singers began to praise God, the enemy became angry one at another. Swords and spears were drawn. Soldier comrades were soon killing each other instead of fighting together against their enemy. As one fought another, others entered the fighting. Soon the whole camp was in an uproar. The wild shouting and clashing of swords continued until the three nations who had come against Judah had destroyed themselves.

When Jehoshaphat's watchmen arrived at the lookout tower and looked down, they saw a multitude of dead bodies fallen to the earth. They had not needed to fight.

God had given victory while they sang praises.

How grateful Jehoshaphat and the people felt. —Charlotte Huskey

their friends. Betty had been accepted as a teacher at the college where she had taught several years before, while staying with Uncle Earl and Aunt Elizabeth.

They got there quite late, but dear Aunt Elizabeth was waiting with a delicious supper for them. She had also been over to the house cleaning so they could move right in.

"Oh, thanks so much for all your help," Betty said to her aunt, "I am so tired. I don't know what I would have done without your help."

"Come on in and eat some," Aunt Elizabeth told the children, "then we can go over to the house and see what can be done for the night."

After eating, they all felt so refreshed that it wasn't hard to work until late that night. They were all pleased with what they had accomplished.

"Uncle Earl and Aunt Elizabeth have certainly gone out of their way to help us," Todd mentioned to Betty and Marcia as they got ready for bed.

"Yes, I really do appreciate their love and kindness to us." Betty said, "Mother told me we could rely on them to help, if we needed them. Now I can see why she said that. I'm sure they want to do all they can for us."

The summer was pleasant as they did everything to make it comfortable. Marcia loved flowers, so she was busy around the yard planting and watering. Betty had a more practical side. After Uncle Earl had dug a garden space for her, she put in vegetables to be canned and stored away to use in the long winter months ahead. Todd was busy too, helping Uncle Earl fix up both their houses, so when winter came they would be snug and cozy.

Soon it was time for school to

start. Marcia and Todd went to a school nearby, but Betty had to go several miles from home. That made her get home rather late. On this particular morning the sun was shining so brightly, there certainly wasn't any thought of snow. In the late afternoon, however, it started snowing very hard with large flakes piling the snow rather quickly. It worried Betty trying to imagine how she and the others would be getting home. She thought she might have to stay all night at school, but around 4:30 she saw Uncle Earl with the sleigh and horses to pick her up. He also took home some of the other young folks that lived along the way to their house. It was one more reason to be grateful to her uncle and aunt for all the kindness to Todd and Marcia and of course, to herself. She wondered how she could ever repay them for taking such wonderful care of them. She trusted that God would truly bless them in every way. -Sis. Dorothy Wilkins

(Answers: 1. A great multitude. 2. He began seeking the Lord, and proclaimed a fast. They stood before the Lord and prayed. 4. The Levites sang praises to God. 5. "Ye will not need to fight in this battle." 6. The Lord set an ambushment against the enemy and they destroyed one another. 7. They saw the dead bodies of their enemies, 8. They were rejoicing, 9. Yes, we all have times we feel afraid. Let's seek God at these times and then praise him with a grateful heart as Jehoshaphat did.)





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# Kathy Fogives Gloria

When Kathy came home from school and went straight to her room and stayed there instead of coming down for milk and cookies, Mother knew something was wrong. She decided she had better go up and have a talk with Kathy.

"What's wrong, Honey?" Mother asked, then she waited until Kathy's tears and sobbing subsided.

"Mother, I'll never forgive Gloria for what she has done today," sobbed Kathy. Then she started all over again with her sobbing and crying.

"My goodness, whatever did she do to make you feel so bad?" Mother asked. She couldn't imagine what could have happened today to make her daughter feel so badly. Most generally Kathy was bright and cheerful.

"Mother, you know how I have helped Gloria with her homework," sobbed Kathy, "and trying to help care for her little sister. Now she says that I have been a great hindrance to her." "In what way," Mother queried, "did she say?"

"Well, she says that I'm always trying to take all of her time and won't let her have any other friends," Kathy told her mother. "But that's not true. I've always tried to be a help but not to smother her or to keep her from the other girls."

"Come on downstairs," Mother told her, "and maybe we can talk it over, and find out what we can do about all this."

After Mother poured some milk and set out some cookies for her, they both sat down to talk the situation over. Kathy felt better already since she had dried her tears and washed her face. Especially now that her mother was there to help in the problem.

"Now Kathy, are you sure you haven't been doing what Gloria said you were doing?" Mother questioned.

"I don't really think so," she answered, "at least I tried not to. I just wanted to help. But since she told all my friends what she thought I had been doing, I was



# Joseph Forgives His Brethren

# 

# Genesis 37:3, 4, 24

- 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.
- 24 And they took him, and cast him into a pit: and the pit was empty, there was no water in it.

### Genesis 45: 4, 5, 8-10, 14-15, 21-24, 28

- 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.
- 8 So now it was not you that sent me hither...
- 9 Haste ye, and go up to my father, and say unto him, Thus saith thy son Joseph, God hath made me lord of all Egypt: come down unto me, tarry not:
- 10 And thou shalt dwell in the land of Goshen, and thou shalt be near unto me, thou, and thy children, and thy children's children, and thy flocks, and thy herds, and all that thou hast:
- 14 And he fell upon his brother Benjamin's neck, and wept; and Benjamin wept upon his neck.
- 15 Moreover he kissed all his brethren, and wept upon them: and after that his brethren talked with him.

- 21 ...And Joseph gave them wagons, according to the commandment of Pharaoh, and gave them provision for the way.
- 22 To all of them he gave each man changes of raiment; but to Benjamin he gave three hundred pieces of silver, and five changes of raiment.
- 23 And to his father he sent...ten asses laden with the good things of Egypt, and ten she asses laden with corn and bread and meat...
- 24 So he sent his brethren away, and they departed: and he said unto them, See that ye fall not out by the way.
- 28 And Israel said, It is enough; Joseph my son is yet alive: I will go and see him before I die.

The Message: Joseph forgave his brethren after they had cruelly thrown him into a pit and sold him as a slave to some traveling merchants.

### Questions:

- 1. Why didn't Joseph's brothers speak peaceably with him?
- 2. How did Joseph explain why he was in Egypt?
- 3. What was God's reason for sending Joseph to Egypt?
- 4. What position had God given Joseph in Egypt?
- 5. What did Joseph want his brothers to do?
- 6. Why do you think Joseph cried?
- 7. What gifts did Joseph give to his brothers?
- 8. Did he caution them to be careful on the way?
- 9. Do you think Joseph forgave from the heart?

### Verse to Memorize

Judge not, and ye shall not be judged: condemn not, and ye shall not be condemned: forgive, and ye shall be forgiven. Luke 6:37.



Israel had many reasons to love Joseph. He had loved Rachel, Joseph's mother, almost from the day they met. But getting her for his wife had cost him fourteen years of labor. Then after wanting children for many, many years, they finally had Joseph. Israel was now an old man, so Joseph was very special to him.

The other boys became jealous and treated Joseph cruelly. One day when Joseph met them in the field, they threw him in a deep pit, planning to leave him there to die. One of the brothers, however, thought the guilt of having killed their younger brother might be more than they could bare, so he persuaded them to sell Joseph to some traveling merchants that happened to come by on their way to Egypt.

In Egypt, Joseph soon became the favorite servant of his master, Potiphar. Potiphar gave Joseph charge of all his money. Soon after that, Joseph became a favorite of Potiphar's wife, too.

Now Joseph knew that a love affair with his master's wife was wrong, so he didn't accept the invitations of secret meetings which she continually slipped to him. Being refused made the woman so angry that she told lies on Joseph and had him put in prison.

The prison into which Joseph was confined was one where the king kept his prisoners. Noting Joseph's good manners, the jailor soon chose Joseph as his favorite helper. Joseph was no longer locked in a small musty jail cell, but he was in charge of the other prisoners.

Joseph longed to be free. One day something happened that gave him hope of freedom. King Pharaoh's butler and baker were sent to jail. During their stay both men had unusual dreams, which God helped Joseph to interpret. According to the dreams, the baker was to be killed. The butler was to be restored to his place beside the king in just three days. "Please, tell the king about me and ask him to release me, for I have done no wrong," Joseph begged the butler.

"Okay," the butler promised.

Two more years passed before the butler remembered his promise to help Joseph. He might never have remembered had the king not had a dream which he wanted interpreted. Joseph's interpretation had been right for the butler's dream, so he thought perhaps Joseph could help the king.

Joseph did help the king and was immediately chosen as the top man in the land of Egypt. Only the king had more power than Joseph.

Suddenly Joseph was riding through the cities in the king's chariot. Soldiers saluted him, and common men bowed before him. For seven years he organized multitudes of men to build granaries all over Egypt. He controlled great sums of money, buying the farmer's dried foods and storing them in the granaries.

In the following years there was no rain and no food. Now the people came to Joseph to buy food which he had stored. People from near-by countries began buying from him, too.

One day Joseph's brothers appeared. They only asked to buy food, but for days he tested his brothers to see if they were as mean as before. The more he dealt with them, the more he realized that they were good godly men.

His heart filled with forgiveness for them, and he begged them to bring their families and flocks and live under him in Egypt. They did come.

Do you wonder why Joseph's father loved him so much? Do you wonder that his brothers were jealous of their brother who was liked by most everyone? And do you wonder at God's power to help Joseph forgive his brothers instead of throwing them in jail?

-Charlotte Huskey

so embarrassed I don't think I can ever forgive her."

"Honey, you must not say things like that," Mother said, "How would you feel if someone felt that way towards you?"

"I know, but I've been doing all I can for her," sobbed Kathy, "and now she doesn't even appreciate it. Then to make me feel so bad in front of all my friends. I just can't ever forgive her."

"Kathy, honey, what if Jesus would have felt that way about us. He went all the way to Calvary because He loved us. We surely didn't deserve all His love and kindness for us. Sometimes it probably looks as though we don't appreciate what He has done. But He never stops loving us."

"I know," murmured Kathy.
"Jesus has really forgiven me of many things, but it is so hard to forgive her when I tried my best."

"We don't always understand why these things happen to us," Mother was trying to explain to her, "but sometimes they are for our own good."

"I sure don't see how this can be for my good," said Kathy.

"Maybe God wants to show you how much Jesus loves you, by helping you to see how we must love and forgive those that hurt us," Mother was saying. "Remember, the Bible says, "If we don't forgive others, God won't forgive us. (Matt. 6:14-15.) Why don't you read it and maybe it will help you to forgive Gloria."

She went away to read the scripture that Mother had given

her. "Now what were the verses that she wanted me to read?" Kathy asked herself. "Oh yes, Matt. 6:14-15." "For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if ye forgive not men their trespasses neither will your Father forgive your trespasses." After she read the verses she realized that she must forgive Gloria, so she went to her room to pray, asking God to forgive her for being so hurt at Gloria, and to help her to forgive her friend.

The next day at school Gloria came to her to ask her forgiveness for talking about her so badly, and Kathy was more than willing to forgive and wanted Gloria to forgive her.

"Let's be friends again," Gloria said, "I don't know what made me say such things, because you have always been my helper and friend." The girls walked together to their classes once again, glad to be friends. They were a little wiser about the things that they said that might hurt and realized that they must forgive as Jesus forgives us. —Sis. Dorothy Wilkins

(Answers: 1. They hated him: 2. He said that God had sent him to Egypt: 3. To save the family from starvation: 4. He was lord over Egypt: 5. To bring their father, children, grand children, and animals to Egypt: 6. Because he was happy to see his brothers: 7. Benjamin received 300 pieces of silver and 5 changes of raiment (clothing). The others received changes of raiment: 8. Yes: 9. Yes.)



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## The Bible

"Just how do you know that the Bible is different from other books?" demanded a flippant girl of about seventeen.

Her question was addressed to a servant of God who had just closed a gospel meeting on a street corner in a sea coast town in Newfoundland.

The girl was spokesman for an antagonistic band of teenagers that had gathered to see what might happen next. Convinced that the proofs of inspiration would be over the heads of his listeners, the preacher replied tactfully.

"Here's one way you can put it to the test; just start carrying a Bible wherever you go — now I mean everywhere. Your friends will soon let you know that the Bible is different from other books."

The girl thought a moment, and then in subdued tones said, "Oh, yes, I see what you mean."

That ended the confrontation; the group joined the milling crowd and moved on.

How differently the Christian boy or girl regards the Bible! Take for example the following little anecdote:

A college professor said to a young fellow on graduation day.

"Now, my boy, understand that you are going to launch your craft on a dangerous ocean."

"Yes, I know it", said the boy, and taking a Bible out of his pocket and holding it up he added, "but you see I have a safe compass to steer by."

—Sélected

# John Wesley and the Robber

John Wesley was once attacked by a robber who demanded his money. Mr. Wesley handed it to him, but as the man was going away he called him back and said.

"My friend, let me say a word to you. The time may come when you will be very sorry for the kind of life you are now leading. Remember then this passage from the Bible: The blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin." He said no more, and they departed.

One day many years after, Mr. Wesley was leaving a church where he had been preaching, when a man came up to him, and asked him if he remembered being robbed once in a certain place.

"I do," said Mr. Wesley; "I remember it distinctly."

"I was the man that robbed you, sir," said the stranger. "I wish to thank you for the words you spoke to me on that occasion. That sweet verse of Scripture that you quoted then took such hold of my mind, that I could never rest till I turned to the Lord from



# Tactful Nathan

### II Samuel 12:1-7, 9-10, 12-14

- 1 ... The LORD sent Nathan unto David. And he came unto him, and said unto him, There were two men in one city; the one rich, and the other poor.
- 2 The rich man had exceeding many flocks and herds:
- 3 But the poor man had nothing, save one little ewe lamb, which he had bought and nourished up: and it grew up together with him, and with his children; it did eat of his own meat, and drank of his own cup, and lay in his bosom, and was unto him as a daughter.
- 4 And there came a traveller unto the rich man, and he spared to take of his own flock and of his own herd, to dress for the wayfaring man that was come unto him; but took the poor man's lamb, and dressed it for the man that was come to him.
- **5** And David's anger was greatly kindled against the man; and he said to Nathan, As the LORD liveth, the man that hath done this thing shall surely die:
- 6 And he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity.
- 7 And Nathan said to David, Thou art the man. Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, I anointed thee king over Israel, and I delivered thee out of the hand of Saul:
- 9 Wherefore hast thou despised the commandment of the LORD, to do evil in his sight?...

- 10 Now therefore the sword shall never depart from thine house; because thou hast despised me, and hast taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be thy wife.
- 12 For thou didst it secretly: but I will do this thing before all Israel, and before the sun.
- 13 And 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.

The Message: Because Nathan was tactful with what he said, he was able to help David see his sin so that David could repent of it.

#### Questions:

- 1. To whom did God send Nathan?
- 2. To whom did Nathan compare David?
- 3. How did David feel about the rich man?
- 4. Of what punishment did David believe the rich man was worthy?
- 5. What had David taken from another man?
- 6. Was Nathan able to get David to see himsel?
- 7. Did David freely admit that he had sinned?
- 8. Why was David's child to die?
- 9. Discuss ways to tell, in a tactful way, a truth that might hurt.

#### Verse to Memorize

A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver. Proverbs 25:11.



King David felt terrible because he had secretly sinned. That made him feel horrid. Now he was sure it would not be hidden long. Others were going to find out the terrible thing he had done. How could he cover it up? What could he do so no one would find out?

He had already tried something which he thought would solve the problem, but it hadn't worked. What else could he do?

David thought and thought. He thought of many things, but none of them would keep his sin covered, except one. It would be a terrible thing to do. He didn't want to do such an evil thing. He thought many more hours. Finally he made a plan to have someone else accidently do what he could not make himself do, and which he believed needed to be done.

He wrote a letter to Captain Joab and sent it with Uriah, who was returning to the battle. The letter said, "Set Uriah in the front of the hottest battle, and retire ye from him, that he may be hit and die."

Uriah faithfully carried the letter to Captain Joab without once suspecting that it was for his death.

Days later King David received a letter from Captain Joab. David trembled as he read the letter. It said, "Some men went out and fought with Joab, and some died. Uriah also died."

David breathed a sigh of relief. He thought now that no one could find out about his sin.

Soon the news reached Uriah's wife. She was expecting a baby, and was very, very sad. She cried and cried. She was beautiful, and David wanted her to be his wife. However, he could not marry her as long as Uriah lived. Now Uriah was dead, so he could have the woman he had been having a secret love affair with. David sent for her, and she became his wife.

Months and months passed. David thought he had covered his sin well. No one seemed to know what he had done. God, however, did know and He was not pleased. God had given David many months to repent of this evil, but David had not repented.

God told Nathan the prophet, to go speak with David about his sin. That is when Nathan came and tactfully told David the story of a wealthy men who had many, many sheep. One day a guest came and the rich man took the only sheep of his poor neighbor and had it killed and cooked to serve his guest.

David cried, "That man shall give the poor man four sheep in its place, and he shall be put to death, because he is cruel and had no pity!"

Then Nathan tactfully explained to David how he had had poor Uriah killed and had taken his wife. "You have been just as evil as the rich man in this story."

"Yes, I have sinned. I have sinned," David cried. How much better he felt now that he had repented of his sin.

"God will punish you," said Nathan. "Some of your children shall rise up against you. Others will steal your wives. But you shall not die."

-Charlotte Huskey

God wants us to be tactful.

my wicked ways in deep repentance, and I became a Christian."

This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief." I Timothy 1:15.

"Cast thy bread upon the waters: for thou shalt find it after many days." Ecclesiastes 11:1. —Selected

# The Red Boy

"The Red Boy" is the name of a famous and lovely picture by the great artist, Sir Thomas Lawrence. It is so-called because of the boy's pretty red suit. Although it was painted more than a century ago, the colors are as radiant as when they were first painted.

The handsome boy in the picture was Charles William Lambton, son of the Earl of Durham. He was just nine years old when the picture was painted. Sad to say, he did not long survive for he died at the age of 13. The brilliant artist also died about the same time.

The picture measures 541/2 by 431/2 inches and when painted cost the Lambton family something over \$3000.00. But a century later the sum of \$475,000.00 was offered for it. The offer was refused.

Many a sympathetic heart has been touched by the fact that "The Red Boy" died so young. In spite of his gentle birth, his parents' loving care, his wealthy circumstances and splendid prospects in life, death claimed him at an early age. Death is no respecter of persons. It claims young and old, rich and poor alike, and we are born with the stamp of death already upon us.

When the Lord Jesus was upon earth, He was saddened by the fact that a young girl, an only daughter, about twelve years old had died. Her father was a ruler in the synagogue and he pleaded with the Lord Jesus to make his little girl better. The Lord Jesus gladly responded and went with the father to his home. On the way

they were met by a messenger who said, "Thy daughter is dead, trouble not the Master."

The poor father was heart-broken but Jesus said to him, "Fear not; believe only, and she shall be made whole."

When they got to the house Jesus took the little girl by the hand and said, "Maid, arise!" As she stirred from her strange sleep and opened her eyes, the first thing she saw was the dear face of the Saviour, the Friend of children. He then told her parents to give her something to eat— He knew what she needed. You can read the whole story yourself in Luke 8:41-56.

Because the Lord Jesus died for our sins on the cross and by the power of God rose again from the dead, He has taken the sting out of death for everyone who trusts Him as their Saviour. So now when a Christian passes away we can say he or she has "fallen asleep" in Jesus. One day soon when He comes and raises from the dead those who have died in faith, they shall all hear that voice of power and awake to see His blessed face.

Seeing then that time is so uncertain, that life at best is very brief, how needful that we should trust in Jesus NOW, while we are young. He loves all boys and girls, and grown-ups too, just as He did when on earth. He is waiting to give you a loving welcome if you will come to Him now and take Him as your own personal Saviour.

—Taken from "Messages Of The Love Of God."

[Answers: 1. To King David. 2. To a rich man who had many sheep, yet took away a poor man's only sheep.
3. David was very angry at the rich man. 4. David said the man must die. 5. The man's only wife. 6. Yes.
7. Yes. 8. Because David's deed could give reason for others to blaspheme. 9. Answers will vary.)





Vol. 44, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 10 Mar. 7, 1993

# The Animal Nurse

Judy was ready for school when she asked her mother if she could go to Mrs. Gray's in the afternoon.

"Why do you want to go there, Judy?" Mother asked, while putting the breakfast dishes away.

"Oh, I love to go down there to watch her fix the animals and birds," Judy answered. She is so kind and loving to them and sometimes she lets me help her."

"I guess you can go, but try not to get in the way." Mother said as Judy run out the door to catch the bus. Judy was happy.

