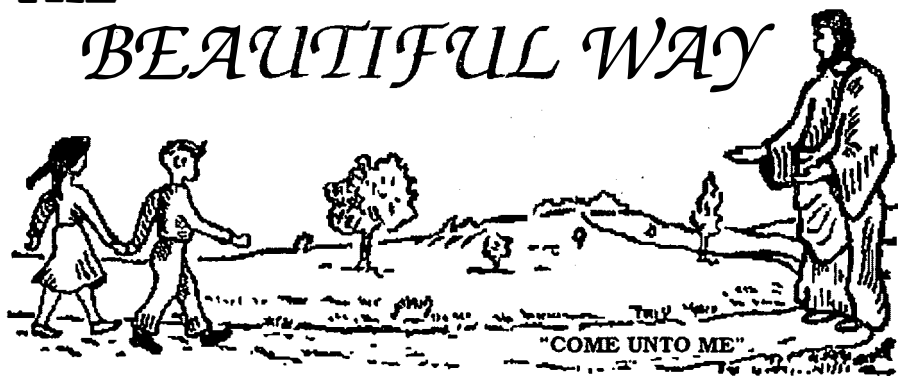


THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 1 Jan. 4, 2004

Not For Sale

(Continued from last week.)

Jaya enjoyed being back in India after the nine months spent in America. She was glad to be back with her family but she had little time to visit them. Many missionaries had heard how the Lord was using her. They needed her to be a guide and interpreter for them as they carried the gospel to the different parts of India.

The church in Australia begged Jaya to come help them. When Jaya prayed about it she thought the Lord was saying He wanted her to go back to America. She knew if He wanted her there He would make a way for her to go. When a call came from New Guinea begging her to come help there Jaya again prayed about it. This time the Lord told her definitely, "Go again to America." Even though they offered to buy her ticket and pay all her expenses Jaya refused to go anywhere the Lord did not send her.

Jaya waited patiently knowing that when it was the right time God would make a way for her to return to America as He had directed her. Then one day she received a letter from a man in America. He told how the Lord told him to invite Jaya to come back to America and also told him to send her a ticket to come.

Jaya showed the letter and check to her friends. When they read the letter and saw the ticket they were convinced it was God's will for her to go.

"What a busy summer we have had!" exclaimed Mrs. Bustin, kicking off her shoes and falling into her Lazy Boy rocker. "I knew you were in great demand in India, but I never dreamed you'd get so many calls in America." "I like it this way," Jaya responded. "It keeps me from getting so homesick."

"Oh, that reminds me, you have a letter from home." Mrs. Bustin dug in her purse that she'd let drop beside her chair and brought out the letter. Jaya hurriedly excused herself and rushed into her own room. She liked to be alone when she read a letter from home. Hastily she opened the letter and began reading:

My dearest Jaya,

Your family that loves you dearly was very happy to get your letter and to know that you are well and having many opportunities to speak for Jesus. Everyone here misses you. When I go here and there holding meetings many people ask about you. Always remember that your loving family and many other Christians are praying for you daily.

I and your mother have been very busy talking with parents interested in their son marrying Vijaya. Jaya,



All Things Work Together

Romans 8:28

28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.

30 Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.

31 What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

I Peter 4:12-16

12 Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you:

13 But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings: that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy.

14 If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye: for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified.

15 But let none of you suffer as a murderer, or as a thief, or as an evildoer, or as a busybody in other men's matters.

16 Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf.

II Corinthians 12:9-10

9 And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

10 Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong.

The Message: When things look bad God can put them all together for good.

Questions:

1. What will work together for our good if we love God?
2. If _____ be for us who can be against us?
3. We should not think it strange when we have what kind of trial?
4. Instead we should do what?
5. Whose sufferings are we sharing?
6. When we are reproached for the name of Christ, how should we feel?
7. Whose grace is sufficient for us?
8. What is made perfect in our weakness?
9. Why did Paul glory in his infirmities?

Verse to Memorize

And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

Romans 8:28.

Let's



Talk . . .

Randy watched his mother as she laid out the ingredients for the cake she was getting ready to bake. He watched her as she put some flour in a container, added some sugar, baking powder and vanilla; then she broke an egg into the mixture. Next she laid out some other things that smelled good to Randy.

Just as she got all her ingredients together Randy's mother had to leave the room for a few minutes. Randy liked the cakes his mother baked—he decided he'd taste some of the things she was getting ready to put in the cake. Vanilla smelled so good but when he tasted it he thought, "WOW! What a taste—how could she use that awful tasting stuff? It will be sure to ruin the cake!" The flour wasn't much better. Randy thought it tasted about like the powder she used on the baby. Now the sugar—he could handle that!

About that time his mother came back into the kitchen. She put the flour and sugar in a bowl and didn't even hesitate before adding the nasty tasting vanilla. When all the ingredients were in the bowl she mixed them up together real good, poured it in a cake pan, then put it in the oven. Before long Randy could tell by the delicious smell that Mother knew what she was doing—the cake was delicious!

This is the way it is in our young Christian lives. Some things, taken by themselves, are on the bitter side. You may wonder why your little sister or brother has to be such a brat sometimes and why you have to care

for them and let them have their way. That certainly is not fun!

It may seem that your Mom and Dad are constantly telling you that you can't do the things that look like they would be so much fun. You may wonder why they say you need to discipline yourself and that you can't expect to have everything you want when you want it. It may seem cruel to have them say, "No!" when you get your heart set on something.

But the circumstances in your life are like the ingredients of the cake. Separately each one may seem bitter and hard to take. But if we love God and entrust our lives into His hands He will work it all together for great good. Peter tells us that we shouldn't think it is strange when we have fiery trials. God knows just how hot the trial has to be to bring us to perfection. It takes time in the hot oven to blend the flavors of all the cake's ingredients and make it tasty!

It is good to know that God knows exactly what we need to go through. As He teaches us and we let Him work with us it will make us better individuals and Christians. But there are some who say, "I will go my own way. I won't take this bitter trial—I don't like someone telling me what to do!" Their own way may seem better at first but if you watch their lives later on you will see them getting in trouble. Some young people wind up in reform school or may even be put in prison. Broken homes, divorces, children who run away from home can all be the result of choosing your own way instead of allowing God to work it all together for your good.

The life of a Christian is such a happy one if we just let God put the ingredients He chooses in our life! We may not understand at the moment but Romans 8:28 assures us that it will all work together for good. Memorize this verse and make it a part of your life!

—Uncle Dale

you always said that God would not let His children be put to shame. Well, concerning your sister getting married, God surely has blessed abundantly.

Over 100 Christian fathers have contacted me, and we are getting more letters and visits every day. What other girl has that many pursuers? Each is willing to break the old India custom requiring the older daughter to marry first. I have several picked out who would make Vijaya a good husband. They are educated and Christians. We'll let her get acquainted and see which one she prefers.

Let me know when you decide to get married and I'll make arrangements for you to come home and meet some of these nice young men.

Nineteen-year-old Jaya felt herself blushing. "My dear daddy," she said to herself, "has he forgotten that I want to always work for Jesus and not get married?"

After taking a nap, Jaya answered her father's letter.

Dear Daddy, Mother and all,

Jesus has been very good to me. I thank God that He has had mercy on me and let me meet unique Christians and share with them the good news of Jesus' salvation. I do know that He loves me.

The Christians here do not have the same unity as the Christians there. You know over there all Christians gather together to hear the Gospel preached regardless of who preaches it. In the conventions here most of the attendants are members of that denomination.

Leaders from several different churches have asked me to join their organization. One very large, rich church offered to build many big children's homes and churches in India if I would work for them. Another one promised to build 200 churches and big orphanages.

Daddy, I know my answer will please you. We need church buildings and orphanages in India and I do trust God will supply for them. But I just couldn't promise to work for only one group. So when anyone makes an offer I say, 'I am not for sale, because Jesus already bought me. He purchased me with His blood. I must go where He sends me and work among whomever He chooses. I can only work to build up the church of which Jesus is the Head.'

People often don't understand me. The brother who offered to build 200 orphanages must have thought I was strange when I told him that I loved social work but that my main desire was to preach the Gospel. Oh, Daddy, I do want others to experience God's love and I know no better way to help them than to tell what Jesus has done. How sad that many dear people sacrifice so much to worship the Cobra, bathing in dirty water and lying in their wet clothing before the idol for hours. It is a wonder they don't get sick and die from it. Daddy, please continue to preach so the people in darkness can see the Light.

The people here are not in that kind of darkness but many doubt the God that loves them. I am doing what I can to show them that He does love them. Please always pray for me.

I am sorry my letter is so long, but I had so much to tell you.

Your loving daughter, — Jaya

Jaya continued preaching and teaching in the United States for almost ten years. In 1978 she returned to India.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. All things. 2. God. 3. Fiery trial. 4. Rejoice. 5. Christ's. 6. Happy. 7. God's. 8. God's strength. 9. So that the power of Christ would be on him.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 2 Jan. 11, 2004

Healed Of Cancer

(Continued from last week.)

When God sent Jaya back to America she had no idea that she would be away from home for almost ten years! She was glad when the time finally came to return to India.

"Oh, Daddy, things have surely changed while I was in America."