After school Judy walked along with some of the other girls. "I don't know why you like to go in that place," one of the girls mentioned, "all those hurt animals and birds."

"Where does she get these birds and things?" Marsha asked. "Who cares about them anyway?"

"I do," Judy said, "I feel sorry for them. Sometimes people find them along the road and bring them in. Other times hunters find them when someone has shot them and left them to die because they don't want to bother with them."

"That is cruel," one of the girls said, "they shouldn't do that. I

didn't know that was happening. But why do you want to go there so much?"

"I enjoy seeing the little ones fixed up. When they are well again, she lets them go free. Mrs. Gray is so gentle and compassionate with them. She has a true love for the little creature," Judy said as she turned in at the gate at Mrs. Gray's home. I wonder if she has any new ones today, Judy wondered as she rang the doorbell.

"Hi, Judy," Mrs. Gray said, as she opened the door. "I'm so glad you came today. I want to show you what a hunter found in the woods."

"Whatever can it be?" Judysaid, while taking off her coat. She was anxious to see what it was that made Mrs. Gray so excited.

"Wait until you see," Mrs Gray said. They walked to the back of her house with Judy following close behind. "I had to get special permission to keep him."

"It's a baby raccoon," Judy exclaimed. "What has happened to his leg? Is it broken?"

"Yes, it's broken. A couple of boys found it in the Willow Creek woods," Mrs. Gray told Judy while



# The Good Samaritan

### Luke 10:25-37

25 And, behold, a certain lawyer stood up, and tempted him, saying, Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?
26 He said unto him. What is written

in the law? how readest thou?

27 And he answering said, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself.

**28** And he said unto him, Thou hast answered right: this do, and thou shall live.

29 But he, willing to justify himself, said unto Jesus, And who is my neighbour?

30 And Jesus answering said, A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, which stripped him of his raiment, and wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead.

31 And by chance there came down a certain priest that way: and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side.

**32** And likewise a Levite, when he was at the place, came and looked on him, and passed by on the other side.

33 But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was: and when he saw him, he had compassion on him.

34 And went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him.

35 And on the morrow when he departed, he took out two pence, and gave them to the host, and said unto him, Take care of him; and whatsoever thou

spendest more, when I come again, I will repay thee.

36 Which now of these three, thinkest thou, was neighbour unto him that fell among the thieves?

37 And he said, He that shewed mercy on him. Then said Jesus unto him, Go, and do thou likewise.

### Psalms 145:8

The LORD is gracious, and full of compassion; slow to anger, and of great mercy.

### I Peter 3:8

Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous.

The Message: The good Samaritan had compassion and helped the wounded man. The Levite and the priest had no compassion.

### Questions:

- 1. What did the lawyer ask Jesus?
- 2. What must the lawyer do to obtain eternal life?
- 3. What happened to the man as he traveled to Jericho?
- 4. How did the priest show his lack of compassion?
- 5. How did the Levite show a lack of compassion?
- 6. How did the Samaritan show compassion?
- 7. Would a sense of duty cause a man to help others?
- 8. Explain the difference between duty and compassion.
- 9. Are you consistently showing compassion toward others?

### Verse To Memorize

Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous. I Peter 3:8.



Carrie ran through the woods almost dragging John and Tom behind her. "Hurry, boys," she said, "We've got to get to Mason's cabin and save the girls. The forest is burning in that direction. Mrs. Mason is in town today. I heard Mary say that she had to hurry home and take care of Marian while her parents were gone."

Smoke made breathing so difficult that Carrie and the boys held their heads low and sometimes they had to get their faces almost to the ground to get a good breath of air.

"There is the lake," she called, rushing the boys to it. "Wade out a little and get cooled off. Now drink, and lay down on the bank. If the fire gets too close, carefully go out into the water and stay there. Don't try to go home, and don't leave the lake." After getting herself a good drink, she sped off toward Mason's cabin.

Wind was blowing the fire toward the cabin. Before entering the clearing around the cabin, she could hear Mary and Marian screaming. Scooping up the bucket of water she drank her fill then washed her hot face, feet and legs. Lowering it into the well she tested the depth of the water. "Not very deep," she reasoned. Her eyes darted around searching for the wood pile. Hurriedly she carried an arm load and threw it into the well. then another and another. Within minutes, another lowering of the bucket told her that the well was a safe refuge for the girls.

Now she tore quilts from the beds

and threw them into the well.

Sparks were falling all around her. Dashing into the house she wet her cape. Using it as an umbrella, she led the girls to the well. She put the older girl, Mary, in the bucket and lowered her down into the darkness. Next, she lowered screaming Marian. Then she unwound the rope and made sure it was securely tied to the metal windlass at the top of the well.

As she carefully climbed down the rope, she glanced back at the cabin. The roof was already burning.

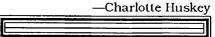
Toward evening the next day, the three girls were discovered in the well.

Carrie's heart of compassion had caused her to risk her own life to save the lives of two little boys and two small girls.

We may not have the opportunity to do such a great deed, but if we have a heart of compassion and will keep attentive to the needs of others, we will find many chances to help others.

Should a child feel sorry and try to comfort another child whose pet has been hurt? What if the pet is a cat and you hate cats; or a snake and you are so afraid of snakes, you wish they were all dead? After someone has done something mean to us, can God give us a feeling of love and compassion for them when they are hurting? Yes, God is so powerful that He can give us a feeling of compassion even for our enemies. The Samaritan people were not treated good by the Jews, but the good Samaritan man in the Bible story had compassion for the Jewish man who was hurt by the robbers.

Let's ask God to give us this kind of compassion. Okay?



opening the cage so Judy could hold the little creature. "The boys know that I want to help these little ones, so they brought him here. I think it was caught in a trap of some kind."

"It is so sweet," Judy was saying as she cuddled it. "Look, it's black mask makes him look like a bandit. Do you think his leg will heal right?"

"I think it has a good chance of mending properly," Mrs. Gray said. "I don't think it was in the trap very long before the boys found it."

Judy stayed around helping as much as she could, cleaning up around, and one time Mrs. Gray let her take care of a little baby robin's wing that had been broken. Judy liked to do that kind of work.

"May I bring some of my friends if they should want to, after school?" Judy asked. She thought Marsha and some of the others would like to see the little raccoon, then maybe they will appreciate Mrs. Gray's compassion and loving care.

A couple of days later, Judy came with some of her girlfriends. Mrs. Gray welcomed them, showing them to the back rooms of her house.

"Look," exclaimed Marsha, "here is a squirrel. It has something wrong with it's front paw. Poor little thing looks so sad. Do you think it is hurting real bad?"

"No, I don't think it is suffering now," Judy said. "This was brought in last week and it's pretty well healed by now. Did you see our little raccoon?"

The girls gave a little squeal of delight when they saw him. He was doing fine now. He hobbled a little on his one stiff leg, but the cast on his leg didn't seem to hinder him in getting around.

The next day after school the girls wanted to go back to see the baby raccoon. It was such a cute little creature of the woods. After seeing Mrs. Gray's compassion and love with them, they understood better why Judy liked to be around her. Although most folks take no heed to these things, they also wanted to do more in helping and caring for them.

One day they went with Judy and discovered the raccoon missing. "Oh, we let him loose in the Willow Creek woods the other day. We don't keep them any longer than necessary. He was doing so good. We always want to get them back as soon as possible. That way they can get to their own kind. It is easier for them to adjust again."

-Sis. Dorothy Wilkins

Answers: 1. "What must I do to inherit eternal life?" 2. "Love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself." 3. He was robbed and beaten until. half dead. 4. He ignored the wounded man, passing on the otherside, 5. He also passed on the other side after looking at the man. 6. He helped the man. Yes. 8. Actions of compassion come from a feeling of love. Actions of duty come from a feeling of being forced to do. something 9. Answers will vary. Let's all ask God for more compassion.





Vol. 44, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 11 Mar. 14, 1993

# A Happy Day

"Come on Mary," called Martha, as she shrugged into her warm fluffy parka, "Let's walk to the nursing home this afternoon to visit Grandma." It had been a hard, cold, blustery winter this year and Martha thought today was such a beautiful sunshiny day, just right for walking.

"Martha, why do we have to go to the nursing home today?" grumbled Mary. "I can think of a lot of other things I'd rather do than visit old folks. I'd rather go see one of our friends and have some fun."

Mary and Martha were sixteen year old twin daughters of Bro. and Sis. Delson. They were both saved and loved the Lord. It seemed that everywhere one of the girls went the other went too. They enjoyed doing things together, so it was strange that Mary didn't want to go along with Martha.

"That's just the reason that we need to visit Grandma," replied Martha, "and maybe we could cheer up some of the others too."

"Oh, I know," Mary exclaimed, "it would be hard to be there."

"Come on, let's go, but we need to tell Mother where we are going." Martha said. Mary was putting on her parka too. They found Mother in the kitchen getting ready to bake a cake. "Well, I think it would be nice to have prayer before you go," Mother said, "Don't you think so?" They all knelt and asked God to make them a blessing and that they might be blessed too. After prayer Mother asked, "Why not take some of these freshly baked cookies with you?"

"Thanks, Mom. These are the kind that Grandma likes best of all," the girls said as they walked out the door.

"Grandma has always been special to me," said Martha, as they walked the four blocks to the nursing home.

"Me too. Remember that time we both needed an extra special dress for our school play?" recalled Mary. "She worked so hard and even into the night sewing them."

"Yes, and how she cared for us when Mother was sick and even when we were sick with the measles," added Martha. "She certainly has been a real grandma to us." Grandma Delson had come to live with them so long ago that the girls could hardly remember when she hadn't been with them. Now she was in the nursing home because she had a stroke. Mother was unable to care for her anymore. It was a hard decision to make. Mom and Dad thought she



# Love

**New Words:** 1. *Dwell* means to live. 2. *Slay* means to kill.

# I Kings 3:16-27

16 Then came there two women, that were harlots, unto [Solomon] 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 in the house.

19 And this woman's child died in the night; because she overlaid it.
20 And she arose at midnight, and took my son from beside me,...and laid it in her bosom, and laid her dead child in my bosom.

21 And when I rose in the morning to give my child suck, behold, it was dead: but when I had considered it in the morning, behold, it was not my son, which I did bear.

22 And the other woman said, Nay; but the living is my son, and the dead is thy son. And this said, No; but the dead is thy son, and the living is my son. Thus they spake before the king.

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** And the king said, Bring me a sword. And 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... 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.

# 

The Message: When a person loves another, he or she will sacrifice for the one he loves.

### Questions:

- 1. Who came to King Solomon?
- 2. What had recently happened to these women?
- 3. Did the two women live together?
- 4. Why had the women come?
- 5. What did King Solomon say would solve the problem?
- 6. Who wanted the problem solved in the King's way?
- 7. Who cried, "Give the child to her, but don't kill it?"
- 8. Why did the mother say, "Don't kill the child?"
- 9. Can love be tested by seeing who is willing to sacrifice?

# Verse to Memorize

Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. John 15:13.



"Oh Mother, do I have to go? I'm so afraid."

"You must go, Leaping One. You are the only son of your father, and the only grandson of your great-grandfather Chief Hunting Bird. If you do not become a brave, the family name will be forever forgotten."

"My arrowheads are not strong. They would not kill a wild beast."

"Here, take this arrowhead. It has killed much game, big game."

Leaping One walked slowly away to the forest. He was twelve years old; old enough to join the men on hunting trips, but first he must prove himself by killing a forest animal and spending a night alone in the woods. His father had died when he was three, so he knew nothing about hunting, or protecting himself against wild beasts.

All day long he trudged through the forest. He spotted a few quail, a jack rabbit and a turkey. He aimed at the turkey, but it flew away before he could shoot. "If I could kill the white panther that roams this forest, I would be a great brave and our next chief," he thought. "But my arrows...then he remembered. He felt in his pouch. Yes, there was the arrowhead carved with an "H". It had killed much game.

That night Leaping One climbed into a big tree. He watched the moon rise over the forest. He heard the owls hooting, the doves cooing, and twigs breaking, perhaps under foot of a huge bear or a tiger smelling him out for their breakfast. He trembled.

Morning finally came. Leaping One munched the parched corn his mother had sent, while the sun warmed his chilled body. Suddenly, he saw a streak of white. Motionless he watched as the white panther came from behind a big

rock. It looked around then darted away.

Leaping One slid down the tree and started after the panther. All day long he scouted the woods, following the panther.

Tired, hungry, and discouraged Leaping One climbed a tree to rest. He sat on the limb a long time trying to decide whether to go home and disgrace his family, or stay another night.

Darkness was creeping over the forest when he saw the white panther coming slowly toward him.

He aimed his bow and waited. Closer and closer it came. He shot. The panther fell dead.

He dragged the panther toward their camp until dark. Fearing he would loose his way in the darkness, he hoisted it into the tree using his raw-hide rope as a pulley. Tonight he was not afraid. How could the next chief be afraid?

When he awoke the next morning the panther was gone! The rope had been cut. The flattened grass showed where someone had dragged it. He followed the trail to the edge of the forest near his camp. Someone of his tribe had stolen the panther.

As he neared the camp he smelled food, heard music, and laughter.

"Why the music?" Leaping One asked his mother at the tepee door.

"Shining Star has killed the white panther. We shall have a feast. "But, ...Mother, I - I- I killed the white panther."

"You my son?"

"How could it be?"

"With the arrowhead of Chief Hunting Bird, I killed it." Then he told her what had happened.

"If Shining One is a thief he will not make a good chief. Our tribe would suffer. I will tell this."

"You will be killed, if you cannot prove that I killed it," he cautioned.

"The Great Spirit will help me. I risk my life for my love for you and our tribe," she said, and disappeared.

Two hours later she came back with many braves and the arrowhead with an "H" carved on it.

Leaping One became the next chief.

—Charlotte Huskey

would get better care in the nursing home, so they chose one that was a short distance from their home. There she could be visited as often as possible.

"Martha, remember the little old lady in the home that always seemed to be so cheerful?" Mary asked.

"Sure I do. She always made me happy just to be around her," Martha answered.

"I heard that she never has company. I wonder why? Let's visit with her and see if we can find out."

When they entered the home Martha cried, "Oh look, there's the little lady we were talking about."

As they came up to her, she gave them a bright smile and said, "Good afternoon girls. I see you here often and I know you visit you grandmother. She is always happy to see you."

"Yes, and we have noticed you too," the girls said, "We like your bright smile. Here are some cookies for you. What is your name?"

"My name is Agnes Granowsky, and thanks for these cookies. Did you bake them?"

"No, Mother baked them. They are Grandma's favorite," Martha told her.

"We have noticed that you never have company," Mary inquired.

"No, I don't have company," Mrs Granowsky said. "My children all live so far away they can't visit very much. I don't have friends here because I'm from another town," Mrs. Granowsky replied.

"Well, then we'll stop and visit you when we visit Grandma," the girls exclaimed. "Would you like that?"

"Oh, please do. I love to see your happy faces. I'd really love that."

The girls visited for a while and were blessed by the stories she told

about her teen-age years. She was also a Christian, and the girls were blessed as they went on to visit Grandma.

She was sitting in her wheelchair by the window. "Hi Grandma, how are you today?" Mary asked. "You sure look pretty in your new robe."

"Thank you, girls," Grandma exclaimed, "I feel lovely in it too. I'm so happy that you came to visit."

"Grandma, we love you so much and we always go home more blessed than before we came," Martha said. "Here are some cookies we brought. Mother sent them and they are your favorites." They chatted with Grandma until she grew weary. They called the nurse and helped put her to bed.

"I'm so glad we went today," Mary told Martha. "I am sorry I grumbled about going. I'm sure nothing that I could have done today would have brought such a blessing."

"Yes, whenever we try to give our love to others we always receive much more love in return," Martha said.

"Let's stop for an ice cream cone," the girls said in unison, and that's exactly want they did. They felt so good walking in the brisk fresh air. God had really been good to them in so many ways.

--Sis. Dorothy Wilkins

# 

(Answers: 1. Two mothers: 2. Each had given birth to sons: 3. Yes: 4. Because one boy had died, and both women claimed the living son as hers: 5. To divide the boy and give each woman half of him: 6. The woman who was not the mother: 7. The baby's mother: 8. Because she was his mother and had a mother's love for the child: 9, Yes;



Vol. 44, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 12 Mar. 21, 1993

# **Stopping Gossip**

Ted and Jack were hurrying towards the ball field. They were late because after school Ted had to help his mother. Ted's dad had died several years before, so Ted felt responsible to help his mother, his brother Mark and two sisters, Joy and Clara. He loved them very much and wanted only the best for them, so there were times that he wasn't able to play with the fellows after school.

"I'm sure glad that you could play ball with us today," Jack told Ted as they made their way to play ball. "You're the best catcher that we have. Now we have a good chance of winning."

"Oh, I don't know about that, but I sure like to play whenever I can," answered Ted. "The fellows are good to wait for me when I have errands to do for Mother. Today was especially important for her. It is one of her newest customers and she wanted it delivered perfectly and on time." Ted's mother was a seamstress and a very efficient one. She was much in demand, so it kept her very busy. She liked Ted to deliver her garments, as she knew that all would be right when they got to her customer. Her younger son, Mark, liked to help

also, but he was too young to go very far from home.

"Have you heard about Phil and the things that he did?" asked Jack.

"No, what ever did he do?" exclaimed Ted, "I can't imagine Phil doing anything that would be bad."

"Well, different ones said that he was with a gang of boys the other night," Jack told Ted. "They were caught in a store stealing some records."

"I don't believe that Phil would be anywhere around where there was mischief being done," said Ted. "And I'd be careful about telling that story. It would be much better to keep it to yourself. After all, it might not even be true."

They finally reached the park, and the boys were all practicing while waiting for Ted and Jack to come. What a good time they all had. Ted and Jack's team didn't win, but that made little difference. The enjoyment of being together and having fun was enough for each of them.

It was getting late so the boys left quickly so as to be home before dark. In Ted and Jack's neighborhood, dads and moms wanted their boys in the house when darkness fell. It is a good idea these days.

On the way some of the fellows started to talk about what they had



Joshua 6:2-5, 8, 10-11, 14-16, 20 2 ...The LORD said unto Joshua, See, I have given into thine hand Jericho...

- 3 And ye shall...go round about the city once. Thus shalt thou do six days.
- 4 And...the seventh day ye shall compass the city seven times,...
- 5 And it shall come to pass, that when they make a long blast with the ram's horn, and when ye hear the sound of the trumpet, all the people shall shout with a great shout; and the wall of the city shall fall down flat...
- 8 And it came to pass, when Joshua had spoken unto the people, that the seven priests bearing the seven trumpets of rams' horns passed on before the LORD, and blew with the trumpets...
- 10 And Joshua had commanded the people, saying, Ye shall not shout nor make any noise with your voice, neither shall any word proceed out of your mouth, until the day I bid you shout; then shall ye shout.
- 11 So the ark of the LORD compassed the city, going about it once: and they came into the camp, and lodged in the camp.
- 14 And the second day they compassed the city once, and returned into the camp: so they did six days.
- 15 And it came to pass on the seventh day, that they rose early about the dawning of the day, and compassed the city after the same manner seven times: only on that day they compassed the city seven times.

16 And it came to pass at the seventh time, when the priests blew with the trumpets, Joshua said unto the people, Shout; for the LORD hath given you the city.

20 So the people shouted when the priests blew with the trumpets: and it came to pass, when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, and the people shouted with a great shout, that the wall fell down flat, so that the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and they took the city.

The Message: Many important things have been gained by a person keeping silent.

### Questions:

- 1. What had God given Joshua?
- 2. Were any noisy weapons to be used in this battle?
- 3. What were the people not to do while marching around the city?
- 4. What did Joshua command the people? (verse 10)
- 5. How many times were these silent people to march around this great city?
- 6. What was their signal to shout?
- 7. Do you think it was easy for this large multitude to walk around the city in silence?
- 8. Do you think these children had already learned to be quiet when told to do so?
- 9. Are you silent when you are asked to be quiet?

#### Verse to Memorize

Better is an handful with quietness, than both the hands full with travail and vexation of spirit. Ecclesiastes 4:6.



Why do I have to get up now?" asked John.

"The soldiers may come anytime. Often they come in the night, thinking they can catch us while we are asleep. We must practice making our beds in the dark and getting into the hiding place quickly and without making any noise," Father explained. "If we can get into the hiding room and remain there without making a sound, we can escape being taken to prison camp, or maybe escape being killed. A Jew never knows what will happen to him if he is caught by Hitler's soldiers."

"Hurry now," Mother was coaching little Besheeba, "slip on your coat and take your pillow. You will need it when we stay in the hide-out a long time.