"Yes, things do change in nine years."

"I am anxious to walk around over my beloved India like I did when a child. Shall we go somewhere today?"

"Certainly, I want you to meet Sanghoshama. Let's go visit her."

Jaya laughed. "Why are you laughing?" he asked.

"I was just thinking how difficult it would be for an American to pronounce that name. They would probably call her Sang or Shama."

"Well, let's go see Shama," he said.

As they walked along, Jaya said, "I went out early this morning to see the orphanage. I stood gazing over the rice thinking of those childhood days when I prayed so often in that very spot. I am happy that needy children can find refuge in the same place where I found refuge when I was a little girl."

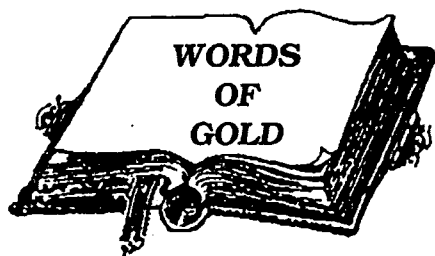
When they arrived they found Shama lying on a cot under the shade of a big mango tree. She arose and

greeted them with the usual tender courtesy of the people in Andhra Pradesh.

"This is my daughter, Jaya," Mr. Kollipara said. "I want her to hear your testimony. Do you feel like telling her?"

"Yes, I do. I am getting stronger every day. Let's see. Where shall I start?" She thought a few moments and then began. "Several years ago, I began having a lot of pain. The pain was so severe that I could not do my work. I went to a doctor. He thought an operation would solve the problem. The operation didn't solve all the problems. Later I had another operation, and another. There were four in all. At last my doctor prescribed cobalt treatments. These added immensely to my discomfort. But hoping to be cured of the fatal cancer, I kept taking the treatments until I had taken 18. I was in and out of the hospital for years. Finally the doctors lost all hope for me and sent me home to die. I could not eat, nor drink, nor sleep.

"My poor mother was so sad. She had prayed to all the Hindu gods, given offerings and sought different healers, but I only grew worse. One day while working in the rice field, a friend asked about me. Mother said, 'She is dying. My only daughter is dying.'



Harvest Time

Judges 1:1-7

1 Now after the death of Joshua it came to pass, that the children of Israel asked the LORD, saying, Who shall go up for us against the Canaanites first, to fight against them?

2 And the LORD said, Judah shall go up: behold, I have delivered the land into his hand.

3 And Judah said unto Simeon his brother, Come up with me into my lot, that we may fight against the Canaanites; and I likewise will go with thee into thy lot. So Simeon went with him.

4 And Judah went up; and the LORD delivered the Canaanites and the Perizzites into their hand: and they slew of them in Bezek ten thousand men.

5 And they found Adonibezek in Bezek: and they fought against him, and they slew the Canaanites and the Perizzites.

6 But Adonibezek fled; and they pursued after him, and caught him, and cut off his thumbs and his great toes.

7 And Adonibezek said, Three-score and ten kings, having their thumbs and their great toes cut off, gathered their meat under my table: as I have done, so God hath requited me. And they brought him to Jerusalem, and there he died.

Matthew 7:12

12 Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you,

do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets.

Galatians 6:7-10

7 Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

8 For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.

9 And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

10 As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.

**The Message: Let's sow
today what we want to reap
tomorrow!**

Questions:

1. What did the children of Israel ask the Lord?
2. Who did the Lord say should go?
3. Who did Judah ask to go with him?
4. How many men did they slay in Bezek?
5. What did they do to Adonibezek?
6. How many kings had Adonibezek treated the same way?
7. What should you do to others?
8. Who is not mocked?
9. As you have opportunity, what should you do?

Verse to Memorize

**Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.
Galatians 6:7.**

Let's



Talk . . .

Isn't it amazing that God has a law of sowing and reaping. If you sow corn you will reap corn, not peas or carrots. Also the law says that you will reap more than what you sow.

In today's Bible reading above Bezek was captured and treated the same way he had done to others. He knew he was tasting the bitter fruit of the same kind of cruel treatment he'd given his enemies.

But the reaping business also applies when the seeds of good are sown. I know of a person who had been very sick and he was recovering. He was overwhelmed at the number of cards and plants he received. But then he had always been kind and thoughtful to others. Now it was returning to him.

The same applies to giving. The Bible says "give and it shall be given to you" Someone said, "You can't out give the Lord." This doesn't only mean in money but also in kind deeds. Lord, help us to treat others the way we would want to be treated! Always live with the awareness that we will surely reap what we sow.

No doubt you have heard messages about the duty of giving to the Lord's work and the blessing you will receive. But as you watch others take money up to the offering box at church you may think, "I'm only getting an allowance of \$5.00 a week. When I make a lot of money I will start putting money in too."

But don't you know that God will bless you for giving? Do you remember the story about the time Jesus was sitting in the temple watching the

people put money in the treasury? Among them was a poor widow who came and put in only two mites. Yet Jesus called special attention to her gift though it was so small. Others were giving large amounts of money but they had plenty more. This widow put in all the money she had.

I read once of a woman whose husband died. She had no way of making a living so things got worse and worse for her. She didn't know what the future held. Then the Lord dealt with her about giving. She told Him, "Oh yes, that sounds well and good, but I have nothing to give!" One day things were so bad she had only two slices of bread left in the house to eat.

Then she heard a knock on the door. Opening it she saw a man who was evidently in distress. He told her, "Ma'am, I am out of work and have been all over town trying to find a job. I am heading home now but I have nothing to take home for supper. Do you have anything that I can take to my wife to eat?"

The Lord told the woman, "Share your bread."

It was a real struggle for her to do this but she obeyed. Before the day was over a neighbor came and said, "I baked some bread and want to share a loaf with you."

The woman felt so blessed that she shared part of the loaf with others. It was not long before she got a job to support herself. But she had learned a valuable lesson. From that time on she was careful to always give to the Lord.

Jesus said, "Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again." Luke 6:38. Now that kind of sowing and reaping pays off. We have tried it and it works!

—Uncle Dale

"I've heard people say that Jesus heals,' the friend said. 'Tonight the Burning Bush people will be having a meeting. Maybe she ought to go.'

"I did go and made a covenant with Jesus to live for Him if He would heal me. I've been feeling better ever since. As soon as I am strong enough, I want to tell others about Jesus."

The next time Jaya visited with Shama she was well and was just returning from visiting a friend to share with her what Jesus had done. "I am surprised that my family does not want me to be a Christian," she told Jaya. "My husband and his parents are very angry. Last night he told me that he was going to send me away if I didn't quit telling others about Jesus. He said the Hindu gods were good enough for anyone. Our son feels the same way."

"Oh, Sister, I don't know if I can keep quiet or not. Jesus has healed me and given me such peace in my heart, I want to tell everyone in the whole wide world," she said spreading her arms wide. "Tell me, how can I be still?"

"I know how you feel," Jaya said. "My family used to tell me the same thing."

"What did you do?"

"Me? Why I prayed a lot and kept talking to people about Jesus. I think I might have burst if I had kept quiet."

"That's how I feel!"

"Then you'll have to keep talking. But listen, Shama, if they kick you out, come and stay with us. My mother will be glad to have you."

One day when Jaya was praying God showed her that Shama's mother was going to try to murder her. She hurried to Shama's home. "Did your mother send food today?" she asked, breathlessly.

"No. Why do you ask?"

"God showed me that she will poison it," Jaya whispered in her ear.

Jaya hurried away as quickly as she had come for Shama's husband did not like Christians.

Later when Shama met Jaya she hugged her tightly and exclaimed,

"Thank you, thank you for warning me that day. My mother, my own mother, who once loved me so dearly, did send me poisoned food. I - I - I still can't believe that she did. But Jaya the dog ate it and he died." She laid her head on Jaya's shoulder and sobbed like a baby.

"Don't cry so," Jaya said. "You are suffering for Jesus. He died for you. Your family loved you before you became a Christian."

"Yes, they would do anything for me, and now..."

"Come home with me."

"I really think I should. I can't give up Jesus and my husband says I must. I promised Jesus to live for Him if He would heal me. He did His part; I must do mine."

For many months Shama lived in the Kollipara home. There she learned much about her beloved Jesus. She had freedom then and went from home to home telling the story of Jesus. There were occasions when she talked with her husband and son. Every day she prayed that they would love her Jesus.

Then one day it happened. Her husband and son became believers! Shama joyfully returned home. There the family often prayed together. God called Shama to be a preacher. Her son grew to be a godly young prayer warrior.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. "Who shall go light
against the Canaanites? 2. Judah.
3. Simeon. 4. Ten thousand men.
5. Cut off his thumbs and his big
toes. 6. Seventy. 7. Whatever you
want them to do to you. 8. God.
9. Good to all men.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 3 Jan. 18, 2004

A New Friend

(Continued from last week.)

The service was over and the people were quietly filing outside. Jaya was reaching for her purse and Bible when she heard a pleasant voice saying, "My name is Emanuel Bandela."

"I'm Jayapradha Kollipara," Jaya answered.

"Jayapradha Kollipara, that name sounds familiar," the handsome man said.

"I don't believe we have met, but I have known of you for a long time," Jaya answered. "When I was a little girl your father asked me to keep praying for you until I knew that you were saved."