"Turn the mattress over," she said to John. "They will feel the beds. If the mattress is warm, they will know someone has been sleeping on it. Quiet, though, don't let the springs squeak, or let it fall noisily."

John flipped the mattress and straightened the bed covers. He hurried to the door and was placing one foot inside the door when big Mr. Smith stepped on his other foot. John fell against the door making the wall creak and groan.

"We must be more careful," cautioned Mr. Smith, who remained firmly planted on John's toes. "We sound more like a herd of stampeding cows than a group of quiet mice."

"Say, what's the hold up?" he asked pushing gently on John.

"Nothing, except you are standing on my foot, and I can't take another step."

"Pardon me," he said jumping aside, and knocking over Mr. Mark who was behind him. "I must be more careful." "I think we had better try this practice again," suggested Mr. Mark, as he got up from the floor.

"Yes," Father agreed and everyone obediently went back to their beds. Mr. Smith and Mr. Mark clumped back down the stairs to their narrow bunks in the little room off the kitchen that had once served as the family pantry.

John had just gotten settled under his warm cover when he heard a loud knock at the front door. Seconds later he heard the alarm sound. "I think it's for real this time," Father whispered. A cold shiver went down John's spine. Would they get into the hiding place before the soldiers found them?

In a flash John heard the stairs squeaking as the men came quickly up.

He heard the house owner, Mr. Laster, calling sleepily, "Whose knocking?"

"Open the door, before we break it down," a man's loud voice answered back.

Mr. Laster, still sounding very sleepy, answered back, "I'm coming." John knew he was stalling to give them time.

John hurried with coat in hand to the hiding place. He squeezed in the door behind Mr. Smith. Uncle Jonah, Aunt Ester and their three children were right behind him.

Just then he heard Paul, the German boy who worked for Mr. Laster, pushing the heavy chest of drawers in front of the door to hide it. John heard heavy foot steps coming up the stairs. At the same moment, he heard the bed moving and he knew that Paul was jumping in bed.

Suddenly, Mr. Smith took a step backward. Again his foot landed on John's foot. John bit his lip to keep from crying out. He wiggled his foot trying to get it from under Mr. Smith's big one.

"What's that noise?" demanded a gruff voice on the other side of the wall.

John stood still. Pain shot up his leg. Tears came to his eyes, but he dared not move. Prison camp or being shot would hurt more than being stepped on. "Jehovah, help me," he prayed silently. Yes, very silently, for his life and the life of all those in the hiding room depended on being silent.

-Charlotte Huskey

heard about Phil. Ted told them that it would be better not to tell things they weren't absolutely sure of. Most of the boys continued to talk about it though, and that hurt Ted.

"Mom," questioned Ted, "isn't it better to keep quiet about others when they are being talked about?"

"Yes, Ted," Mother said, "You never know how much hurt can be done by talking about others, especially if it turns out to be false. Why, what's the trouble?"

"Oh, Jack and some of the others were telling of what they heard about Phil," replied Ted. "I told them that it would be better not to talk about it. But some went right on talking."

"You didright, Son," Mother said, as she laid down the skirt she had been hemming, "and I'm proud of you. Just think how you would feel if you were the one being talked about. Whether the story was right or wrong, it's much better not to be a party to such talk. I've been taught that if you can't tell good about someone, it's better not to say anything."

The next day at school Jack came to Ted. "I'm really sorry that I talked about Phil yesterday. It's like you said, 'it might not be true'. And it wasn't true at all."

"I know," agreed Ted, "I heard about it this morning. Poor Phil. I'm sure he is really hurt. Maybe we can go to him and comfort him in some way."

"Yeah, I know," exclaimed Jack, "and I for one owe him an apology. Ted, I learned my lesson about talking about others. From now on I'm trying to do my best not to go around saying things that might not be true."

Later in the day, on the way from school Ted and Jack saw Phil. "Let's catch up," the boys said. "Phil, wait up for us," and the boys started to run.

The first thing Jack said, "I'm truly sorry for talking about you. Ted was telling all of us to be careful and not say things that we weren't really sure of. I should have known that you wouldn't be mixed up with anything like that."

Phil was encouraged that Ted and Jack were there with him. Some of the boys that he had been friends with most of his life ignored him. "I know it looked bad," Phil told them, "but I just happened to be walking past the store as the police came in answer to the security system. Because I was young they thought I was one of them. It sure was a scary time for me. I know one thing, I'm going to be mighty careful from now on about where I go and those that I stay around."

"That goes for all of us," all three boys agreed. They were so happy that this trouble was behind them and they had learned good lessons.

"When is the next ball game?" Phil asked. He knew that everything would be alright now. All his friends would know the truth and they would all be friends again.

-Sis. Dorothy Wilkins

[Answers: 1. The city of Jericho 2. No. 3. They were not to make any noise. 4. "Ye shall not shout nor make any noise with your voice, neither shall any word proceed out of your mouth, until the day I bid you." 5. One time each day for six days, and seven times the seventh day. 6. When the priest made a long biast with the ram's horn. 7. No. 8. Yes. 9. If you could not answer yes, I hope you will soon learn to be quiet when asked to do so.)



Vol. 44, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 13 Mar. 28, 1993

# A Trip To The Farm

"Whoopee," exclaimed Craig jubilantly as he tossed his cap in the air, "School's out for the Easter break and it won't be long until Robert and I can go to Grandpa and Grandma's for a vacation. Robert was Craig's younger brother; there were just two years difference in their ages. So they played and enjoyed about the same things. Wherever you would find Craig, Robert would be close by. If you would see Robert, you would know Craig was around somewhere.

Grandpa and Grandma lived on a big farm with cows, chickens, pigs and all the other animals found on a farm. Craig and Robert loved helping Grandpa with the chores, and they sure enjoyed Grandma's delicious meals and especially her desserts. Grandma would be getting the ground ready for her garden. It was hard work and they knew she appreciated them doing the work for her. Besides, they liked eating the vegetables that grew in that garden when they came during the summer.

"I sure will be glad when Dad gets offthis weekend," remarked Craig, "He'll be able to take us to the farm."

"Yes, I can hardly wait," Robert agreed. "But while we are waiting maybe we can do some things to help Mother. The other night I heard her telling Dad that the garage needed cleaning but she didn't think she could get it done

before they took us to the farm," Robert said.

"I think Mom goes to prayer meeting Wednesday afternoon," Craig said, "and then to the nursing home with some of the ladies. Do you think we could get it done then and surprise her?"

"I don't know, but we sure could try," Robert told Craig.

Wednesday after school the boys could hardly wait until Mother was on her way to prayer meeting so they could get at their plans for the afternoon. It would take quite a while and they wanted to be done before Mom got home. They worked hard for several hours, lugging things out, sweeping, and sorting what they could. By the time Mother got home it really looked neat. As Mom drove into the garage she certainly was surprised alright.

"Craig and Robert, did you boys clean this garage?" she asked. They knew that she was glad to have that job done.

"Yes, we're the ones," both boys chorused. Friday finally came. The boys had been packing all week, trying to decide what they needed to take and what they should leave home. "We sure need to take our fishing things," Robert said.

"That's right," Craig agreed. "I can hardly wait to get my fect in the creek. I wonder if that big fish will still be there. I'd love to catch it."



# Isaac's Wells

Genesis 26: 12, 15-25, 32

12 Then Isaac sowed in that land, and received in the same year an hundredfold: and the LORD blessed him.
15 For all the wells which his father's servants had digged in the days of Abraham his father, the Philistines had stopped them, and filled them with earth.

16 And Abimelech said unto Isaac, Go from us; for thou art much mightier than we.

17 And Isaac departed thence, and pitched his tent in the valley of Gerar, and dwelt there.

18 And Isaac digged again the wells of water, which they had digged in the days of Abraham his father; for the Philistines had stopped them after the death of Abraham: and he called their names after the names by which his father had called them.

19 And Isaac's servants digged in the valley, and found there a well of springing water.

20 And the herdmen of Gerar did strive with Isaac's herdmen, saying. The water is ours: and he called the name of the well Esek; because they strove with him.

21 And they digged another well, and strove for that also: and he called the name of it Sitnah.

22 And he removed from thence, and digged another well; and for that they strove not: and he called the name of it Rehoboth; and he said, For now the LORD hath made room for us, and we shall be fruitful in the land.

23 And he went up from thence to Beer-sheba.

24 And the LORD appeared unto him the same night, and said, I am the God of Abraham thy father: fear not, for I am with thee, and will bless thee, and multiply thy seed for my servant Abraham's sake.

25 And he builded an altar there, and called upon the name of the LORD, and pitched his tent there: and there Isaac's servants digged a well.

32 And it came to pass the same day, that Isaac's servants came, and told him concerning the well which they had digged, and said unto him, We have found water.

The Message: Isaac was tolerant when he let the Philistines take away his father's wells. God blessed him to become rich without the water from the wells.

# Questions:

- 1. What had happened to the wells of Isaac and Abraham?
- 2. Why did Abimelech ask Isaac to leave?
- 3. Who had made Isaac so mighty?
- 4. What happened to the wells after Isaac dug them again?
- 5. What did God promise Isaac after being robbed of the third well?
- 6. Did Isaac show tolerance by not fighting the men who took his wells?
- What did Jesus say we should do when others hurt us? (memory verse)
- 8. Do you take from others who take from you?
- 9. Do you hurt again those who hurt you?

Ye have heard that it hath been said, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth: But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also. Matthew 5:38, 39.



God blessed Isaac to become a mighty man even though his enemies had filled his wells with dirt, so that he and his father could not draw water for their cattle from the wells. Later when his father was dead, Isaac re-dug these wells. But enemies took the wells for their own. Although these wells were his and had been in his family for many years, Isaac did not fight over them. He moved on to another place and dug another well. This well had plenty of water. God continued to bless Isaac.

Many a person has been blessed because they have been kind to enemies instead of fighting with them. The following story shows how God blessed Lisa.

"Look," Lisa called to John, "Someone has fallen at the edge of the woods. I just saw him, a tall bronze colored bare-backed man."

"Just a sly old Indian, coming around to spy. Leave him there to die. That will be his pay for coming around to scalp us white folks," John answered.

"But Mother says we must help all who need help, even our enemies," Lisa retorted, with a look of compassion on her face. "That's one of God's great commands."

"No, it's not," John reproved. "The command is to love thy neighbor as thyself. It says nothing about loving enemies that steal our horses, burn innocent folk's homes, and scalp men hunting for food."

John picked up his homemade hoe, then shouldered his father's old gun and said. "I'll be hoeing in the corn on the other side of the woods. Be mighty careful. There may be other Indians lurking in the brush." Lisa scanned the woods for Indians as she watched her brother leave. She trembled as she bolted the door. Mother and Father wouldn't be home for three days. John would be gone until sundown. How lonely she felt.

All morning she thought about the fallen Indian. Was he still there? Was the Indian hurt? It might be a trick to get her to come out. Opening the shutter a little she saw him still lying where he had fallen.

A small voice seemed to keep saying, "Take him some food and water. Take him some food and water. He is very hot in the sun."

Her fears seemed to be saying, 'The man may raise up and get you.' 'Other Indians might come from the woods to capture you,' another voice spoke. She trembled. The good voice spoke again, 'Take him some food and water.' She knew what her mother would do.

Finally Lisa crept softly from the cabin and hurried across the clearing with bread and water. She placed it close to the Indian, then touching him she ran to the cabin and bolted the door again. The Indian aroused and drank, then ate, then lay down again.

The sun was almost setting when Lisa heard a gun shot, then a shrill scream from John. The Indian aroused, grabbed his bow and hurried away toward the noise.

In a few minutes he returned carrying John over his shoulder. John's shirt was torn and blood was dripping from his back and shoulder. "A bear, a bear attacked me." he said.

The Indian laid John on the bed, bowed his head and then looked up toward the sky. He grunted a few times while making his way out the door, then disappeared into the woods.

"Did you help the Indian?" John asked.

"Yes. He must have been faint for lack of food and water."

"He saved my life by killing the bear I tried to shoot."

—Charlotte Huskey

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"So would I. Let's see which one of us can catch him," Robert said excitedly.

"Everything and everybody ready to go?" Dad shouted when he came in from work.

"I'll get all the luggage in the trunk while you get ready," Craig said.

"Hope we can get all this in." Mom exclaimed as the boys began bringing out suitcases, boxes and sacks. "Are you sure you need all these things?"

""I'm coming with our fishing poles," Robert said. "Be sure and leave room for them."

They stopped at the lake for lunch. Dad said the boys could run along the beach while he and Mother rested for a bit. At last they were at the farm. Grandpa and Grandma were waiting for them on the porch. What a lot of hugging and loving between them, for they hadn't been together since last summer.

"Look, Robert, at the fuzzy black puppy coming up here to greet us too," Craig cried out.

"Oh, Craig, he's the cutest little thing," said Robert excitedly. "Gramps, when and where did you get such a cute dog?"

Grandpa frowned as he looked down at the little bundle of fur. "I got him from our neighbor down the road," said Grandpa, "but I'm not sure if I will keep him."

"Why not," both boys cried out in alarm.

"Because he's such a little nuisance," Grandpa answered. "I just can hardly tolerate him."

"Tolerate, what does that mean?" asked Robert.

"Well, it means I just don't have much patience with him, and I can hardly endure him any longer," Grandpa informed the boys. "In fact, if I have very much more trouble with him, I'm going to give him away."

"Oh, please don't do that Grandpa," both boys said. "We'll watch him real good, if you will just keep him. What did you name him?"

"Grandpa and I named him Fuzzy," said Grandma, "but he surely is a troublesome little dog. We decided to keep him until you boys came. Maybe you can help us keep him out of trouble."

"Whatever does he do?" Craig asked, determined to keep Fuzzy out of trouble.

"Well, he seems to be a regular little digger," Grandma told the boys, "always digging in my kitchen garden and my flower beds."

"We'll try our best to teach him to stay away from them," the boys said anxiously. "I'm sure it must have been hard to tolerate him, as much work as you have to do anyway."

The boys enjoyed being with Grandpa and Grandma, all the time helping and having fun. But they always kept a watchful eye out for Fuzzy. That wasn't very hard, because Fuzzy wanted to be wherever they were. Only one time did he get in Grandma's garden and flower bed, and the boys made him understand in no uncertain terms that he wasn't to be digging around there. By the time summer was over, Fuzzy was pretty well trained not to go around digging in places that he shouldn't be digging. They were both hoping that Grandpa would be patient with him, so when they came back next summer Fuzzy would be there waiting for them. -Sis. Dorothy Wilkins

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Answers: 1. The Philistines had filled then with earth, 2. Because isaac was mightler than he. 3. God 4. The Philistines filled them up again, 5. He promised to bless and multiply him and his chilidren, 6. Yes. 7. We should not resist them, but turn the other cheek, 8. The answer should be no. 9. The answer should be no.





Vol. 44, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 1 April 4, 1993

# A Lion At Rest

Bendigo had been left to run wild. He went barefoot till he was in his teens. He had never been in a Sunday school. No one had ever taught him about the Saviour. For many years he had run the sinful race. He learned to fight for what he wanted, and usually got it. Finally he became a great prize fighter. He was of massive frame, and when at his best, scarcely a man could stand up against him.

Prize fighting, however, has a way of destroying a man's strength. When the time came that he could no longer fight, he found it very hard to carn a living. Being left to have his own way, he did not go to school. Now when he needed a job, he didn't have the education to get one. So he gave himself over to thieving, drinking and all the evils that go with the down-grade, until he landed in prison.

The morning he was released from prison some of his old companions were waiting for him and coaxed him to come along with them. But a Christian man interposed, saying, "No, don't go, Bendigo, come along with me. I want you to hear 'Undaunted Dick' Weaver. He was a prize-fighter who has gotten saved. He will preach the gospel tonight."

Bendigo's curiosity was aroused. The news that another prize-fighter like himself had been saved and was holding a revival meeting in town interested

him. "I will go and hear him," he promised the Christian.

That night a large crowd had assembled at the gospel hall, and many were unable to get in. Seeing the well-known old prizefighter approach, a voice cried out, "Here comes old Bendigo: make way for him." The crowd made way and he was led right up to the front. There he sat on the platform beside 'Undaunted Dick' Weaver.

Mr. Weaver's theme that night was "God loves even the chief of sinners". The Spirit of God was at work, and when he was done speaking old Bendigo dropped to his knees and cried, "Oh God, if Thou can save a man like 'Undaunted Dick,' Thou can save me."

The crowd shouted, "God bless old Bendigo." Some were weeping, some laughing for joy. That night Mr. Weaver took Bendigo home with him. Bendigo took a bath and they rigged him out with a complete change of clothes including a new suit. Mrs. Weaver said: "Richard, you have brought many a rough character here, but this one seems to be the masterpiece. I'm afraid of him."

"The Lord has turned this lion into a lamb," answered Dick.

The next evening Mr. and Mrs. Weaver and a friend were in the study and Bendigo was in the living room with the Weaver's children. Interrupting the conversation, Mrs. Weaver said, "Look in the living room."



# Christ My Saviour

### Numbers 21:4-9

- 4 And they journeyed from mount Hor by the way of the Red sea, to compass the land of Edom: and the soul of the people was much discouraged because of the way.
- 5 And the people spake against God, and against Moses, Wherefore have ye brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? for there is no bread, neither is there any water; and our soul loatheth this light bread.
- 6 And the LORD sent flery serpents among the people, and they bit the people; and much people of Israel died.
- 7 Therefore the people came to Moses, and said, We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD, and against thee; pray unto the LORD, that he take away the serpents from us. And Moses prayed for the people.
- 8 And the LORD said unto Moses, Make thee a fiery serpent, and set it upon a pole: and it shall come to pass, that every one that is bitten, when he looketh upon it, shall live.
- 9 And Moses made a serpent of brass, and put it upon a pole, and it came to pass, that if a serpent had bitten any man, when he beheld the serpent of brass, he lived.

### Luke 23:35

35 And the people stood beholding. And the rulers also with them derided him, saying, He saved others; let him save himself, if he be Christ, the chosen of God.

### Luke 23:39-43

39 And one of the malefactors [or criminal] which were hanged railed

- on him, saying, If thou be Christ, save thyself and us.
- 40 But the other answering rebuked him, saying, Dost not thou fear God, seeing thou art in the same condemnation?
- **41** And we indeed justly; for we receive the due reward of our deeds: but this man hath done nothing amiss.
- **42** And he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom.
- **43** And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise.

The Message: Faith in God's plan for salvation through Christ's death on the cross will save me from eternal death and give eternal life.

# Questions:

- 1. How did God punish the people for sinning?
- 2. Why did Moses make a brass serpent?
- 3. What happened to the people who looked at the brass serpent when they were bitten?
- 4. What happened to the people who did not look up to the brass serpent when they were bitten?
- 5. The fiery serpents in the wilderness were likened unto whom?
- 6. How can a sinner be healed of sin?
- 7. How can Christians find forgiveness when they fail God?
- 8. What kind of prayer did the criminal on the cross pray?
- 9. What was the criminal's reward for believing in Jesus?

Verse to Memorize
As Moses lifted up the serpent
in the wilderness, even so
must the Son of man be lifted
up: That whosoever believeth
in him should not perish, but
have eternal life.

John 3:14-15.



The people of Israel were moving from Egypt into Canaan. They began grumbling because traveling through the wilderness area was very hard. They were tired of the kind of food that God was supplying, and water was scarce. They seemed to have forgotten all their past blessings and were thinking only of their present troubles. Are you sometimes guilty of forgetting your blessings, and thinking only about your troubles? Well, I hope not. If we do, sometimes God causes more trouble to come, so that we might realize what we are doing. That is how He taught Israel.

Because they grumbled, He sent fiery serpents among the people. The snakes bit the people and many died. Their loved ones hurried off to Moses and said, "We have sinned, for we have grumbled against God. Pray that God will take away these awful snakes."

Moses did pray. God answered. He said, "Make a snake of brass that looks like a fiery serpent, and put it on a tall pole. Tell the people when they are bitten to look up to the brass serpent, and they will not die."

Those who believed Moses' words, looked up at the brass serpent when they were bitten by the poisonous snakes that slithered around the camp. God healed those who looked up, and the poison did not kill them.

Some did not believe and would not look at the brass serpent when they were bitten. They died.

Sin is like a winged fiery serpent flying around every person. Sometimes sin bites. When it bites, it sends poison into the soul. If this poison stays in the soul, the soul will die. God knew that sin would cause death, so He prepared Christ to hang on the cross and be our healer of sin. If a person believes that trusting in Jesus will keep him from dying when sin bites, it will. If a person sins and does not look to Jesus for healing of this sin, the sin will stay in his soul and will cause eternal death to his soul.

It does not take a long prayer to get healing from Jesus. Remember the criminal hanging on a cross beside Jesus? He only said, "Remember me when you come into your kingdom."

Jesus answered, "Today you will be with me in paradise."

The criminal was healed of sin. He did not have to die. He enjoyed paradise with Jesus.

Sin will not kill the person who looks to Jesus for salvation. Why would anyone want to die from sinning, when believing in Jesus would heal the sin and give them eternal life?



Looking in they saw the children kneeling before the fire saying their bedtime prayers, and Bendigo was kneeling with them. Young Reggie was leading the others. They heard him say, "Lord, bless Daddy and Mommy."

To their astonishment Bendigo also repeated, "Lord, bless Daddy and Mommy."

Reggie then prayed for his friends, one by one and Bendigo repeated the petitions.

Then came, "Lord, bless Bendigo".
"Lord, bless Bendigo," prayed poor
Bendigo.

"They say Bendigo is a bad man, Lord," said the boy.

"They say Bendigo is a bad man, Lord, and it's true," repeated the poor man.

"But Thou can save Bendigo," said the boy.

"But Thou can save Bendigo," repeated the man.

"Thy blood was shed for Bendigo," said the boy.

"Thy blood was shed for Bendigo," repeated the man.

"Lord, save Bendigo tonight," said the boy, concluding his prayer.

"Lord, save Bendigo tonight," said Bendigo in tones of unmistakable earnestness.

When the prayer was over, Mrs. Weaver was weeping. Their friend said, "Praise the Lord!" Then they watched as the children rose from their knees and Bendigo, taking the youngest boy in his arms, carried him around the room, saying, "Oh, I wish I had been taught to pray and to love God when a child. How different my life would have been!"

Later he said to Mrs. Weaver, "God bless you, lady. Oh that I had been taught as these children are being taught. What a life I have lived!" he sighed. "But I am in heaven now."

Then the repentant prize-fighter knelt once more before the fire and sobbed like a child. The heart of a little child

was given to him, and he arose from his knees born into the family of God. The Lord took away completely Bendigo's thirst for drink.

From then on it was his delight to hear the Word of God read. He kept Reggie busy reading the Scriptures to him when he was in the Weaver's home.

When he traveled with Mr. Weaver doing gospel meetings, he always sat up on the platform with him. Some hard hearts that Dick's words could not reach would crumble when old Bendigo gave his testimony. Conviction laid hold on them and they fled for refuge to Bendigo's Saviour. To see Bendigo "clothed and in his right mind" was nothing short of a miracle of God's saving grace.

Then one day he had a fall from which he never recovered. When the news spread that Bendigo was dying, rich and poor, Christians and sinners, —for he was esteemed by all — went to see him. Among them was his friend, Harry, a former prize-fighter. He led Harry to Christ before he died.

Just before he died, Bendigo sang:
"You must be a lover of the

Or you won't go to heaven when you die."

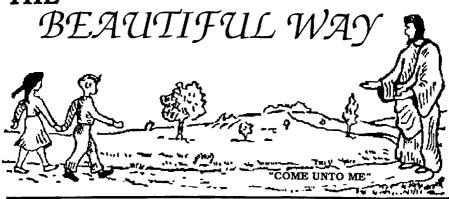
Those were his last words. Soon after, he departed to be with Christ.

His friends erected a tombstone over his grave on which the words were engraved, A LION AT REST.

—Selected from Messages of the Love of God.

(Answers: 1. He sent flery serpents into their camp. 2. So when the people were bitten they could look at the brass serpent and be healed, 3. They were healed, 4. They died, 5. Jesus, 6. By believing that Christ's death on the cross is God's plan for salvation. 7. By believing in Jesus' death on the cross. 8. He said, "Lord remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom." 9. Getting to be with Jesus in Paradise.)





Vol. 44, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 2 April 11, 1993

# "Moose"

"Moose" was a big, strong, brave fireman. He was the fire chief in the town in Ontario where he lived.

Early one morning the alarm sounded and Moose was among the first at the scene. It was a large two-story house. Smoke was pouring from the windows as Moose rushed up and forced open the front door. What a sight met his eyes! At the top of the burning staircase stood a mother holding two little children, one by each hand. Behind her was a carriage with a baby in it.

In a moment Moose was up the stairs, and picking up the terrorstricken mother in his massive arms, he threw her across his shoulders and told her to hang on. Then he snatched up the two older children, one in each arm.

But what about the baby, you ask? Turning to the carriage, he bent low and grasping the baby's clothes with his teeth, he picked her up.

Then staggering beneath his precious but heavy load, he descended the flaming stairs. Just as he reached the door the staircase collapsed behind him. He was just in time!

Thanks to the courage and bravery of Moose, all were saved from a fiery death.

This true, heroic act only recalls to mind the more glorious sacrifice of our Lord Jesus Christ. He laid down His life to save poor helpless sinners from the eternal fire of hell—because He loved us.

This world is soon to be destroyed by the awful judgment fire of God against sin. Will you be lost in a fiery death, or will you be saved. You can be saved by believing in Jesus for the cleansing of your sins. "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." I Timothy 1:15. He is the only hope of salvation, and He waits to save you.

Let us imagine what would have happened to the woman if she had not obeyed Moose. Are you obeying God? He will save if you obey. What if the woman would have been too proud to be carried over Moose's shoulder, or had no faith in him and said, "You can't carry me. I'm too big?" Many people are too proud to believe the simple message of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ.

Have you believed on Him? Come to Him now, for "He that believeth...shall be saved." Mark 16:16.

—Selected

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# Christ My Living Lord Mark 16:1-5

- 1 ...Mary Magdalene, and Mary ... bought sweet spices, that they might come and anoint him.
- 2 And...the first day of the week, they came unto the sepulchre at the rising of the sun.
- **3** And they said...Who shall roll us away the stone from the door of the sepulchre?
- 4 And when they looked, they saw that the stone was rolled away: for it was very great.
- 5 And entering into the sepulchre, they saw a young man...clothed in a long white garment;

### Luke 24:5-9

- 5 And as they were afraid, and bowed down their faces to the earth, they said unto them, Why seek ye the living among the dead?
- **6** He is not here, but is risen: remember how he spake unto you...
- 7 Saying, The Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.
  - 8 And they remembered his words.
- 9 And returned from the sepulchre, and told all these things unto the eleven, and to all the rest.

### John 20:19, 20, 24-29

- 19 Then the same day at evening...when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled...came Jesus...and saith...Peace be unto you.
- 20 And...he shewed unto them his hands and his side. Then were the disciples glad, when they saw the Lord.
  24 But Thomas....was not with them when Jesus came.

- 25 The other disciples therefore said unto him, We have seen the Lord. But he said,... Except I...put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe.
- 26 And after eight days again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them: then came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, Peace be unto you.
- 27 Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing.
- 28 And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God.
- 29 Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed.

# The Message: Jesus our Saviour was dead but is now alive and ready to help all those who believe on Him. Questions:

- 1. Why were Mary Magdelene and Mary going to the sepulchre?
- 2. What day of the week were they going?
- 3. What did the angel say to them?
- 4. When did Jesus first visit his disciples?
- 5. Did Jesus open the door and walk into the room?
- 6. Did all the disciples believe that Jesus was risen?
- 7. Why did Thomas not believe that Jesus had risen?
- 8. What did Jesus say to Thomas?
- 9. Which believers are more blessed than Thomas?

### Verse To Memorize:

I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death. Revelations 1:18.



Mary and Mary Magdalene wanted to put sweet spices on the body of Jesus. They prepared the spices. Then on the first day of the week, very early before the sun had come up they started to the garden or cemetery where Jesus' tomb was.

When they were nearing the tomb the sun had risen, and they saw that the tomb was already open! They went inside, expecting to find Jesus' dead body, but Jesus was gone. An angel said to them, "Why do you come here among the dead to find a living person?" (That is a strange place to look for a live person isn't it?) Then the angel continued. "Jesus is not here. He is risen! Go tell the disciples and also Peter that He will meet them in Galilee."

There was a great stir in the city because Jesus, neither dead nor alive, could be found. The Jewish leaders had said the disciples would steal Jesus' body and say that He had risen. Now the disciples were fearful that the Jews might cause them even more trouble. That evening when Peter, nine of the disciples and some other brethren came together they closed the doors tightly. But all of a sudden, Jesus was in the room speaking to them.

A few days later, they were all in a room with closed doors and Jesus came in again without opening a door. This time He showed Thomas the nail holes in his hands and asked Thomas to put his hand into the hole in His side where the soldiers had pierced Him with a sword.

For forty days, Jesus lived on the earth after his death on the cross. Acts 1:3 tells us that He "shewed himself alive...by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God." Many, many people said they saw Jesus during these forty days. At one time five hundred brethren were together and Jesus came to them. Apostle Paul writes about it in I Corinthians 15:6, He says, "He was seen of above five hundred brethren at once.

After Jesus arose on the first day of the week. The disciples began meeting on Sunday to have a worship service. Acts 20:7 "And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them...." Also in Corinthians Paul instructed the people to gather their offerings on the first day of the week, so they must have been worshiping on that important day. "Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him." 1 Corinthians 16:2.

Sunday is the most important day of the week. The most important day in all history is the third day after Jesus was crucified. On that day Jesus came back to life! He is still alive!

-Charlotte Huskey



# Westie

Westie, a pure bred Newfoundland, was just a pup when the war started. Soon he became a strong, brave and faithful dog, and was trained to help the soldiers in the war.

Westie was sent along with a regiment to Hong Kong. Wherever the soldiers went, Westie went with them. He loved the men. He worked with them, sometimes he pulled a cart like a horse; he ate and slept with the troops, and was always on the alert.

The men had to dig a trench so they could hide from the enemy's gun and cannon fire. One day an enemy soldier threw a hand grenade, or a small bomb. It landed right in the trench among the hiding soldiers. The soldiers fell over each other trying to get away from the hand grenade, but they knew they could not get far enough away to be safe. The hand grenade would explode any second and kill many of the men. What could they do?

Suddenly faithful Westie seemed to sense the danger. He snapped up the bomb in his mouth, and bounded over the mound in front of the trench. Seconds later the bomb exploded, blowing the faithful dog into pieces.

How sad the men were to lose their good faithful dog in that way, but in sacrificing his life, Westie had saved twenty men.

Westie had proved his love for those men by dying for them. Jesus proved His love also by dying for not only His friends, but also His enemies. Westie would not have died for his enemies. But God's love goes far beyond that. "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." John 3:16. That "whosoever" includes the most wicked man on earth. It included the men who nailed Jesus to

the cross. It included the soldier who pieced Jesus' side with his spear.

Yes, Jesus died for all sinners, even those who did not know or love Him and for those who fought against Him. The Bible reads like this, "when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son [Jesus]." Romans 5:10.

Westie loved his friends, and died to save them, but the Lord Jesus died for "the ungodly." While sufferings on the cross Jesus prayed, "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do." Luke 23:34. We deserved death and judgment, just as much as those men who crucified Jesus, for we "all have sinned." but He took the punishment for our sins. The Bible says that "Christ...hath once suffered for sins, the Just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God." 1 Peter 3:18. Surely each of us ought to trust in Him, to love Him and to serve Him. For He has proved His love for us.

Can you say, that Jesus is the "Son of God, who loved <u>me</u> and gave Himself for <u>me</u>"? (Galatians 2:20.)

You can say this if you will turn your life over to Him and let Jesus be Lord of your life. —Selected

(Answers: 1. To anoint Jesus' body with sweet spices, 2. When the sun was rising on first day of the week. 3. "He is not here but is risen." 4. On the evening of the day He arose, which was the first day of the week. 5. No. 6. No. 7. Because he had not seen Jesus, 8. Look at my hands; and put your hand into my side: and be not faithless, but believe, also Jesus said, "because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed; blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed." 9. Those who believe in Jesus but have not seen Him.)



Vol. 44, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 3 April 18, 1993

## Almost Gone

George was just eight years old and one day a very strange feeling came over him. When his mother urged him to eat his dinner he said, "No, Mother, I can't eat anything. I'm not hungry."

"Then, George, you must be sick," she said. She took his temperature and immediately put him to bed.

Later that evening George was awakened and had to sit up so his daddy could examine him. He felt giddy and so ill that he could scarcely breath. Outside a storm was raging, the wind was howling and the rain lashing against the window pane.

"I'm sorry to tell you," he said in a whisper to George's mother, "but our son is very ill. I'm afraid he has—

"Then there is no hope for him?"
"No hope."

George heard his words. He repeated to himself, "No hope,...no hope!" Like a flash the eight years of his life passed before him. His father and mother were both saved. His mother had taught him much of the Bible. He had often heard his father preach the gospel to crowds, and here he was, dying at eight years of age, and "no hope!"

"I'm going to hell," he thought, for he knew that he had said and done many wrong things that would shut him out of heaven. His mind was all confused and afraid. Then suddenly it cleared for a moment. Quickly he said in a prayer to Jesus:

"Just as I am without one plea, But that Thy blood was shed

for me,

And that Thou bid'st me come to Thee,

Oh Lamb of God, I come."

The Lord heard his prayer, and He who never turns a repentant sinner away, saved him that night in the hour of his deepest need.

Peace filled George's heart and he fell asleep without waking for three days.

Slowly George recovered from that terrible illness, but he never forgot that dark stormy night when he found Christ as his Saviour. That night Jesus washed away all his sins. His precious blood was shed for sinners on the cross of Calvary.

Don't delay, dear boys and girls. No matter how young you are, you need to be saved. If you have never opened wide the door of your heart and asked the Lord Jesus to come in, do it now.

"Into my heart; into my heart;

Come into my heart, Lord Jesus.

Come in today, Come in to stay; Come into my heart, Lord Jesus."

—Selected from Messages From The Love Of God.



# **Christ Gives Life**

# Deuteronomy 30:15-20

15 See, I have set before thee this day life and good, and death and evil;

16 In that I command thee this day to love the LORD thy God, to walk in his ways, and to keep his commandments...and the LORD thy God shall bless thee.

11 For this commandment which I command thee this day, it is not hidden from thee, neither is it far off.

12 It is not in heaven, that thou shouldest say. Who shall go up for us to heaven, and bring it unto us, that we may hear it, and do it?

13 Neither is it beyond the sea, that thou shouldest say, Who shall go over the sea for us, and bring it unto us, that we may hear it, and do it?

14 But the word is very nigh unto thee, in thy mouth, and in thy heart, that thou mayest do it.

17 But if thine heart turn away, so that thou wilt not hear, but shalt be drawn away, and worship other gods, and serve them:

18 ... ye shall surely perish,

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:

20 That thou mayest love the LORD thy God, and that thou mayest obey his voice, and that thou mayest cleave unto him: for he is thy life....

### Revelation 2:7, 10

7 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God.

10 Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil

shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.

# Revelation 21:6-8

6 And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.

7 He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.

8 But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

The Message: Jesus is the bread of our eternal life. He satisfies the Christian's heart so that he will not be hungry for the world.

### Questions:

- 1. What did God set before the people?
- 2. How are we to obtain good and life?
- 3. Was the commandment hidden or far away?
- 4. What would happen if the people chose death and evil?
- 5. Who was called to witness God's promise to the people?
- 6. Who will be able to eat of the tree of life in the paradise of God?
- 7. What might happen to those who choose life?
- 8. What should the people not fear?
- 9. What will happen to the fearful, and unbelievers, and sinners?

### Verse to Memorize:

Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.

John 6:35.



God has set before each person a choice. They may choose good and life, or they may choose evil and death. "The wages of sin is death," Christ has said. Those who choose to sin and do evil things will find death at the end of their way. Those who choose to do good will find life at the end of their way. Why not choose good and life?

Choosing life and good is not something far above our ability. That is what God means when He said, "It is not in heaven, that thou shouldest say, Who shall go up for us to heaven, and bring it unto us, that we may hear it, and do it? Neither is it beyond the sea, that thou shouldest say, Who shall go over the sea for us, and bring it unto us, that we may hear it, and do it? But the word is very nigh unto thee, in thy mouth, and in thy heart...." (Deut. 30:12-14). Choosing life and good is simple. It is choosing to love God.

Loving God includes pleasing God. The Bible says in John 14:21, "He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: ...and I will love him...." Have you ever noticed how happy you are to please those you love? Sometimes pleasing one friend will cause us trouble with another friend. It is the same when we live for God. Doing what pleases God will sometimes cause us trouble with people. Some will break friendship with us over these things. This will bring a certain amount of unhappiness to us.

We must ,however, not let these friends draw us away from our love and obedience to God. It is the devil's way of fighting against us to drag us down to death.

Sometimes in countries where religious freedom is not protected by law, Christians will be put in prison. Apostle John tells us, "Fear none of those things which you shall suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison,...be thou faithful..., and I will give thee a crown of life."

Yes, loving and serving God will sometimes bring suffering, but it also brings much happiness to the soul and eternal life in the end. Serving the devil may sometimes bring happiness to the flesh. But it brings much sadness to the soul and at the end, eternal death in the lake that burneth with fire.

How much better it is to choose life and good.

-Charlotte Huskey

# **Begin With God**

Begin the day with God!

He is thy sun and day;

He is the radiance of thy dawn,

To Him address thy lay.

Sing thy first song to God, Not to thy fellow man: Not to the creatures of His hand, But to the glorious One.

Take thy first meal with God;
He is thy Heavenly food;
Feed with and on Him; He with thee
Will feast in brotherhood.

Take thy first walk with God!
Let Him go forth with thee!
By stream, or sea of mountain path,
Seek still His company.

-Author Unknown

# Henry's New Beginning

Henry loved to debate. He spent most of his free time with godless companions who made fun of the Word of God. This made his young wife, Sue, very unhappy and although she was not saved, her heart's prayer was that Henry would change.

One evening he and his friends saw an announcement of a gospel talk to be given the following evening.

"Henry, here's your chance to debate with this man and contradict what he says," urged his friends. "You can argue well and are just the right one for it."

Henry agreed, so they decided to go with the intention of interrupting the meeting and heckling the speaker.

On his way home, as he was passing the railway station, Henry met an old gentleman carrying two large bags. Henry was kind and always ready to help so he offered to carry the old man's luggage. When they parted the aged traveler thanked Henry kindly and said in a friendly tone, "God is seeking you, dear friend." These words made Henry uncomfortable about his plan to mock at God and His servant the next evening.

However, Henry hardened his conscience and went with his friends to the meeting. He was ready to play his part. But what a shock he got when he found that the speaker was the old gentleman whose bags he had carried the night before.

As he sat there in the midst of his friends, Henry heard the sweet story of the Good Shepherd, who was seeking the lost sheep, and about the God of love who gave His Son so that "whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." It was told with much warmth and love. Henry was listening carefully when his friends began whispering, "Now is the time to stand up and contradict the speaker." Henry did not move. His companions nudged him again, and urged him to go ahead, but he could not say a word. The blessed Spirit of God was speaking to him. He was thinking that he was the

lost sheep whom the Good Shepherd was seeking. Then he remembered that the old evangelist had said to him, "God is seeking you, dear friend."

His bravado had disappeared. His heart was melted by God's divine love. At the meeting where he planned to cause trouble, he received the Lord Jesus as his Saviour.

When he got home he said to his wife, "Sue, I am born again and with God's help I intend to begin a new life."

Sue was taken by surprise but she said, "Good! If you really mean to lead a changed life and give up your bad companions, I'll go and hear the gospel too." The next evening they both went to the gospel meeting. The story of the love of God, who was seeking lost sinners, entered her heart also. Now they are both saved and following the Good Shepherd. God has given them two dear children whom they are seeking to bring up for the Lord.

Such is the power of the Word; for "the gospel is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth." Romans 1:16. Has it proved its power in your heart, dear reader? If not, bow to it now. Do not hold out against it. God is seeking you. He loves you, He wants to save and make you happy. Then your life too will be completely changed, for "if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." (II Corinthians 5:17.)

-Selected.

(Answers: 1. A choice between life and good, death and evil. 2. By loving the Lord and walking in His ways, and keeping His commandments, 3. No. 4. They would perish, 5. Heaven and earth, 6. Those who overcome, 7. They may suffer tribulations or be east into prison, 8. Anything that might come on them, 9. They will have their part in the lake that burneth with fire and brimstone.)



Vol. 44, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 4 April 25, 1993

# Roy Follows God

Roy counted, 70, 80, 90,100. He placed the stack of ten dimes beside the other stacks of dimes, quarters and dollars on his desk. Then he counted his nickles and pennies. When all his money was counted he divided it according to its use. \$40.85 to pay for the newspapers he had delivered last week. "I have \$18.35 left for myself," he said to Zack, his little brother who was watching him. "Now I can order those gospel tracts."