"Oh, then you must be the child evangelist that my dad spoke about?"

"The Lord has used me to His glory," Jaya answered shyly.

"Thank you, Miss Kollipara, for praying for me. I am sure that your prayers and those of my father are the reason that I am a Christian today. I was very, very proud. I didn't want to humble myself and let Jesus rule my life. I wanted to have my own way, to do my own thing.

"Then when my dad was stabbed for preaching the gospel I began to question, 'Why did God let him die? Why should a man whose only fault was working too hard for the Lord

suffer such a death?' Of course I didn't know how to trust God's wisdom at that time."

"I have been faithfully praying for 17 years. Now that you are saved, shall I quit?" Jaya asked.

"Oh, no! Keep praying until you know I am in heaven," Emanuel paused for a moment then added. "Speaking of heaven, didn't you once die and go to heaven?"

"You heard about that?"

"My dad talked often of you. Why don't we just sit down here and you tell me about it."

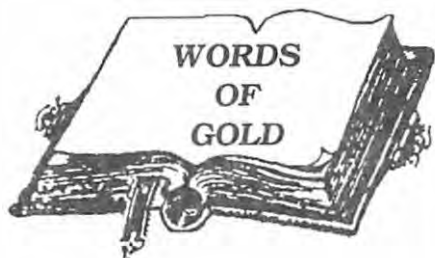
"Okay," Jaya agreed.

Jaya picked nervously at the corner of her sari. She didn't like to talk about herself. She was just a lowly servant of God.

"Go ahead; I'm anxious to hear about it."

"It was a great experience! It has spurred me to keep preaching at those times I have been discouraged. I was fifteen and in great demand for revival meetings. I was laboring for the Lord, fasting, praying, counseling and preaching. Dad and I were holding a revival meeting about 200 miles away from home in another part of Andhra Pradesh. A few days before the meeting ended I told Dad that God was leading me to Delhi.

"Delhi is a huge city!" he exclaimed, "Full of staunch, fanatic Hindus who



Are You Struggling?

Hebrews 12:1-13

1 Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us.

2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith: who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

3 For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds.

4 Ye have not yet resisted unto blood, striving against sin.

5 And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him:

6 For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.

7 If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?

8 But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye...not sons.

9 Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected

us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live?

10 For they verily for a few days chastened us after their own pleasure; but he for our profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness.

11 Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.

12 Wherefore lift up the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees:

13 And make straight paths for your feet....

The Message: God's whippings are sent in love and for our good.

Questions:

1. We are surrounded by a great cloud of _____.
2. What should we lay aside?
3. How should we run the race that is before us?
4. To Whom should we look?
5. Where is He set down?
6. We should not despise the _____ of the Lord.
7. Who does the Lord chasten?
8. If God does not chasten us it is because we are not His _____.
9. What kind of paths should we make for our feet?

Verse to Memorize

For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth....

Hebrews 12:6.

Let's



Talk . . .

Have you ever wondered why God doesn't just make the devil leave you alone so you can be happy and enjoy your Christian life? You may wonder why God doesn't just answer prayer the first time you pray so you wouldn't have to pray time after time. Problems may come that seem just too hard for you and you question why you must go through such a difficult place.

A man once kept the flask-shaped cocoon of an emperor moth in his home for nearly a year. The cocoon of this moth is made so that the moth must squeeze through a very tiny opening at the top. Yet after the moth has emerged the cocoon is still intact, without a tear. Considering the size of the imprisoned moth, it seems a wonder that the moth can ever squeeze through such a small hole.

He happened to be watching when my moth began its first efforts to escape from its long confinement. All morning, from time to time, he watched it patiently striving and struggling to get out. But it never seemed able to get beyond a certain point.

At last his patience was exhausted. He decided that it was very likely that the cocoon was drier and less elastic than if it had been left outside all winter as nature meant it to be. He decided he should help the moth so with the point of his scissors he snipped the opening a tiny bit to make the exit just a little easier.

Almost immediately the moth crawled out of its cocoon dragging a huge swollen body and little shriveled

wings. The man watched anxiously to see the marvelous process of expansion when the wings would silently and swiftly develop right before his eyes. All the exquisite spots and markings of vivid colors were there in miniature but he waited to see these assume their true size. He wanted to see the moth appear in all its perfect beauty, but it never happened!

This man's false tenderness had been the ruin of the moth. It never was anything but an ugly stunted creature. Through its brief life it could only crawl about dragging its shriveled wings when it should have been flying through the air on rainbow wings.