He then placed an order from the Gospel Publishing Company for 50 each, of ten different gospel tracts.

Seven days later the bundle of tracts arrived. "What will you do with so many papers?" Zack asked as Roy displayed the tracts.

"I'm going to put one inside each newspaper. You know, Zack, it is very important that we tell others about God's plan to save sinners. This paper explains how God loves everyone and will save them from going to hell," he said holding up a new tract. "To be saved, all a person has to do is turn their lives over to Jesus."

"How does a person turn his life over to Jesus?" Zack asked, turning his chubby little hand over this way and that.

Roy laughed at Zack, then he answered, "By saying to Jesus, Take

charge of my life and do whatever You wish with me."

"But what if Jesus lets bad things happen? I wouldn't like that."

"Zack, Jesus loves people so much that he died on the cross so that God would pardon their sins. Do you think He would let bad things happen to anyone He loves so much?"

Zack thought for a moment. "I guess not," he said, "but wasn't it bad when that lady wrecked Daddy's car?"

"Well, it seemed like it was. But really it worked out good, 'cause we have a better car now, and with the extra insurance money, Mommy and Daddy were able to help the missionaries."

"You want to be a missionary, when you grow up?" Zack questioned.

"I think God is guiding me to be an evangelist," Roy answered, "but I can't preach now. However, by giving a tract to each of my newspaper customers I am spreading the gospel. That is what an evangelist does."

"You want to help me wrap the tracts in each paper?" Roy asked. "I'll show you how. First we put this tract on the inside. Then roll the paper and put a rubber band around it, like that," he said holding up a rolled paper.

"Wow, that's neat! God's message is safe inside, nothing can hurt it," Zack added.
—Charlotte Huskey



# Christ My Guide

Acts 10:9-16, 19, 20

- 9 ...Peter went up upon the housetop to pray about the sixth hour:
- 10 And...he fell into a trance,
- 11 And saw heaven opened, and...a great sheet knit at the four corners,...
- 12 Wherein were all manner of... wild beasts, and creeping things, and fowls of the air.
- 19 While Peter thought on the vision, the Spirit said unto him, Behold, three men seek thee.
- **20** Arise...go with them, doubting nothing: for I have sent them.

### Acts 10:23-30, 32-35

- 23 Then called he them in, and lodged them. And on the morrow Peter went away with them, and certain brethren from Joppa accompanied him.
- 24 And the morrow after they entered into Caesarea. And Cornelius waited for them, and had called together his kinsmen and near friends.
  25 And as Peter was coming in, Cornelius met him, and fell down at his feet, and worshipped him.
- 26 But Peter took him up, saying, Stand up; I myself also am a man.
- 27 And as he talked with him, he went in, and found many that were come together.
- 28 And he said unto them, Ye know how that it is an unlawful thing for a man that is a Jew to keep company, or come unto one of another nation; but God hath shewed me that I should not call any man common or unclean.
- 29 Therefore came I unto you...I ask therefore for what intent ye have sent for me?

- **30** And Cornelius said, Four days ago I was fasting and at the ninth hour I prayed...and, behold, a man stood before me in bright clothing,
- 32 Send to Joppa, and call hither Simon, whose surname is Peter; he is lodged in the house of one Simon a tanner by the sea side: who, when he cometh, shall speak unto thee.
- 33 Immediately therefore I sent to thee; and thou hast well done that thou art come. Now therefore are we all here present before God, to hear all things that are commanded thee of God.
- **34** Then Peter...said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons:
- **35** But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him.

The Message: God guides His children who live close to God by reading and obeying His Word.

### Questions:

- 1. What did God use to guide Peter?
- 2. What did Peter do which was unlawful?
- Peter guided Cornelius into believing that all \_\_\_ are equal.
- 4. What did God use to guide Cornelius?
- 5. What were both Peter and Cornelius doing when God gave them a special message?
- 6. Did Cornelius want his family and friends to be guided by God?
- God was guiding His people into believing that God is respecter of persons.

#### Verse to Memorize

I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye.

Psalm 32:8.



During the Civil War, the Union troops needed to get across a range of the Appalachian Mountains before the next day. The commander was unfamiliar with the mountains, so he stopped in a village at the foot of the mountains and asked for a guide to lead his men over the high ridge. News spread from house to house that a guide was needed. Few people were left in the village who had been across the mountains. The men who tackled the mountains were away in the war. There was ,however, one boy who knew the mountains well, and he was willing to risk his life to be their guide.

Calling his troop together, the commander introduced the guide. The boy looked small and incapable to many of the strong soldiers, but they were ordered to obey his every command. "In some places the path is only wide enough for one horse," the boy told the men. "And slipping off the path could mean certain death. Please keep in single file, and step to the right or to the left when I say. Pass the word on to the man behind you."

Darkness settled before the men reached the pass, but on they pressed. "Two steps to the right," the little guide called out in the darkness. "Two steps to the right," every man called to his follower. "Three steps to the left," the guide called knowing that ahead the path curved to the left. "Slow and cautious," he called, "the cliff drops off very dangerously." On through the dark rainy night the army filed. When the sun shone the next morning they were safely on the other side of the mountain.

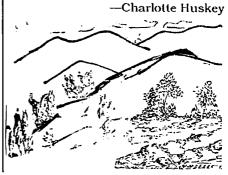
Jesus gave His life that He might make a way for us to go to heaven. Life is like traveling over a dangerous mountain. We need a guide to help us stay on the path. The Word of God and the Holy Spirit are our guides. They will let us know where to step. They know the dangers that we cannot see.

Just as some of the men thought the boy incapable of leading them across the mountain, so we may think the Word and Holy Spirit are unable to guide people in our complex world. However, if we will obey them just as the soldiers obeyed the commands of the boy, they will lead us safely.

To obey God's commands, we must read the Bible. Sometimes you may want to do something, and the Spirit makes you feel you should not do it. At these times the Holy Spirit may bring verses from the Bible to our mind. That is God leading. The Spirit will also give us power to resist doing evil and obey the instructions from the verses.

Some instructions such as, "Thou shalt not kill," and "Thou shalt not steal," are easily understood. However, our mind may be confused about what the Bible says about some other things. At these times, remember to always choose to do the thing that seems nearer to righteousness and holiness. That will be stepping in the path where God is the leader.

Yes, every person needs Christ for their guide, and He has promised to be our guide.



# Saved Through a Tract

"Who could be knocking at my door?" Tom grumbled from his perch on a tall box in the attic. He heard the knock again. "I won't answer the door," he said. "I have other things to do. I'll just ignore it." But the sounds of knocking kept coming up, up, up to his ears. "Strange that I could hear a knock when I'm way up here." Knock, knock, knock, he kept hearing until he finally went down.

He opened the door just a very little bit and asked, "What do you want?"

"I would like to give you this to read," said a young man at the door, and he slipped a tract into Tom's hand. Tom took the tract, closed the door and quickly returned to the attic.

There he sat down and read the tract. He read "This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation; that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." I Timothy 1:15. Well, I am surely a sinner," Tom said to himself, "and I really need some saving." He read on. The longer he read, the more hope he felt. When he finished, he got down on his knees and cried out to God for mercy. Soon the sin and sorrow were gone and hope, peace and joy came into Tom's heart.

The following Sunday evening another mysterious knock sounded on his door. Tom hurried to the door and opened it. "Hello," he said cheerfully, "you look like the man who gave me a tract last week. Are you?"

"Yes, I am. My name is Bill. I am a young Christian and since I enjoy living for God I wanted to share the way of salvation with others. That's why...."

"Please come in," Tom said, interrupting Bill.

Bill stepped in and Tom closed the door behind him. "Do come with me," Tom said, leading Bill up the stairs. The house was large, and no one else seemed to be init. They went to the second floor and the third. Finally reaching the attic, Tom opened the door. He noticed that Bill's eyes were glued on a rope that hung from a ceiling beam. It was tied into a noose and under the noose stood a tall box.

"Don't be afraid," Tom assured Bill.
"I'm not going to hang you."

"I'm not afraid," Bill answered.

"Then let me tell you how you saved my life. Last Sunday evening when you knocked at my door, I was up on that box with my head in that noose. I have so many problems and nothing ever seems to work out right, so I thought I had just as well kill myself. When you knocked I tried to ignore the knocks, but you kept on until I went down to see what you wanted. I fully intended to return and hang myself. But reading the tract you handed me gave me hope that God could help, and not only that He could help, but that He wanted to help and also save me."

"Wonderfull" Bill answered. "I'm sure that God guided me here."

"I am sure He did, and He also guided me to answer the knock, for I fully intended to ignore it. I hope God will guide you to others who need help as I needed it."

—(Adopted from "Saved By A Tract" by Charlotte Huskey.)

(Answers: 1. A vision, 2. He ate and worshipped God with the Gentiles, 3. Men, 4. An angel's visit, 5. They were fasting, 6. Yes, 7. No.)



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# The Poison Medicine

"I will not go," Harry answered firmly. "It is a waste of time."

"Bible study a waste of time? Never! It shows how to make better use of time," George protested.

"When will you give up? I am not interested in your church nor the salvation you so often talk about. I have a good job, plenty of money and good friends. Why do I need God?"

George sighed heavily, thinking his friend might surely be lost, although he had often tried to convince Harry that he needed a Saviour. "Okay, okay, after these few words, I won't trouble you again with my preaching, as you call it. If we discuss salvation again, it will be when you ask to do so. Now here is a message from God, not me. It is Psalms 50:15. 'Call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me."

Harry laughed. "So you think I will need to call on God, when I get into trouble. Well, I'm not a guy that gets into trouble. You know that. I'm a good guy, that is why I choose friends like you." Then he gave George a happy slap on the back. "You are a good friend, although I

don't need your religion."

In the town where George and Harry lived, a twelve year old girl and her mother rented one room of an old apartment house. The mother had been sick for many days, but having no money she had not gone to a doctor for help. Now she was too sick to go. A good neighbor called for the doctor. The kind old doctor had many patients to care for that day, and it was past ten o'clock before he left his office. But on his way home he stopped by to see the dying woman.

After examining the lady he said, "She must have this prescription filled immediately or she will be dead before morning." The neighbor thrust some money into the girl's hand and hurried her off to the twenty-four hour pharmacy just four blocks away.

Harry was the pharmacist on duty that night. After tidying up the place he had settled down to do some work at his desk and fallen asleep. The violent ringing of the buzzer awoke him.

Annoyed at being disturbed and still half asleep, Harry weighed out the drugs, mixed them, and stuck the label on the bottle. The girl



# Christ My Refuge

Numbers 35:9, 11, 12, 14, 15, 20-28

- 9 The Lord spake unto Moses, saying;
- 11 Ye shall appoint you cities to be cities of refuge for you; that the slayer may flee thither, which killeth any person unawares [accidently].
- 12 ... That the manslayer die not, until he stand before the congregation in judgment.
- 14 Ye shall give three cities on this side of Jordan, and three cities shall ye give in the land of Canaan, which shall be cities of refuge.
- 15 These six cities shall be a refuge, both for the children of Israel, and for the stranger, and for the sojourner among them: that every one that killeth any person unawares [accidently] may flee thither.
- 20 But if he thrust him of hatred, or hurl at him by laying of wait, that he die:
- 21 Or in enmity smite him with his hand, that he die: he that smote him shall surely be put to death; for he is a murderer: the revenger of blood shall slay the murderer, when he meeteth him.
- 22 But if he thrust him suddenly without enmity, or have cast upon him any thing without laying of wait,
- 23 Or with any stone, wherewith a man may die, seeing him not, and cast it upon him, that he die, and was not his enemy, neither sought his harm:
- 24 Then the congregation shall judge between the slayer and the revenger of blood according to these judgments:

- 25 And the congregation shall deliver the slayer out of the hand of the revenger of blood, and the congregation shall restore him to the city of his refuge, whither he was fled: and he shall abide in it unto the death of the high priest....
- 26 But if the slayer shall at any time come without [outside] the border of the city of his refuge, whither he was fled:
- 27 And the revenger of blood find him without [outside] the borders of the city of his refuge, and the revenger of blood kill the slayer; he shall not be guilty of blood:
- 28 Because he should have remained in the city of his refuge until the death of the high priest: but after the death of the high priest the slayer shall return into the land of his possession.

The Message: Christ is like a city of refuge for us so that sin cannot slay us.

### Questions:

- 1. What did God command to be built?
- 2. Where were the cities of refuge to be built?
- 3. For whom were these cities built?
- 4. Who was to judge whether a man could stay in a city of refuge?
- 5. What could happen if a murderer left the city of refuge?
- 6. How long could a murderer stay in a city of refuge?
- 7. Who is our city of refuge today?
- 8. Can the devil slay us if we stay in Christ?
- 9. What will happen if we get out of Christ?

Verses To Memorize: But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 5:8.
God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.
Psalm 46:1.



Years ago the people of America decided to form this nation. Men made plans for their nation. They planned how the people should be ruled, how troubles between people should be settled and many other things.

The Israelite people had just come out of Egypt and were also forming a nation. However, they did not decide on their laws. God gave them rules. He had already given them some laws while they were living in the wilderness. Today we will study another one.

Some of God's people would be living on one side of the Jordan River and some on the other side. So God told them to build three cities of refuge on each side of the river. In this way every man would be within running distance of one of these cities. Anyone who killed another person could run into one of these cities and be safe, until the time of his trial. At his trial, if the people believed the killing was accidental, the murderer could live safely in one of the cities of refuge, but he must stay inside the city.

This is a beautiful example for us in relationship to Christ. All men have sinned and are worthy of death. However, Jesus loved us so that He died on the cross to cover the cost of our sins. Every man who believes in Jesus for the removal of his sins will not have to die for his sins. Christ is a city of refuge where we

find protection from the devil who will drag us down to death and hell, if we get out of this city.

Sometimes after a person is saved from sin, he becomes careless and the devil tricks him, or her, into sinning again. Then he or she is in trouble like the man who kills someone. Like the troubled man who ran to the city and found safety, he can run to Christ. In Christ's loving arms, every repentant heart finds freedom from the penalty of the sins he has committed.

Never get discouraged because your conduct is not what you think it should be. Run on the wings of prayer to your heavenly Father. There you will be enclosed in a city of refuge and the devil cannot slay you because of those sins. If you do not go to Jesus, the devil will attack you again and again, until he has the victory and you are a defeated person.

The gates of the cities of refuge were never closed, day nor night. A troubled man could enter any time. So Jesus Christ our Saviour sits at the right hand of God with arms outstretched waiting for any troubled heart to run into His arms at any time.

-Charlotte Huskey

hurried away clutching the medicine in her hand.

As he was putting the various drugs back, he realized a terrible mistake. Suddenly he was weak as a kitten and cold as an iceberg. He slumped into a chair and wiped beads of cold perspiration from his face. "I must find her," he said, "I must." Just as suddenly as the weakness came on him, strength surged through his body. He dashed out the door and to the corner. Looking this way and that, he searched for the girl. No one was in sight. He ran to the next corner. No one.

"What will I do? Can anyone help me? Could the police find her?" Where the girl lived, he did not know. Who she was, he did not know. On trembling legs, he entered the pharmacy again. "The poor woman will surely die, and no one can do anything about it. I am a murderer," he sobbed, "not the good guy who stays out of trouble." He saw himself standing before a stern black robed judge, being tried and sentenced to death.

He felt he was drowning in stormy, troubled waters, when suddenly he remembered, "Call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee." It was like the beacon from a faithful lighthouse, shining through the storm.

Harry rushed into the back room of the pharmacy and fell on his knees. He began praying. "Oh, my God, help me, help me!" he called. "Forgive me, and I'll never again make fun of You nor George. Help me! Please. Help me!"

His praying was disturbed by a ringfrom the buzzer. Heavy hearted and trembling for fear of making another mistake, he went to answer the call.

What? There stood the girl. Tears streaming down her face. "Oh, sir," she sobbed, holding up the neck of the broken bottle. "My mother is about to die, and I ran so fast I fell. I have no money to buy her more, but the doctor says that without it, my mother will die before morning. Can you please give me credit?"

Harry hardly heard what she said. "Give me the prescription," he said. "I'll be very, very happy to fill it again for you."

The surprised look on the girl's face told Harry that she did not understand his eagerness to refill the prescription. Only God knew. But his friend George would soon know. Also the church would be hearing about how God had delivered him in a time of trouble.

Yes, God was Harry's refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Psalms 46:1.

-Charlotte Huskey

The Lord also will be a REFUGE for the oppressed, a refuge in times of trouble.
Psalm 9:9.

(Answers: 1. Cities of refuge, 2. Three on one side of Jordan and three on the other side, 3. For anyone who killed another person, 4. The congregation of people, 5. He could be killed by the avenger, 6. All his life or until the death of the high priest, 7. Jesus Christ, 8. No. 9. The devil will drag us down to hell.)



Vol. 44, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 6 May 9, 1993

### Hannah Finds Comfort

All alone in the evening gray,
Sick and dying, old Hannah lay.
Through the broken pane the cold
wind swept;

Poor Hannah shivered, and moaned, and wept.

But it was not cold, and it was not pain,

That made her shiver and moan again.
She did not say "My pain is sore,"
But, "Where shall I be when all is o'er?"
Poor Hannah remembered the years
gone by,

And she said, "A sinner—a sinner am I!

All black and fearful the sins appear That I had forgotten for many a year; And thousands, thousands, they come to mind—

There is hell before and sin behind. The Lord is holy, and just, and true, And what He has said He will surely do. He has for sin an awful doom—A lake of fire beyond the tomb; And my soul is black with the sins of

They cannot be washed away with tears.

And sure it is vain to pray and cry; He cannot hear such a sinner as I. I am going—going—to stand alone Before the Lord on His judgment throne!"

Bright and glad as the stars came out, With many a laugh and many a shout,

Jack and Bill in the garden played. And they heeded not the noise they made,

But the neighbor calling, said, "Children dear,

A woman is sick in that house so near, There, where the broken pane you see, She is lying as ill as she can be;

She soon must die, and you see 'tis best

You should be still and let her rest."
Then in a moment they both were still,
For tender hearts had both Jack and
Bill,

And they sat and looked at the casement lone,

Till the stars shone bright, and the day was gone.

Then Jack said, "Bill, she will go to heaven

If she has had her sins forgiven. Hearned at Sunday school, when Jesus died

The door of heaven was opened wide Because He was punished Himself for sin,

So now if we die we can all go in.

Of our sins there will not a word be said,

For Jesus Christ was punished instead;

And if she believes He loves her so, Beyond the stars her soul will go. He will lead her in through the golden door,

And she will be happy forevermore."



### **Christ My Comfort**

### Isaiah 51:3, 12, 13

- 3 For the LORD shall comfort Zion: joy and gladness shall be found therein, thanksgiving, and the voice of melody.

  12 ...l, am he that comforteth you: who art thou, that thou shouldest be afraid of a man that shall die, and of the
- son of man which shall be made as grass;

  13 And forgettest the LORD thy maker that both stretched forth the
- maker, that hath stretched forth the heavens, and laid the foundations of the earth....

#### Luke 7:11-16

- 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 night o 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...they glorified God, saying, That a great prophet is risen up among us; and, That God hath visited his people.

### John 14:15-19, 26

- 15 If ye love me, keep my commandments.
- 16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever:

- 17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.
- 18 I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.
- 19 Yet a little while, and the world seeth me no more; but ye see me: because I live, ye shall live also.
- 26 But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

### II Corinthians 1:3

3 Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort;

The Message: When a person consecrates his whole being to Christ, the Holy Spirit will come into his heart and bring comfort when needed.

### Questions:

- 1. What is found in Zion?
- 2. The one who comforts us has created what?
- 3. Who did Jesus meet near the city gate?
- 4. How did Jesus comfort the widow?
- 5. Was this miracle a comfort to others?
- 6. How long will the Comforter whom Jesus sends, be with us?
- 7. Who is the Comforter that Jesus will send?
- 8. Is the God we serve the God of all comfort?
- 9. Does God sometimes comfort us by letting pleasant things happen?

### Verse To Memorize

And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;...

John 14:16.



How thankful we should be to know and serve the God of all comfort. Some people serve the god of money. Sometimes when they have trouble they are able to buy their way out of the trouble. But some troubles and sorrows cannot be relieved by using money. At these times, even some very rich people have found no comfort, so some have committed suicide, thinking this will end their troubles.

Some people serve the god of men's approval. They work hard doing many things to get approval of others. Sometimes they do things that they really don't want to do, just to get approval. Some of these things cause much heartache. Needing comfort for a heartache they turn again to people, but their friends do not understand, so they are left comfortless.