The experience was a lesson to this man. When he saw people struggling with sorrow, suffering and distress his impulse was to cut the discipline short and give them immediate relief. Then, remembering the moth, he realized he was only a short-sighted man! He knew he could never understand the strength and beauty God was working out in these lives.

Our Father's love is too true to be weak. Because He loves His children, He chastises them so they may be holy as He is. With this glorious end in view, He does not stop until the suffering has accomplished His divine purpose. Jesus was made perfect through sufferings. So all the sons of God are trained up to obedience and brought to glory through much tribulation. (Adapted from *Streams in the Desert*, January 9.)

So our prayer should be, "Lord, don't make things easier for me; just make me stronger so I can face life's battles and whip the enemy each time." Then each victory will make you stronger to face the next one!

I want to go through my battles and struggles so my wings will be fully developed!
—Uncle Dale

would love to get their hands on you.' Dad had to leave the meeting before it ended, so to discourage me from going, he took all my things except one change of clothes.

"I didn't want to go against my dad or disobey God. I began fasting and praying. It became clear that I should go to Delhi. But I had no ticket money nor train reservation, no bedding, no clothes nor other traveling gear. Neither could I understand or speak Hindu, nor did I have a place to stay. Going there did seem impossible, but if God was sending I knew He would make all the arrangements.

"Unknown to me there was a couple from Delhi at the meeting. They invited me to their home. The couple and a friend had reservations in the sleeping car for their three day return trip. The morning before they were to leave the friend decided not to go, so they offered me his reservation. That same day I received a letter from a friend 500 miles away. It contained enough money for the ticket. I was ready to go!

"God had supplied chaperones for the trip, a place to stay and everything I needed. The last few days of the meeting many people had given me gifts of a blanket, towels, several dresses and other things.

"In Delhi God healed several people and revealed to me the history of some who came for counseling. This news spread rapidly and people began coming to the meeting. Soon we had outgrown the building and moved into another. The crowds grew until we had to build a large pandal (a temporary shelter from the sun).

"I was there when Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru died. Some Christians took me to the airport to view his body. That evening we went to another home for dinner. While coming down their high stairway, I tripped and fell, knocking myself out. They

said I was dead for five hours. It was early morning before I knew what had happened.

"When I fell, I felt myself flying, up, up, up until I came to a most beautiful place. Oh, Emanuel, you should have seen it! It was glowing brightly but did not hurt my eyes. There were luminous angels everywhere, multitudes of people singing, and Jesus, my blessed Jesus, more royally splendid than I had ever imagined. I realized that my greatest hope had come true. I was in Heaven!

"Imagine how you would feel, Emanuel, to know you would have no more troubles, no more stonings, no beatings, nor criticism, nor hunger, nor thirst, nor rejection of any kind. I was happy beyond words, yet I was shouting praises. And then Jesus spoke to me.

"I don't remember the exact words He said, but the message was this: He asked, 'What about the millions on earth who are living in darkness and have not heard about Me and this beautiful home?'

"'Dear Jesus,' I said, 'I know there are many, but I am so weary and this is so wonderful. Please let me stay.'

"'You can return later and stay with Me forever,' He said kindly. 'Now I want you to go back to earth and tell the multitudes of My love. Tell them of this place that I have prepared for all those who love and serve Me. If you stay here many will die in their sins and never come to this place.'

"Oh, Emanuel, it was so beautiful I want everyone to go there."

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Witnesses. 2. The weights and sin. 3. With patience. 4. To Jesus. 5. At the right hand of the throne of God. 6. Chastening. 7. Those He loves. 8. Sons. 9. Straight.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 4 Jan. 25, 2004

A New Challenge

(Continued from last week.)

A man who spent his life preaching the gospel to the people of India met Jaya. Although she was just a young girl then, he had been impressed when he saw how God was using her. Before he was murdered he asked Jaya to pray for his son until she knew he was saved. Now, after seventeen years she met this son whose name was Emanuel. How glad she was to learn he was now a Christian!

"I enjoyed your sermon," Emanuel told Jaya as she started out of the meeting house. "Do you have time—I mean, could we visit awhile again?"

"I have time," Jaya answered.

"I-I really enjoyed our last visit," he said nervously. "And I've been thinking a lot about some things you said. Mind if I ask a few questions?"

"No, go right ahead."

"My first question is: How did you feel when you were in Heaven, and Jesus told you to come back to earth? That must have been terribly disappointing."

"Well, yes it was. It surely was disappointing. I would have loved to have stayed. But there was something about seeing the glories of heaven, and my dear Jesus that filled me with a desire to endure anything to help others to be able to someday see Him and enjoy Heaven. Emanuel, Heaven is real.

When a person dies they aren't reborn to live another life on this earth. Oh, no, Emanuel."