There are many gods that people serve. Anything we love more than God is a god to us. Some people serve gods made of wood or stone. Juiji served one of those gods. When he was five years old, his father died, and Juiji needed comfort. The gods he worshipped gave him no comfort when he lay awake at night thinking about his father, and death, and the great beyond. Nowhere could Juiji find comfort. One day, in despair, he cried out, "Oh, God, help me. I am so helpless."

The next day he asked his school teacher, "What god helps us when someone dies?"

"I do not know of any such god," his teacher answered.

God heard Juiji's cry and sent a missionary to speak to him. He told Juiji about the true living God who loved people so much that He would give them eternal life in a beautiful place called heaven where there would be no more sorrow. Juiji was glad to serve such a God. He accepted God's plan of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ's death on the cross.

Juiji was very happy now. His little heart had found comfort. He served God for many years. He traveled from place to place telling others of what Jesus had done for him, and that Jesus would give eternal life to all who received him by faith into their hearts. Yes, Juiji was happy to tell others about his "God of all comfort."

-Charlotte Huskey

### I'm Not Alone

I'm not alone, though others go A different way from what I choose;

I'm not alone, though I say "No!"
I know that I will never lose.

I'm not alone, though others tease

And urge that I should go their way:

I'm not alone, though I displease My friends by what I'll never say.

I'm not alone, for I now choose— Though other folk may call me odd,

Tho' now it seems that I might lose—

To go the way that Jesus trod.
—L. E. Dunkin

Then Bill said, "Jack, that is all quite true—

But does she know it as well as you? What Jesus did; we have both been taught,

But some know this, and some do not. Maybe, Jack, she has never known What it is that the Lord for her has done!"

Then Jack said, "If you would help me, Bill,

I would climb up to the window sill, And through the hole I would call and say,

'Jesus washes our sins away."

The neighbor said when her work was
done.

"It may be Hannah is all alone,
And, oh! it's an awful thing to lie,
Too ill to live, and afraid to die,
So just to sit with her I will go,
But how to help her I do not know."
So the neighbor went, and she heard
no moan,

And she thought, "Poor Hannah is dead and gone."

She lighted the candle with fear and dread,

And stopped to see if Hannah was dead.

But there she lay with her face so bright!

It shone with glory and not with light, And she said, "Oh, neighbor, the Lord is good;

He washed me white in His precious blood!

My sins are gone from before His face, And He has prepared a glorious place, Where those He loves with Himself shall be,

And to that sweet home He is calling me.

Oh, neighbor, here in the dark I lay, I felt so guilty, I could not pray; And all my sins like a mountain stood Before the terrible face of God. Then all in a moment, sweet and clear, A voice spoke loud, though none was near,

Like an angel speaking, I heard it say, 'Jesus washes our sins away!'

And while I thought, 'do my ears tell true?'

It said, 'Poor lady, He died for you!'
And then did the word come sweet and low

That I had forgotten long ago; I once heard it told in the years gone by,

How Jesus came on the cross to die, And there He hung in the darkness dread,

With a crown of thorns on His holy head,

And some old words came back to me, 'He bore our sins on the cursed tree.' Yes, it was true that mine He bore, So the guilt is gone, and the judgment o'er:

And more than that, He died for me, What must the love of Jesus be! He in His home of glory waits
To see me enter the golden gates;
While I lay moaning in black despair,
His heart was longing to have me there.

And oh! for the welcome I soon shall know!

No words can tell how I wish to go."

—Selected

And Hannah prayed, and said, My heart rejoiceth in the Lord, mine horn is exalted in the Lord:...because I rejoice in thy salvation. There is none holy as the Lord: for there is none beside thee: neither is there any rock like our God. I Samuel 2:1-2.

(Answers: 1. Comfort, joy, and gladness, 2. The heavens, and the earth, 3. Awidow going with friends to bury her only son, 4. By bringing her son to life again, 5. Yes, 6. He will be with us always, 7. The Holy Spirit, 8. Yes, 9. Yes.)



Vol. 44, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 7 May 16, 1993

### A Lesson From The Pigs

While traveling years ago through Montreal, Canada, I stopped to eat lunch at a restaurant. Seating myself in a booth near a window, I picked up the menu that was laying on the table and began deciding what I would have for dinner. Choosing from a menu always takes me a long time, and as I read, I kept thinking I heard the familiar "oink," of a pig. Thinking the bacon and sausage must be raised in the backyard, I looked out the window expecting to see a pig-sty near by. My search revealed only an additional, clean, well marked parking lot. Next I heard a click, click, clicking, of something walking on the tile floor. Looking in the direction of the sound. I saw the cutest, cleanest pig, I have ever seen. It was as white and clean as soap and water could make him. It's pink skin, verily glistened through the layer of thin snow white hair. A pink ribbon around his neck was formed into a large bow on his back, and his manicured hoofs gleamed with pink fingernail polish.

While I ate crispy chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans and apple pie, I watched the pig. Piggy behaved himself better than many children I have seen in restaurants. He acted as if he knew that what he would have to eat depended upon his behavior. He was

courteous to all the guests and wandered about the dining room occasionally expressing his satisfaction with a good natured, "Oink, oink."

When he visited my table, and I looked into his small upturned face and gazed into his little blue eyes. I said to myself, "Piggy, how fortunate you are. Few of your kind grow up in such luxury and cleanliness. Still you are just a pig. I wonder if you miss playing in the mud?"

Then I remembered a story I had read about a Chinese emperor who also had a pet pig. He took it away from its mother as soon as it was weaned. It was fed choice food from the royal kitchen and bathed every day. He even dressed him in fine clothes made especially for the pig.

One day the emperor said, "The recent rain has cleaned up everything. Even the air is so clean that the sun looks brighter and the blue sky seems even more blue. My piggy might like to take a walk. He has been a whole year in the palace."

The pig dressed in his fine coat gave a happy grunt, and off they went.

Not far from the huge doors of the palace the pig spotted a mud puddle. His happy grunts became a joyous squeal. He hurried on his short fat legs to the muddy water and before the emperor could stop him, he had



# Christ My Deliverer Acts 16:16-20, 22-31, 33

- 16 And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed with a spirit of divination met us, which brought her masters much gain by soothsaying: [which is telling the future]
- 17 The same followed Paul and us, and cried, saying. These men are the servants of the most high God, which shew unto us the way of salvation.
- 18 And this did she many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit. I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her. And he came out the same hour.
- 19 And when her masters saw that the hope of their gains was gone, they caught Paul and Silas, and drew them into the marketplace unto the rulers,
- 20 ...Saying, These men...do exceedingly trouble our city,
- 22 And the multitude rose up together against them: and the magistrates [rulers] rent [tore] off their clothes, and commanded to beat them.
- 23 And when they had laid many stripes upon them, they cast them into prison, charging the jailor to keep them safely:
- 24 Who, having received such a charge, thrust them into the inner prison, and made their feet fast in the stocks.
- **25** And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them.
- **26** And suddenly there was a great carthquake, and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one's bands were loosed.
- 27 And the keeper of the prison awaking out of his sleep, and seeing the

- prison doors open, he drew out his sword, and would have killed himself, supposing that the prisoners had been fled.
- 28 But Paul cried with a loud voice, saying. Do thyself no harm: for we are all here.
- 29 Then he called for a light....and came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas.
- 30 And...said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved?
- 31 And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.
- **33** And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes; and was baptized....

The Message: Christ delivers from sickness, sin, evil spirits, and any other problem the devil might place upon one of God's children.

### Questions:

- 1. Who followed Paul and the brethren?
- 2. Why did her master like her?
- 3. How did God deliver the girl from this spirit?
- 4. Why were her masters angry with Paul?
- 5. What did the rulers do with Paul and the brethren?
- 6. How did God deliver the brethren from jail?
- 7. At midnight, what did the jailor ask Paul?
- 8. From what did the jailor want deliverance?
- 9. Explain the three different deliverances in this lesson.

### Verse To Memorize:

And the Lord shall deliver me from every evil work, and will preserve me unto his heavenly kingdom:...

II Timothy 4:18.



Paul and Silas were delivered from prison, but sometimes people are in prison and not locked behind cement walls and steel bars. Some are imprisoned by evil spirits. The girl who cried after Paul was imprisoned by a spirit of divination. She could not free herself from this spirit. However, through Paul's faith in Jesus, the girl was set free.

Mary Magdalene was also bound by devils, but Jesus set her free. "When Jesus was risen early the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had cast <u>seven devils</u>." (Mark 16:9.)

Another man was imprisoned by a <u>legion of devils</u>. In Rome at the time the Bible was written a legion was 6,200. The interesting story of how Jesus freed this poor man from all those devils, is found in Mark 5:1-20.

Other people are imprisoned by damaging habit-forming drugs. The binding force of these drugs cause them much trouble. Some have lost their families, their homes, their cars, their self-image, their health and everything else of value, because of these drugs. Jesus has power to set these captives free from their prison. If you know anyone who is imprisoned by drugs, tell them Jesus came to "proclaim liberty to the captives." John 8:36 says that if Jesus "shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed." There

will be no more binding habits after Jesus comes into your heart!

Any person who continually practices sin is also bound by the devil. "He that committeth sin is of the devil" 1 John 3:8 says. Jesus wants to free those bound in sin by giving them a new birth. "Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin;...because he is born of God." 1 John 3:9.

During the new birth, Jesus places in the heart a desire to do what is right. Therefore a Christian does what he really wants to do. A girl trying to persuade her friend to give up Christianity said, "But you can't go to dances now."

"Oh yes, I go to every dance I wish," her friend answered. "Since my heart has been changed, I do not wish to dance." She had been "made free from sin," and had "become the servant of righteousness" because her desires were changed. God delivers people from the desire to do evil. When a person has no desire to do evil, it is not hard to keep free from sinning.

Christ, the Great Deliverer, frees from sin, evil spirits, disease and many other things. Are you bound by something? Look to Jesus, He has deliverance!

-Charlotte Huskey



rolled over several times, covering himself and the fine coat with a layer of slimy mud.

The fine clothes and food had not changed the pig's nature. He would always be a pig and would like things that pigs naturally like.

What an important lesson we learn from the pig. Every person is born with a sinful nature. A nature that is attracted by the "muddy" pleasures of sin. Yet God offers to us a choice of good and life, or sin and death.

Can a sinful nature be changed so that a person, after choosing to live for God, will not return to sin, as the pig returned to the mud? Yes. God has a plan for changing a person's nature which will change their desires. God cleans the inside. He removes the stony heart that loves sin and gives a new heart. When the heart is changed, the person's sinful nature is changed into a righteous nature. The new nature delights in God and heavenly things. The pig was only cleaned up on the outside, but his nature was the same. He was not born again. "Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." John 3:3.

How does a man become born again so that his desires are changed? A person must become broken before he can be born again. God does not want a man to sacrifice his riches, fame, or anything else to be born again. Psalms 51:17 tells us, "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise [or hate]."

Can a person break their heart so they may become changed? No. We must ask God to break our heart. Then God lets things happen to us that break our heart. Although it makes us sad, it is really for our good and will bring real happiness later.

A man landed on an uninhabited island after a ship wreck. As far as he

knew he was the only survivor. In a few days he managed to build himself a hut in which he found shelter.

He prayed earnestly that someone would find him before he died of exposure or some wild animal had him for a midnight snack. Anxiously he scanned the horizon each day to hail any passing ship.

One day, on returning from a hunt for food, he was horrified to find his hut in flames. All he had was going up in smoke. He decided that God had surely forsaken him.

But God had not forsaken him, that same day he saw a ship coming near the island. "We saw your smoke signal," the ship captain told him, "or we would never have known there was anyone here."

The man was depending on himself to see a ship, wave it down and be rescued. So often people depend on their own strength to change their nature. But man cannot be changed until faith in himself is broken. After that is broken, then God can give the new birth, which will change our vile, sinful nature into a righteous nature. Then we will not want to return to wallowing in muddy sin.

—(Adopted from Messages Of The Love Of God by Charlotte Huskey.)

(Answers: I. A girl posessed with a spirit of divination, 2. She brought them much money, 3. Paul commanded it in the name of Jesus to come out of her, 4. Because their hope of making more money with her was gone, 5. They beat them and put them in prison, 6. God sent an earthquake that opened the prison doors, 7. "What must I do to be saved?" 8. From the penalty of eternal death for his sins, 9. The girl was delivered from an evil spirit. The brethren were delivered from prison. The latter was delivered from eternal death.)



Vol. 44, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 8 May 23, 1993

### "She'll Be All Right"

"What a cute little red-head," Dr. Rollins said, as he examined our six-week old baby girl. He peeked in her ears and eyes, he looked carefully over her chest, legs, arms and back. Then placing his stethoscope over her heart, he listened to her heart beat.

I noticed a puzzling frown come over his face. He raised up and looked around the room with a far away questioning look.

Then, bending over again, he moved the stethoscope over her chest, listening carefully after each move. "This is odd," he mumbled. Then turning the baby over he listened to her heart beat from her back.

I held my anxiety as long as I could, "What is wrong with my baby?" I questioned.

"She has a severe heart murmer," he explained. "I can't believe I missed recognizing this when she was born. How has she acted?"

"She cries when I lay her down," I answered. "At first I thought she just felt insecure. Then I decided maybe she had contracted the flu and was having trouble breathing. She sleeps well while being held.

After several sleepless nights, I found that propping her crib at a 45 degree angle, she slept very well."

"Keep doing what you have been doing," he said. "I'll want to check her again Monday. Be sure and bring your husband along. I'll need to talk with both of you."

My mind was in a whirl as I drove the fourteen miles to our home in Orland, California. Was her condition life-threatening? Dr. Rollins had been so mysteriously quiet, and I, too fearful to ask questions. Had God given me a baby which He planned to shortly take away? Would she be sickly and unable to run and play with her sister and two brothers?

The appointment the following Monday answered some of my questions. After another lengthy examination, Dr. Rollins gave the nurse a few instructions and asked us into his office. He sat down behind his desk and we in chairs facing him.

"A valve in your baby's heart is not closing when it should," he said. "She will need surgery. However, performing heart surgery is very difficult for such a tiny baby. It is much better to wait, if possible, until a baby is at least two years old.



### Christ My Healer Luke 6:6, 10, 19

6 ...He entered into the synagogue and taught: and there was a man whose right hand was withered.

10 And...he said unto the man, Stretch forth thy hand. And he did so: and his hand was restored whole as the other.

19 And the whole multitude sought to touch him: for there went virtue out of him, and healed them all.

### Acts 3:1-10, 12, 13, 16

- 1 Now Peter and John went up together into the temple at the hour of prayer, being the ninth hour.
- 2 And a certain man lame from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms of them that entered into the temple;
- 3 Who seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple asked an alms.
- 4 And Peter, fastening his eyes upon him with John, said, Look on us.
- 5 And he gave heed unto them, expecting to receive something of them.
- 6 Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk.
- 7 And he took him by the right hand, and lifted him up: and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength.
- 8 And he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God.
- 9 And all the people saw him walking and praising God:
- 10 And they knew that it was he which sat for alms at the Beautiful gate

of the temple: and they were filled with wonder and amazement at that which had happened unto him.

12 And when Peter saw it, he answered unto the people, Ye men of Israel, why marvel ye at this? or why look ye so earnestly on us, as though by our own power or holiness we had made this man to walk?

13 The God...of our fathers, hath glorified his Son Jesus;

**16** And...through faith in his name hath made this man strong,...

### Isaiah 53:5

**5** But he was wounded for our transgressions,...and with his stripes we are healed.

### Psalm 103:2-3

- **2** Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:
- 3 Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases;

## The Message: Christ is the maker and healer of our bodies.

### Questions:

- 1. The man in the synagogue had a hand.
- 2. Did God heal the hand without medical aid?
- 3. How many of the people did Jesus heal?
- 4. Why was the man at the temple steps begging?
- 5. What did Paul give to the man?
- 6. Was Paul able to heal through his own power?
- 7. Through whose name was the man healed?
- 8. By whose stripes are people healed?
- 9. How many of man's diseases does God heal?

### Verse To Memorize:

And said, If thou wilt...give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, for I am the LORD that healeth thee.

Exodus 15:26.



God healed when Moses was leading the Israelites out of Egypt. He healed the sick when the apostles prayed in Jesus' name. All through the ages, God had been healing those who put their whole trust in Him. However, because of not being taught to trust God, very few were being healed.

About one hundred years ago, God restored to the church an active faith for divine healing. The church began obeying the commandment found in James 5:14-16, which reads like this: "Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up:... Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed." Christians began calling for the elders of the church to come and pray for their sick. The elders anointed and prayed. Many were instantly healed. Much rejoicing followed. Neighbors and friends began calling for prayer. Brothers and sisters of the church went into homes of the sick and prayed. God manifested himself in healing "those who obeyed his commandments." This is the standard of God's Word and that of His church.

Although we do not see as many instant healings today as we read about in the past, God is still healing. "She'll Be All Right," is the story of God healing my baby, Rosi. God has healed in our family many, many times. This year He healed my grandson, Caleb Gellenbeck.

On January 15, 1993, Caleb began vomiting up all the food that he ate. The next day he would not eat, but vomited occasionally. Sunday, he began losing blood, became weak and lifeless. During that night, he turned blue and his parents thought he was dying. The elders of the church were called during the night. They prayed and God spared his life. On Monday a registered nurse, after examining him, said he could not live long unless God healed. That night digested food and body fluids oozed from his mouth all night. Only his breathing and heart beating let us know he was alive. We prayed most of that night.

Tuesday, while we were praying, Caleb looked up brightly and smiled, as if he saw someone he loved. Then he raised his little arms as if he wanted the invisible person to take him. We felt that Jesus had entered the room and Caleb saw Him.

That evening when his daddy came home, he saw that Caleb was much better. Mommy and Daddy were so excited they could not sleep that night. But Caleb slept pretty good until four o'clock the next morning. That was more than he had slept for four nights.

Today, February fourth, he is the happy fat little boy he was before the sickness.

God is still healing as He did in Bible times.

-Charlotte Huskey



The surgery is also very expensive, but you need not worry about that. It will not cost you. I have arranged to have it done at the Cripple Children's Hospital in San Fransisco. There is an excellent heart specialist in Chico who will examine your baby and advise as to whether she can wait two years, or will need something done sooner," he added cheerfully. "He can see you on Wednesday morning at ten o'clock. Think you can keep the appointment?"

The nurse handed me little Rosi. I clutched her tightly as my husband, James, and the doctor talked. I do not know what they said. My mind was only on the precious bundle in my arms, that might be so soon taken away.

We drove home in silence. I was having a conversation with God.

"Will you trust me to do the best in your life?" God questioned.

"But Lord, you know how much I love my baby," I answered.

"And you know that I love her too, and that I know the future," He answered.

All the way home, God and I talked. Finally, I said, "Yes, Lord, she is yours. I will trust your way and wisdom."

That night after the other children were asleep, we decided to call the saints to have a day of fasting and prayer for her healing. We telephoned my parents, James' father, Bro. Stover, pastor of the Guthrie congregation, and many other saints. We asked them to fast and pray with us on Tuesday about this problem.

Wednesday, we took Rosi to the heart specialist. He examined her thoroughly and tested her using different equipment. When he linished, he said, "I don't think you have anything to worry about. This child has a very, very slight heart murmur."

"How shall I care for her?" I asked.
"Care for her like you would any other baby. We want her to be normal. Just watch for anything unusual, like finger nails or lips turning blue, that is, unless she is cold. After she is older, any blueness after running would be a reason to have her checked again. Other wise, just take her home and enjoy her! She'll be all right."

We walked out of his office very conscious that God had performed another miracle, just as He did when He lived on the earth.

-Charlotte Huskey



[Rosi, teaching Spanish at the Path of Life School, age 31.]

(Answers: 1: Withered right hand, 2. Yes, 3: He healed all who touched Him, 4. He needed money but could not work because he was crippled. 5. Faith in Jesus' name for his healing, 6. No. 7. Jesus' name, 8. By Jesus' stripes, 9. All of them.)

Second class postage paid at Guthrie, OK. Published quarterly in weekly parts by Fauth Pub. House, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, OK. Charlotte Huskey, Editor. One subscription, \$4.00 per year (52 papers). Includes junior and primary sections. Postmaster: Please send address corrections to above address.



Vol. 44, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 9 May 30, 1993

### The Children's Song

"Come," the king demanded of his most trusted captain.

"Yes, your highest," said Captain Walters as he bowed to his knees before the king.

"You must go now to Heather Town and kill all the Bible folks," ordered the king in his gruffest voice. "They will not worship in our beautiful churches. Pope Paul III will kick me off my throne if I do not get rid of them or get them back into his church. I've ordered them back many times, but they will not come. They will pay for their disobedience."