"Yes, I believe that. But our people are in such darkness. They strive to live good, hoping to be born into better circumstances in their next life. Jesus has something so much better for them. But, Jaya, how submissive you are, how willing to do God's will whatever it costs you. You have already suffered a lot and done much for India."

"Not me, Emanuel, Jesus has changed hearts in India."

"Well, yes, but you did more than your part. Just like my daddy."

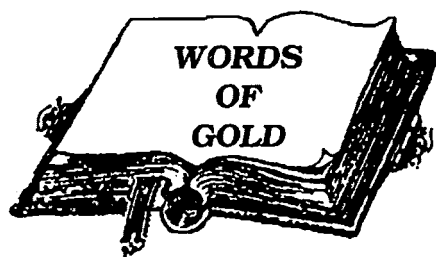
"I could never compare with your father."

"I think you do. I think you are the most wonderful girl in the world," Emanuel said. Then he put his hand to his mouth as if he had let something slip.

Jaya lowered her head and picked at the mat on which she was sitting. After a long silence, Emanuel continued. "The other thing I don't understand is: How did falling on a stairway cause death? Did you hit your head very hard or were you sick at the time?"

"I don't know. Maybe I was weak. I had been fasting. Perhaps God let it happen because He knew I needed a boost at that time."

"Do you fast and pray a lot like my dad did?"



Prayer

Luke 18:1-8; 15-17

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

15 And they brought unto him also infants, that he would touch them: but when his disciples saw it, they rebuked them.

16 But Jesus called them unto him, and said, Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God.

17 Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child shall in no wise enter therein.

Matthew 6:9-13; 7:7

9 After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.

10 Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

11 Give us this day our daily bread.

12 And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

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

The Message: You are never too young to pray. God loves to have little children come to Him in prayer!

Questions:

1. What did Jesus teach in His parable?
2. Who did not fear God nor regard man?
3. Who asked him to avenge her?
4. Why did the judge finally avenge her?
5. Who did they bring to Jesus?
6. Who rebuked those who brought them?
7. Who wanted the little children to come?
8. How must we receive the kingdom of God?
9. Jesus said, "Ask, and _____; seek and _____; knock, and _____."

Verse to Memorize

**Pray without ceasing.
I Thessalonians 5:17.**

Let's



Talk . . .

The Prayer Of A Child

There was a little Chinese girl who loved God and often talked to Him in prayer. She lived with her grandfather who was Mohammedan. Whenever he would catch the little girl praying in the name of Jesus he would beat her.

One day the grandfather saw a band of robbers coming towards the city. He knew they were coming to his home. He was desperate! He knew of no way to protect himself from these vicious men who had invaded his home before.

Suddenly he thought of his little granddaughter. Hadn't she said God would answer prayer? Hurrying home he found her. He shook her roughly to let her know what great danger they were in. Then he cried, "If ever you prayed in your life, pray now! Those robbers are coming back. I have seen them from the city wall. They will soon be here. You say God answers prayer. Go into that room and pray. Pray that they may not come to our house!"

With that he pushed the child into an empty room and closed the door. All alone, the little girl, who was about eight years old, knelt down. Confidently she knelt to tell God about their trouble. Her mother was in the next room and heard her as she poured out her heart to the Lord.

"Heavenly Father," she said, "I am so happy, so thankful because my grandfather has told me to pray.

Always before he beat me or kicked me if I prayed and was so angry. But now he has told me to pray. Heavenly Father, now's Your chance. Please show my grandfather that You do answer prayer. Please don't let the bandits come to our house." And her prayer was in the name of the Lord Jesus.

Meanwhile the soldiers entered the city and sure enough, they headed right for the grandfather's house. His door was standing open. He knew there was no use of shutting it. As the bandit's leader turned his horse's head to go into the grandfather's courtyard the little girl was in the house praying—"Don't let them come to our house, Heavenly Father. Now's Your chance. Please show my grandfather that You answer prayer!"

Amazingly, the horse would not go in. It backed and kicked; it shied this way and that way, and nothing would make it go in. The officer beat it and dug his spurs into it, but all to no purpose! Finally the bandit realized there must be something very strange in the courtyard. Overcome by fear, he told his men, "Why, this courtyard is full of demons! We cannot see them, but the horse can. Not one of you goes in there!" And he turned his horse and led his men to another part of the town.

The next day the grandfather went to the "Mission House" where his little granddaughter had learned how to pray. The missionary saw tears in his eyes when he met him. Finally he spoke. "To think," he said, "that all the while that little granddaughter of mine was right, and I was wrong. Teach me about the God who answers prayer like that! Teach me to pray."

—Adapted from *Answers to Prayer*. Reprinted from *Pillar of Fire*.