"At your command," Captain Walters said, and left the throne room to make preparation.

Heather Town was nestled among the hills on which grew many purple and white heather bushes. Most of the town's people were Bible believing folks. They heard that the king was planning to kill all who refused the holy sacrament of the Holy Roman Catholic Church. Small children were not allowed to take the sacrament so it was thought that the king would not harm them. It was planned that when the time came, the adults would hide and the children would stay in the town and care for the animals. They were instructed

to not tell where their parents had gone.

"The king's soldiers are on their way," a messenger cried one day as he rode into Heather Town. Mothers sent their sons to the fields to warn their fathers. All precious items were hidden in the most secretive places. Then, taking their babies and older children, the parents ran to hide in caves among the mountains.

That afternoon Captain Walters and his soldiers paraded proudly into Heather Town. They dismounted their horses and knocked on doors. but no one answered. Then, crash! bang! the doors were broken down! Not a person was found in the town. The children had scattered like frightened chicks to hide under the heather bushes around the village. Captain Walters was angry! He trembled with fear of what the king might do to him if he could not find the men. "How did they know we were coming? How have they escaped so soon?" he questioned.

"Go find them!" he shouted gruffly to his men.

Away the soldiers galloped, through the town, over the heather covered hills, searching everywhere. Soon a soldier came back with a small girl. Then another came with a trembling



### Christ My Shepherd

### John 10:7-15

- 7 Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep.
- 8 All that ever came before me are thieves and robbers: but the sheep did not hear them.
- 9 I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.
- 10 The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.
- 11 I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.
- 12 But he that is an hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth: [or goes away] and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep.
- 13 The hireling fleeth, because he is an hireling, and careth not for the sheep.
- 14 I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine.
- 15 As the Father knowethme, even so know I the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep.

### Psalms 23:1-6

- 1 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
- **2** He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

- 3 He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
- 4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.
- 5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.
- 6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

The Message: A good shepherd takes good care of his sheep, so Christ takes good care of His children whom He also calls His sheep.

### **Questions:**

- 1. The door by which God's sheep enter His church is
- 2. When a person enters into this door he "shall be \_\_\_\_\_."
- 3. Jesus came so the sheep might have .
- 4. What happens to the hireling when the wolf comes after the sheep?
- 5. Who is the good shepherd?
- 6. Where does the Good Shepherd lead his sheep?
- 7. How do God's sheep feel when they walk through the shadow of death?
- will follow God's sheep all the days of their life.
- 9. Where will God's sheep dwell forever?

#### Verse To Memorize:

I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.

John 10:11.



It was early morning. The light of dawn made the trail just visible so Juan could lead his sheep from the corral to the dew-drenched grass on the other side of the mountain. His sheep had been feeding for two hours in the knee tall grass when he heard the tinkling of the bell on the lead sheep of his friend, Antonio.

When the hot noonday sun burned down on his sheep's woolen backs they found refuge under the shade of near-by trees. Juan was a good shepherd. His sheep had eaten until they were full. The heavy dew on the grass had also satisfied their thirst for water.

Antonio's sheep were still hungry and thirsty at noon. Although suffering from heat they continued eating. But there was no dew left to quench their thirst, and the water holes were very dirty and almost dry. The sheep who drank dirty water were sure to get sick. After months of such care, his sheep did become sick and some died.

Juan was willing to sacrifice for his sheep, but Antonio was not. Jesus sacrificed for us, His sheep, by giving His life to pay for our sins. He is our Good Shepherd.

Not only is He good, He is strong and powerful. There is no danger so great that He cannot protect. There is no need so big that He cannot supply. There is no sorrow so sad that He cannot comfort.

Go out some night and walk alone under the stars and remind yourself of His majesty and greatness. Look up in the sky. You are looking at 250,000,000 X 250,000,000 stars. Each one is larger than the sun. The earth which seems so very big, is but a small bit of matter among these large heavenly bodies. A person on this earth then, would be but a tiny speck of dust.

Yes, we are but a tiny bit of dust, yet God, the creator of this vast universe has said that He wants to be our Shepherd. He wishes to care for us. He will see that we have plenty to eat and good water to drink. He will think loving thoughts of us, and talk to us. He will supply all our spiritual needs. We can be the object of His affection and attention. What a wonderful opportunity!

Just think, each of us belongs to Him, because He chose to create us so that He can love us! "We shall not want." Why? Because He chooses to supply our needs. "He makes us able to lie down in green pastures," because we have eaten and are satisfied. "He leads us to the still clean water."

Not only does the Good Shepherd supply our body's needs. He also "restores our soul. He leads us in the paths of righteousness. Yea though we may walk through the valley of death, He is with us." He comforts us. He prepares for us among our enemies. Yes, "surely goodness and mercy shall follow us all the days of our life, and we will dwell in the house of the Lord forever."

All this can be yours, if you will take Jesus as your Shepherd. Don't you want a shepherd like that? Jesus is a shepherd like Juan. The devil is a shepherd like Antonio. Would you rather have one like Antonio?

—Charlotte Huskey



boy riding behind him. Another came with two little boys clinging to each other. The search continued, but no one was found except children.

"Where is your father? Where is your mother?" each child was asked. Not one of the thirty-six children would tell where their parents had gone.

"Then you will die in place of your parents," the captain shouted roughly to the frightened children.

No one answered the Captain. Nothing could be heard except the prancing and snorting of the horses, the soft crying of the children, and the scuffing of little feet as they huddled closer together.

"On your mark. Aim!" he shouted to his men. Immediately the long musket guns were pointed right at the children. Some children screamed. Others were too frightened to make a noise. "Closer!" the captain shouted.

The soldiers moved nearer until the long gun barrels were nearly in the children's faces.

Captain Walters shouted again, "Now will you tell where your parents are hiding?"

No answer.

"You rebels," he shouted, "then you will all be shot. Kneel down in rows, and cover your eyes with hand-kerchiefs," he demanded.

Many children in Scotland wore handkerchiefs around their necks, so at once the soldiers began making the children cover their eyes with their handkerchiefs.

Christa looked up at the soldier nearest her and asked, "May I hold my little brother's hand? We could die better that way." Then she took her little brother's hand. "Don't cry, Alex." she said.

"Will it be hard?" the soldier heard Alex ask Christa.

When all was ready the captain ordered, "FIRE." The muskets went off with a terrible BANG!

Some of the children fell to the ground.

After the smoke had cleared, Captain Walters shouted. "Get up, you are not dead. Only powder was in our guns." It was to frighten the children into telling. "Now if you do not tell, we will really kill you."

Not one child would tell.

"Then you will die!" he roared. "Say your prayers before we shoot."

One of the little boys said, "We don't know how to say prayers."

Quickly another added, "But please, Sir, we could sing a song." Without waiting for an answer, he stood up and began singing:

"The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want:

He makes me down to lie
In pastures green; He leadeth me
The quiet waters by."

One by one the other children joined in the singing.

Captain Walters trembled. He looked at his soldiers, fear shown in every eye. "March," he ordered softly to his lead man. One by one the others followed. As they disappeared over the hills the children's voices could be heard singing:

"Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,

Yet I will fear no ill."

-Charlotte Huskey

(Answers: 1. By Jesus, 2. Saved, 3. Life, 4. He runs away, 5. Jesus, 6. In green pastures, 7. They feel comfort from the Good Shepherd, 8. Goodness and Mercy, 9. In the house of the Lord.)



Vol. 44, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 10 June 6, 1993

### Rain!

"It is twelve months since we have had any rain," cried the chief of the tribe, "It must be because our 'gods' are angry with us for letting the white missionaries come to live here."

The crops were failing and the animals were dying of thirst in the mountainous area of Southern Sudan. As far as the missionaries knew, only three white people lived in this small country which is about the same size as Wales.

That evening, just as it was growing dusk, one of the three missionaries looked out of her window and saw an amazing sight. The chief, with many, many men, women and children, were walking slowly across the field towards the missionaries' home! They must be coming to tell us the decision that has been made at the 'public inquiry' which they have been holding, she thought.

"Listen to us," demanded the chief after he had called the three together. "The God of the white people must send rain before twelve noon tomorrow. If He does not, then our 'gods' demand that you three missionaries be sacrificed."

"Yes, yes," agreed the multitude of warriors standing behind him. Having made his speech, the chief turned

and walked down the hill. The great multitude followed, shouting savage cries that could not be understood by the missionaries.

The three missionaries went to their room that night but did not sleep. They read and re-read those verses from the Bible in 1 Kings 18. which tell how God sent rain after Elijah had prayed. Then they read "Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he 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, and the earth brought forth her fruit." James 5:17-18. They read how God delivered Daniel from the lion's den and the three Hebrew children from the fiery furnace. They prayed and read the Bible all that night. They could not sleep. Neither had they eaten since hearing the terrible news. They just felt they had to get right into the presence of God and plead with Him to work a wonderful miracle so that all this tribe would know that the Lord was really stronger than their 'gods'.

Jesus drew very near to them as they prayed, and many of the wonderful promises in the Bible became very real to them as they searched



# Christ Provides For Me II Kings 4:1-7

- 1 Now there cried a certain woman...unto Elisha, saying, Thy servant my husband is dead; and thou knowest that thy servant did fear the LORD: and the creditor is come to take unto him my two sons to be bondmen.
- 2 And Elisha said unto her,...tell me, what hast thou in the house? And she said, Thine handmaid hath not any thing in the house, save a pot of oil.
- 3 Then he said, Go, borrow thee vessels of all thy neighbours, even empty vessels: borrow not a few.
- 4 And when thou art come in, thou shalt shut the door upon thee and upon thy sons, and shalt pour out into all those vessels, and thou shalt set aside that which is full.
- 5 So she went from him, and shut the door upon her and upon her sons, who brought the vessels to her; and she poured out.
- 6 And it came to pass, when the vessels were full, that she said unto her son, Bring me yet a vessel. And he said unto her, There is not a vessel more. And the oil stayed.
- 7 Then she came and told the man of God. And he said, Go, sell the oil, and pay thy debt, and live thou and thy children of the rest.

### Matthew 6:25-26, 28, 29-33

25 Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on....

26 Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap,

nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?

28 And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow;...

29 ... Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

30 Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field,...shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith?

31 Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?

32 ...your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.

33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

# The Message: I trust God and obey Him, and He supplies everything that I need.

### Questions:

- 1. Why did the widow come to Elisha for help?
- 2. Did Elisha ask the woman to use what she had?
- 3. What were her sons to borrow?
- 4. What did she pour into the borrowed vessels?
- 5. How did the woman obtain money?
- 6. What did the widow do with the money from the sale of the oil?
- 7. Which is of more value, people or grass and flowers?
- 8. How does God dress the flowers called lilies?
- 9. What should we seek first and God will take care of our needs?

#### Verse to Memorize:

But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:19.



Have you ever thought what would happen to you if your father died? You would be lonely for him, yes. But would you have food to eat? Would you have clothes to wear? Would you and your mother have to pay debts? Would you have to work very hard?

In the Bible story a father died, leaving two sons. These boys were to be taken as bondmen (servants) to their father's creditor. How would you like for that to happen to you?

Well, it didn't happen to these boys either. God provided a way to pay the creditor and the boys could stay at home with their mother.

The Bible has many stories about God providing people's needs. Have you read the story in I Kings chapter 17, about a raven who brought bread and meat to Elijah when he was hiding away in the wilderness? Well that happened a long time ago. But recently, God sent a raven to supply for some starving children in India.

It happened like this:

One day two missionaries planned a special lunch together on the porch of the hospital where they were working. Before her friend arrived, one lady unpacked the meat loaf she had made and went inside to get something she had forgotten. She returned just in time to see a large raven snatch up the meat loaf and fly away! She screeched and waved her arms, but the raven was

too far away to be frightened by the woman. They ate the remaining part of their lunch, never dreaming they would hear what happened to the meat loaf. A few days later, however, a poor Hindu woman came to them wanting to know about the Christian's God.

"Three days ago," she said, "My children were starving and I had nothing for them to eat. Knowing that no one would help me, I decided to say a prayer to every god I knew. I knelt and prayed to the god I thought most likely to help me. Then I waited for an answer. No answer. I prayed to another god. Nothing happened. This I did to all the Hindu gods. Not one sent me food."

"Then I remembered the Christian's God. Not knowing how to pray to Him, I just told Him I needed food for my starving children. Before I got up off my knees a large raven swooped down and dropped a nice meat loaf beside me! Now I want to serve this God. Can you tell me how?"

Aren't you happy that you know how to serve such a caring God? Do you have a need? Trust Him and He will supply it.



its pages. "I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee," they read, and they knew in their hearts that God had not forsaken them at this trouble-some time. "Draw nigh unto God and He will draw nigh unto thee." This promise gave them great faith and confidence in God. In Philippians 4:19 they read, "But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus." How they needed God to provide, rain.

The time seemed to go far too quickly, and soon the dawn had broken the dark night. The mission-aries heard the drums beginning to beat in the village. They were telling them that preparations were being made for a very important day, the day they would be the sacrifice to the savage's god.

The missionaries still prayed. Often they got up from their knees to look out of the window at the sky to see if there might be a sign of rain. Often they went back onto their knees to ask again that rain might fall! All morning they did nothing but pray and look for signs of rain.

At about half-past eleven on this would be dooms-day for the missionaries, one of them looked again at the sky. "There's a small cloud over there!" they shouted excitedly. The two other missionaries rushed to the window and oh, what joy filled their hearts as they spotted a tiny cloud away over on the horizon. Falling on their knees again, they thanked God for providing the rain that they needed.

It was exactly twelve noon when the rain poured down on the village. God had saved the missionaries from death!

The rains continued to pour. They drenched the place! Every water barrel, water pot, jug, pail, bucket or

anything that could hold water was placed outside. The rain soon filled every vessel with cool refreshing water! The natives quickly changed their minds about the missionaries' God.

Days later they learned that the village just two miles away had received no rain! The rain had only fallen on this one village where the missionaries were praying.

Now the chief of the tribe was more impressed with the God of the white people. He was very willing for the missionaries to have full liberty to go where they wanted to preach the Gospel. From that time on, he often asked them to tell him more about God and God's Son, Jesus Christ. Many others in this tribe were also very interested and wanted to hear more of the Gospel.

—Selected



"And call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me." Psalms. 50:15.

"...He is able to save them to the uttermost..." Hebrews 7:25a.

(Answers: 1. Because the creditors were going to take her two sons as servants, 2. Yes, 3. Many vessels, 4. Oil from the container of oil she had, 5. She sold the oil, 6. She paid her debt and had money left for her living, 7. People, 8. Better than Solomon in all his glory, 9. The kingdom of God and his righteousness.)



Vol. 44, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 11 June 13, 1993

### No More Stinky Feet

"Where are you, Ryan?" Mother called as she brought in two large sacks of groceries. "Please, carry in the sack of potatoes and the other bags."

"But how did you know Dad brought me home after we were through painting?" Ryan asked.

"It's very simple," she answered. "I could smell your feet. I even knew you had your shoes off," Mother said with a chuckle.

"Oh, Mom, it's not funny. Everybody knows me by my smelly feet."

"Take your socks off. I'd like to take a look at them."

Ryan sat down on a kitchen chair and yanked off a long white sock. His feet were red and scaly. The skin between his toes was cracked. Underneath the middle toe hung a blister, and evidence of other blisters showed plainly on other toes of his right foot. Puss was oozing from the nail of the big toe on his left foot, and the bottoms of both feet were red and the skin peeling.

"My, my, I didn't know your feet were this bad! Don't they hurt when you walk?

"Well, not too bad unless my feet get hot, then they itch and burn like being on fire." "They look terrible, and smell like they are rotting. We need to be praying about healing, for we plan to trust God. Right Ryan?"

Ryan nodded his head "Yes."

"A physician would possibly prescribe a drug to kill this fungus. But a druggist told me that seldom is athlete's foot permanently healed, especially if the toenails get infected. He said that most powders and ointments only cause it to not itch, so some temporary healing occurs, but it will show up again when conditions get right for it to grow. Of course, we know God can heal completely."

"I know He can, and I sure wish He would," Ryan said as he put on his socks and shoes. Without another word he went outside for the groceries.

"Why did you buy so much?" he asked as he staggered in, arms loaded with bags. "I thought we were going to the Pacoima Camp Meeting."

"We are, but I wanted to buy some fruit to take along to Grandma, so I just got other things that we needed, too. We won't be gone long."

When they arrived at the Pacoima camp grounds on Tuesday afternoon, the boys were playing football on the lawn between the Sunset Guest



### Christ Hears My Prayers

### II Kings 19:14-19

- 14 Hezekiah received the letter...and read it: and Hezekiah went up into the house of the LORD, and spread it before the LORD.
- 15 And Hezekiah prayed before the LORD, and said, O LORD God of Israel, which dwellest between the cherubims, thou art the God, even thou alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth: thou hast made heaven and earth.
- 16 LORD, bow down thine ear, and hear: open, LORD, thine eyes, and see: and hear the words of Sennacherib, which...reproach the living God.
- 17 Of a truth, LORD, the kings of Assyria have destroyed the nations and their lands,
- **18** And have cast their gods into the fire:
- 19 Now therefore,...save thou us out of his hand, that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that thou art the LORD God, even thou only.

### II Kings 19:32-37

- 32 Therefore thus saith the LORD concerning the king of Assyria, He shall not come into this city, nor shoot an arrow there, nor come before it with shield, nor cast a bank against it.
- 33 By the way that he came, by the same shall he return...saith the LORD.
- **34** For I will defend this city, to save it, for mine own sake....
- **35** And it came to pass that night, that the angel of the LORD went out, and smote in the camp of the Assyrians

- an hundred fourscore and five thousand: and...they were all dead corpses. [a score is twenty]
- **36** So Sennacherib king of Assyria departed, and went and returned, and dwelt at Nineveh.
- 37 And it came to pass, as he was worshipping in the house of Nisroch his god, that Adrammelech and Sharezer his sons smote him with the sword: and they escaped into the land of Armenia. And Esar-haddon his son reigned in his stead.

### Psalm 91:15

15 He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him.

The Message: God is ready to help me through troubles when I live to please Him.

### Questions:

- What did Hezekiah spread before God in the temple?
- 2. Why did King Hezekiah bring his letter to God?
- 3. What had the Assyrian kings done to other nations and gods?
- 4. Why did Hezekiah want God to save his country?
- 5. Did God say the Assyrians would fight against Hezekiah?
- 6. What did God say would happen to the Assyrians?
- 7. Who visited the Assyrian's camp in the night?
- 8. How many soldiers were found dead?
- 9. Will God deliver the righteous who call upon Him?

### Verse to Memorize

And call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me.

Psalm 50:15.



"Where shall we look for help in affliction?

Or whither shall we send? The prayer of faith will save, It is written.

Tis truth till time shall end."

The Assyrian king was very angry. He wanted the people of Judah to serve him. He wanted them to give him gold, silver and labor, but Hezekiah, the king of Judah did not want to serve a heathen king any rebelled. longer. He Sennacherib, king of Assyria sent men to Judah to frighten the people into surrendering. The Assyrian men stood on the wall of the city and shouted all day about the strength of the Assyrian army, and how easy it would be to conquer Judah. The people of Judah became very frightened.

Hezekiah knew to seek help from God in time of trouble. He sent messengers to God's prophet, Isaiah. "Tell him all that has happened. Then ask him to please let us know what God wants us to do. We will do all that God says," he promised.

The messengers returned saying, "Do not be afraid of this king, who blasphemed me. I will send a blast and he will return to his own land. There he will fall by the sword."

Next King Hezekiah received a letter from Sennacherib, king of Assyria. "We have destroyed all other nations, and burned their gods. We will do the same to you," he bragged in the letter. It also scorned the idea of Hezekiah getting help from Egypt and winning. Worst of all, it ridiculed trusting in God for deliverance.

Hezekiah went into the temple and spread the letter before God. "Here is what he says he's going to do," the king told God in prayer. "But you are the only living God, now deliver us so the nations will know that you are not an idol."

God then sent a message through the prophet Isaiah. It said, "I will put my hook in King Sennacherib's nose and my bridle in his lips and will turn him back by the way which he has come."

That very night an angel visited the Assyrian army camp and destroyed 185,000 soldiers. When the king got up the next morning, his army was a group of dead corpses. He hurried back home and got there safely, but while worshiping in the temple of his god, Nisroch, his two sons killed him.

Yes, God answered Hezekiah's prayers and He will do the same for you and me. "Call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me." Psalms 50:15. "He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him." Psalms 91:15.

-Charlotte Huskey



Home, where Grandma lived, and the Church of God chapel. "Stop, Dad, let me out," Ryan called opening the door of our Nissan. Off he ran. He was just in time to see Ronald Riley making a touch down. He joined Aaron's team, which made the teams a little more even. Now it would be a tough game for either side to win. By supper time they were all hungry, but not ready to stop. "I wish we could play another hour," Ryan sighed.

"Great game!" Ronald said, slapping Aaron on the back.

After supper Ryan hurried to take a shower and change his socks. He didn't want the guy sitting near him during the worship service to smell his feet.

Thursday of the camp meeting was a day of fasting and prayer for the sick. Ryan decided to fast for healing of his feet. After a sermon on God's plan for healing, an invitation was given for all who wished to be healed to come forward for prayer. Ryan went forward and sat quietly on the altar bench. Ashamed to mention his stinky feet, Ryan said only, "I need to be healed." The ministers prayed for God to heal him.

When service was dismissed, he told his mother, "There's nobody here to play with, so I'm going to take a nap."

"Okay," she answered, "I'll be helping in the kitchen."

About an hour later Ryan came bursting into the kitchen, "Mother, Mother," he gasped, "When I awoke my feet felt different so I took off my socks, and—and— they're healed! Healed, do you understand? My feet are well!"

"What?" Mother questioned.It seemed too good to be true.

"My feet, my feet," he gasped again.
"There is no crack, or blister or peel-

ing skin on my feet. And the stink is gone, too!"

Sure enough, all signs of the disease was gone! And the smell in the cabin that night was fresh and pleasant, when the night before Mother had buried her nose in her pillow so she wouldn't have to smell stinky feet.

The following day, on Friday. Ryan stood up and gave a testimony of how God had instantly healed his feet.

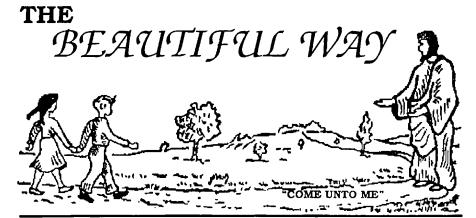
After service an old brother who possibly couldn't hear well, came over to Ryan

"Son," he said, "I felt I should give you a little advice on how to take care of athlete's foot. It sure can be a terrible affliction. Always buy shoes that have plenty of ventilation. And always keep your feet dry. Wash your feet every day, and put on only clean white socks. Change your socks several times a day if your feet get wet or sweaty. Well, God bless you boy. I must be going, my family is waiting for me," and off he tottered.

Ryan scratched his head as he watched the old man hurrying away. "But I don't have athlete's foot, Sir," Ryan wanted to say. "Didn't you hear? God healed my feet! I was healed of athlete's foot, on Thursday, August 29, 1991."

-Charlotte Huskey

(Answes: I. A threatening letter from Assyria's king, 2. He wanted God to help him. 3. They had destroyed the nations, their lands, and burned their gods, 4. So other nations would know that God is the only God, 5. No. 6. They would return the way they had come, 7. An angel, 8. 185,00 men, 9. Yes.)



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### Lucy Helps Her Father

Paul staggered through the door, tripped on the leg of the kitchen chair. and fell to the floor. He gave the chair such a hard kick that it broke into pieces. Then he cursed the chair and his wife for leaving the chair in his way.

Lucy ran into the bedroom and carefully closed the door. She knew not to lock it. Her father always became very angry when he found her door locked. She crawled under the bed and wiggled her way back against the wall. Here she hoped her father would not find her, for when he was drunk, he beat whoever or whatever got in his path. She could still hear him cursing her good mother.

Moments later she heard him at her door. Her heart began racing, then almost stopped beating. "Lucy, where are you?" he called from the open door. Lucy did not answer. "Gone again? Well, I'll jest wait right here fer her." He slumped down on the bed.

Lucy lay still as a stone. After a while, her father fell over on the bed. She waited for him to fall asleep. While she waited, she imagined what it would be like to live in a peaceful home. Mother often said if Daddy would stop drinking, there would be peace. Daddy said his only peace was found in the bottle. Lucy believed

what her mother said. "What can I do to help him?" She thought of different things, most of them her mother had already tried. Then she prayed, "God help my daddy stop coming home drunk." Then an idea popped into her mind! After what seemed to be a day and night of waiting, she heard her father's heavy breathing and knew he was asleep. She crept out.

"Has my daddy always been mean like this?" she whispered to Mother, who was bending over the broken chair, trying to repair it.

"No, Lucy," Mother answered. "He is a good man when he isn't drinking."

"When is that? I've never known him to come home happy."

"One of these days he will come home sober," Mother assured Lucy. "Then you will learn to love your real daddy."

How very much Lucy wanted her daddy to change. Her mother had tried ever so many ways to help him quit drinking, but nothing helped. When Mother said anything about him drinking, he always said, "All the peace I have is when I'm with the boys at the tayern."

All night Lucy thought about her idea to help her father. The next evening she hurried through the village streets. She was determined that



# Christ Brings Me Peace Psalms 29:11

The LORD will give strength unto his people; the LORD will bless his people with peace.

### Psalms 55:18

He hath delivered my soul in peace from the battle that was against me: for there were many with me.

### Psalms 85:8

I will hear what God the LORD will speak: for he will speak peace unto his people, and to his saints:

### Psalms 119:165

Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them.

### Isaiah 26:3

Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.

### Isaiah 32:17

And the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance for ever.

#### Isaiah 48:18

O that thou hadst hearkened to my commandments! then had thy peace been as a river....

### Mark 4:35-41

- 35 And the same day, when the even was come, he saith unto them, Let us pass over unto the other side.
- 36 And when they had sent away the multitude, they took him even as he was in the ship. And there were also with him other little ships.
- 37 And there arose a great storm of wind, and the waves beat into the ship, so that it was now full.
- 38 And he was in the hinder part of the ship, asleep on a pillow: and they awake him, and say unto him, Master, carest thou not that we perish?

- **39** And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm.
- 40 And he said unto them. Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith?
- 41 And they feared exceedingly, and said one to another, What manner of man is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?

### John 14:27

Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

### Romans 5:1

Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:

The Message: When Christ is the prince of our hearts, He brings peace into our lives.

### Questions:

- 1. With what will God bless his people?
- 2. What will God speak unto his saints?
- 3. What will people who love God's law have?
- 4. What must a person do to keep peace?
- 5. What is one of the works of right-teousness?
- 6. What was Jesus doing while in a storm on the sea?
- 7. How did Jesus calm the storm?
- 8. What did Jesus give his disciples which the world cannot give?
- 9. When a person is justified by faith, what will he have?

### Verse To Memorize:

When a man's ways please the LORD, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him.

Proverbs 16:7.



Oscar was a peaceful family dog. The children rode on his back. They threw their caps in the air for him to catch. They tossed sticks into the river so they could watch him plunge in and bring them back to land.

Mother ,too, felt peaceful when the children had to walk to school, for Oscar walked beside them, so that nothing would molest them. In the evenings he walked to the school to get the children.

There was one thing in particular that caused the family to feel peaceful about what Oscar did. It was the way Oscar watched over little Ernie. He was too young to go to school, so he wandered around the farm playing at whatever suited his fancy. Oscar was always near-by seeing that no danger befell his little master. One day while Mother and Father were planting the garden, Ernie and Oscar wandered off.

Ernie was only allowed to walk to the end of the lane to meet his brother and sister when they came home from school. But this day he took his own way and wandered out of the lane and went down the main road toward the town. Then he saw another road that looked interesting and walked on that road.

All afternoon Ernie nor the dog were missed, but when the older children returned from school without Ernie and Oscar, the parents became alarmed. Three groups of searchers set out to find Ernie. One went to the fields, another to the town, and the other went into the near-by forest. After a full hour of searching, Ernie

was found sleeping peacefully beside the gate of another farm. Oscar lay beside him, guarding like a sentinel.

Like Oscar cared for Ernie, so each of God's children have a guardian angel who watches over them. We may sleep peacefully knowing He is protecting. In times of trouble, sorrow, or any need, we can be at peace knowing that God knows all about our needs and will see that things happen for our good.

Peace is an assurance from within. which makes us feel calm when trouble is around. Jesus lay peacefully asleep in the boat because his Father was standing guard. His disciples were fearful of being drowned because they had not learned to trust in God. We .too, are God's little children and can feel this peace when things around look very bad. Peace does not depend on our troubles. It depends on our faith. If we have faith in our Father God who has all power, then trouble will not take away our peace. If we do not have faith in God, we will not have peace when we have troubles.

The devil will rob our peace, if we do not keep our faith in God. Worry will take the place of peace in our hearts if we look at the trouble instead of looking to God who is watching over us.

What kind of faith do you have? Do you have as much faith in God as the farmer did in his dog, Oscar? The farmer did not worry about Ernie, because he knew Oscar was watching over his little boy. This story about Oscar is true.



her father should not come home drunk again. "I will persuade him, and he will see how much fun it can be," she told herself. Her father got off work long before it was dark. Thinking she would be gone a short time, Lucy did not tell her mother.

Neither did Mother worry about Lucy for she was a very obedient child, and her best friend lived next door. They usually played near-by. However, when Mother called, "Lucy." and no one answered she began checking on her. Lucy was no where to be found, not next door, nor at her other friend's homes. She checked the neighborhood stores. No Lucy. Someone had seen her going toward the tavern. But Mother never dreamed she was going there. Mother feared she had gone to the small lake near the tavern. The lake was searched. but Lucy was not found. Just before the sun began to set the police were notified, and a larger search began.

While the towns people were searching for Lucy, she was standing in the shadows near the tavern waiting for her father. "Why hadn't he come?" Many other men had come and gone into the tavern. Some had come out drunk. Fearing one might harm her, Lucy trembled and huddled against the darkened wall. When they were out of sight, she relaxed a little. Then another came out, and another. Lucy became more and more frightened, but she had to meet her father. Then two men came out fighting. Lucy started to run home, then she stopped. She must see her father, so she ran to hide behind the building. Peering from the corner of the building, she watched the street, still hoping to see her father.

Soon a policeman came to break up the fight. He spotted Lucy. "You fit the description of the little girl the whole town is searching for," he said. "Are you lost?"

"No, I'm not lost," Lucy answered. "I'm waiting for my daddy. He comes here every night. Then he comes home drunk. I think God told me to meet him here and tell him that God will give him peace, and he won't have to find it in a bottle."

"I don't know what God told you," said the policman. "But I do know your mother isn't very peaceful right now, 'cause she can't find her little girl. You better come along with me."

"But I must meet my daddy," Lucy protested. "Sir, it's awful when he comes home drunk."

"I'm sure it is. I'll see how I can help you later." Then taking Lucy by the hand he lifted her into his arms and carried her to his car.

By this time, many people had given up the search for the night. Her mother was back at home, praying. Her prayer was interrupted by a knock on her door. Opening the door she cried, "Lucy, Lucy, where have you been?"

"I went to meet Daddy and bring him home, happy," Lucy said. "I'm sorry I made you afraid. I was afraid, too. But I had to be strong, to save Daddy."

That night her father did come home sober. He never again went to the tavern.

Jesus made a new creature out of him, and took away the desire to get drunk. The family went to church together. Not long after her father changed, the policeman who found Lucy was also saved.

Peace found its way into both homes. The prince of peace began reigning in the men's hearts.

—(A true story), Charlotte Huskey

(Answers: 1. With peace, 2. He will speak peace, 3. They will have peace, 4. He must keep his mind stayed on God, 5. It is peace, 6. He was peacefully sleeping. 7. He said, "Peace be still," and the storm calmed. 8. Peace, 9. Peace.)





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### God Protects Sam

A bloody war was raging. Refugees from the defeated tribe fled. Some found shelter in the mission station where Mr. Kook lived. Among the refugees was a boy who called himself Sam.

Mr. Kook noticed Sam learned quickly and worked well. One day he said, "Sam, I see you are very smart and always ready to help. I need a boy like you to help around my home and run errands for me. Our village has no telephones, so many times I need messages taken quickly. Think you could do that?"

"Sure," Sam answered with a smile. So Sam was taken into Mr. Kook's home. It wasn't long, however, until one of Mr. Kook's friends said to him. "Be careful, Sam is a thief. Things take wings and fly away when he's around."

It was not long before some of Mr. Kook's valuable things were missing. "I should have been more careful," he chided himself. "How will I ever get those things back?"

The first thing he did was give Bible lessons about the evils of stealing and the suffering that comes from being a thief. Sam was always there for the studies, but he paid little attention. Mr. Kook knew he didn't fear God enough to obey the Bible, so he prayed

often for God to show him what to do about Sam.

God gave him a plan. One day he called Sam into his office and said to him. "I know you are a very clever boy. I want you to help me do some detective work." Sam looked very pleased.

"I have lost quite a few valuable things. I want you to find them and also find out who has taken them."

The next day Sam brought a shovel and said, "I have found this, but I have not found the one who has taken it."

The following day he brought in an ax, and said the same words. He stood looking down at the ax for a while and then asked, "Mr. Kook, how can a person get forgiveness if they do wrong?"

Mr. Kook replied, "Do you not know that if we confess our sins, God is willing to forgive us because the Lord Jesus has died on the cross for our sins?"

Then he added: "The Bible says in Isaiah 55:7, 'Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him, and...he will abundantly pardon.' Doesn't that sound like good news?"

Sam smiled.

Mr. Kook knew he didn't fear God enough to obey the Bible, so he prayed Romans 6:23, isn't very good news. It



### Christ My Protector

### Acts 21:30-34

- **30** And...they took Paul, and drew him out of the temple:
- 31 And as they went about to kill him, tidings came unto the chief captain....
- **32** Who immediately took soldiers and centurions, and ran down unto them: and...they left beating of Paul.
- 33 Then the chief captain... commanded him to be bound with two chains; and demanded who he was, and what he had done.
- **34** And...when he could not know the certainty for the tumult, he commanded him to be carried into the castle.

#### Acts 23:12-24

- 12 And when it was day, certain of the Jews...bound themselves under a curse, saying that they would neither eat nor drink till they had killed Paul.
- **13** And they were more than forty which had made this conspiracy.
- 14 And they came to the chief priests and elders, and said, We...will eat nothing until we have slain Paul.
- 15 Now therefore...bring him down unto you to morrow, as though ye would inquire something...and we...are ready to kill him.
- 16 And when Paul's sister's son heard of their lying in wait, he went...into the eastle, and told Paul.
- 17 Then Paul called one of the centurions unto him, and said, Bring this young man unto the chief captain: for he hath a certain thing to tell him.
- 18 So he took...him to the chief captain....
- 19 Then the chief captain took him by the hand, and went with him aside privately, and asked him, What is that thou hast to tell me?
- 20 And he said, The Jews desire thee that thou wouldest bring down Paul to-

morrow into the council, as though they would inquire somewhat of him more perfectly.

- 21 But do not thou yield unto them: for there lie in wait for him of them more than forty men, which have bound themselves with an oath, that they will neither eat nor drink till they have killed him: and now are they ready, looking for a promise from thee.
- 22 So the chief captain...charged him, See thou tell no man that thou hast shewed these things to me.
- 23 And he called unto him two centurions, saying, Make ready two hundred soldiers to go to Caesarea, and horsemen threescore and ten, and spearmen two hundred, at the third hour of the night;
- 24 And provide them beasts, that they may set Paul on, and bring him safe unto Felix the governor.

## The Message: I trust Christ when I am afraid and He protects me.

### Questions:

- 1. What did the men want to do to Paul?
- 2. Who kept Paul from being killed?
- 3. Where was Paul taken?
- 4. Was God using the chief captain to protect Paul?
- 5. What did forty Jews promise each other?
- 6. Who did God use to find out what the Jews were planning to do?
- 7. How did God permit this important news to reach the chief captain?
- 8. How did the chief captain protect Paul from those who planned to kill him?
- 9. If God protected Paul, will He also protect others who trust in Him?

#### Verse to Memorize

So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.

Hebrews 13:6.



"Hey, men," shouted one of the Jews worshiping in the temple. "This is the man who is teaching people everywhere against the laws of Moses. He even brought a Greek into the temple and polluted it. Get him out of here! Get him out!"

"Yes, yes," agreed another. "Get him out of here."

Other men began shouting more accusations against Paul. Soon the temple was in an uproar. The excited men dragged Paul out of the temple and began beating him. "Kill, him! Kill him!" they shouted.

A soldier standing guard on an upper story porch of the near-by castle saw the people beating a man in front of the temple. He called an alarm. Almost immediately the chief captain and soldiers were breaking up the mob. They carried Paul into the castle.

The men's hunger to murder Paul was still unsatisfied, so they planned to pretend they wanted to ask Paul some questions and trick the chief captain into bringing Paul again into the temple. Paul's nephew found out about their scheme and told the chief captain. He ordered 470 soldiers to take Paul safely out of Jerusalem to Governor Felix, who lived in Caesarea.

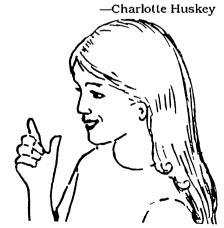
God will protect His trusting children. He will never let anything happen to us that is not for our good. We must learn to trust in God even when we are afraid.

Lynn learned to trust God and overcome fear. She lived in two rooms of a large old apartment house. Each day when she came home from school she had to pass through its long dark hall. Her father was crippled and had no wheel chair. Her mother was working at that hour, so neither could meet Lynn at the door.

Lynn was afraid to go through this dark hall. She imagined some evil person would jump out of a door and hurt her. Often she thought she might be kidnapped and never see her father nor mother again.

Her father felt sad when she came into the apartment trembling with fear. After a while he noticed that she did not seem so afraid. One day she came in smiling. "Lynn," he asked, "weren't you afraid to come through the dark hallway today?"

"No, Daddy," she answered, "I'm not afraid anymore. I just sing, 'God will take care of me. Through all the day, or all the way, He will take care of me,' and He always does. You know the Bible says, 'Fear thou not; for I am with thee:' I think that verse is in Isaiah 41:10."



says: 'For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

"Thank you," Sam said slowly. Then turned and walked away.

Mr. Kook was a little disappointed, for he hoped that Sam was going to confess. That night he prayed earnestly that God would help Sam understand how much better it would be to admit his wrong and get things cleared up. He also prayed that God would protect his valuables and not let Sam sell them.

The following day Sam came to his master with his arms full of valuable things. "Is this all the things you are missing?" he asked.

While Mr. Kook looked over the pile, he could hear Sam sniffing. When he looked up tears were running down Sam's face. "Please forgive me, I am the thief." he said.

The missionary gladly forgave Sam. Then they both knelt down and asked God to also forgive. Sam gave his heart to the Lord Jesus. After that not another thing was missing. Sam did his work with singing. His load of guilt was gone, for his sins were all washed away in the blood of Jesus; he was now a new creature in Christ. (II Corinthians. 5:17.)

God protected the missionary's valuable things, and also protected Sam from becoming a habitual thief which would have caused him much trouble.

When Sam grew up, he became a missionary to his own people. His greatest delight was to tell others what Jesus had done for him.

—Charlotte Huskey (Adopted from Messages from the Love of God.)

### Sundar Singh

Sundar Singh was the youngest son of a wealthy family in India. When he was 15, he found Christ as his Saviour and became a Christian. His whole family turned against him.

One evening they put poison in his food. After he had eaten, they turned

him out to die alone. He stumbled along half dead until he reached the mission station. The missionaries cared for him and he slowly recovered. When he was well again, he attended the mission school.

Sundar's Christian friends wanted him to stay at the mission and preach. But Sundar felt that God wanted him to go and preach the gospel to the needy people of the villages of India, and he obeyed God. He went from village to village telling the gospel story to all who would listen. The people in the villages learned to love him, and they watched for his coming.

One day Sundar felt God calling him to go over the Himalayan mountains to Tibet and tell the people in Tibet of Jesus' love. Only the strongest people are able to hike over these rough high mountains, but Sundar went.

When he got to Tibet, the people gladly heard the gospel. But the Lamas, who are the priests, were very angry at Sundar and his message. They threw him into a well, put a cover over it and left him there to die. But God was watching over him. A man came along and let down a rope to Sundar and he was saved.

For many years Sundar continued to preach the gospel, and souls were brought to the Saviour.

"And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent." John 17:3.

—Selected from A Message of the Love of God.

(Answers: 1. They wanted to kill him, 2. The chief captain, 3. Into the castle, 4. Yes, 5. That they would not eat or drink until they had killed Paul, 6. Paul's nephew. 7. By the nephew telling Paul, and Paul sending the boy to the chief captain, 8. He surrounded Paul with 200 soldiers, 200 spearmen, and 70 horsemen, and carried him away from the castle to Felix the governor, 9. Yes.)