"I pray several hours every day. When there are special needs, then I fast and pray," she answered.

"My dad used to fast and pray for weeks, even months. Did you do that when you were a child-preacher?"

"One time when I was only a little girl, I fasted (eating only one scant meal a day) for eight months."

"Wow! That is a long time. Jaya, why do people fast?"

"There are many reasons why I fast. Emanuel, I have a great desire to see people saved from the blinding darkness of satan. I fast while begging God to free them. Sometimes God's will is not clear. Fasting seems to bring me more into God's presence."

"Why would you seek more of God's presence? It surrounds you all the time."

"It is wonderful how His angels minister to me. But I am unworthy, so unworthy of these blessings."

"When you fasted for eight months were there severe difficulties in your life, Jaya?" he asked tenderly.

"My younger life was constant difficulties. On every side I was persecuted and made fun of. Even my own parents didn't understand me. My uncles and grandparents thought no one would ever marry me and that would disgrace the family. After I turned twelve, they stirred up so much trouble that I had to pack all my things, leave my home and go out on my own to find a place to stay."

"That was mean!" Emanuel said, looking lovingly at Jaya. Then he added, "And why would anyone think you wouldn't get married?"

"Who would want me without any education? They thought Daddy would have to pay a terribly high dowry to get anyone to take me. But by the time I was 15, I was loved and greatly respected by my family and thousands of other people. My biggest problem those years was keeping up with all the preaching engagements. I did not know

how to preach. I had to pray much, so God would speak through me. And He surely did."

"Yes, I know. Thousands of people have been brought out of darkness because of you."

"Thanks be to God," Jaya said reverently. Then she added, "The popularity and fame of this world might have blinded my spiritual eyes if I had not seen the glories of heaven."

"I'm sure glad God didn't keep you in heaven," Emanuel said. "But I must go now. I hope to talk with you again before this revival meeting is over."

Toward the end of the meeting while Jaya was seeking God about what to do next, she thought Jesus said, "Emanuel is the man you should marry."

"But Jesus," Jaya protested, "I love You. I just want to continue working for You."

"You are to be the answer of his father's prayers. You must help Emanuel get to glory."

"Dear Jesus, I've always tried to do whatever You told me, but this will be a real challenge. How can I travel and preach with a husband and maybe a family?"

Jaya began fasting and praying just to be sure she was not confused about what Jesus wanted her to do. When she was sure of God's message, she accepted the challenge.

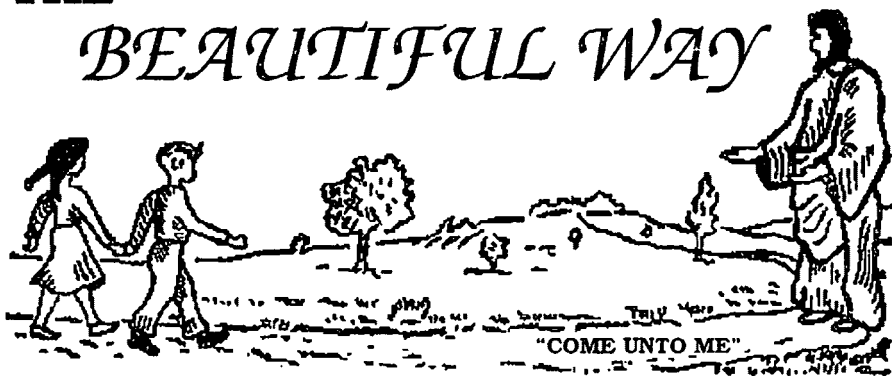
(The end.)

(Editor's note: This concludes the series of stories about Jaya. Sis. Charlotte Huskey met Jaya and received permission to print her story which first appeared in the 1994 Beautiful Way papers.)

(Answers: 1. That men should always pray. 2. The judge. 3. A widow. 4. Because she was troubling him. 5. Infants. 6. The disciples. 7. Jesus. 8. As a little child. 9. ye shall receive; ye shall find; it shall be opened unto you.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 5 Feb. 1, 2004

Holy Ann The Irish Saint

This will begin a series of stories about Ann Preston, an ignorant Irish woman who could neither read nor write. But she did know how to pray. She received many miraculous answers to her prayers.

Ann knew God as her "Father" and when she talked with Him in prayer she asked for definite, specific things. She asked for water from an entirely dry well. The next morning she picked up her buckets, went confidently to the well and came back with buckets full of clear sparkling water!

Reading about this and other answers to Ann's prayers will prove that God honors prayer offered from a life fully dedicated to Him. Ann relied on God for everything and He never failed her. May we each be challenged by her example to know God for ourselves. He is longing "to show himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him." (II Chronicles 16:9.)

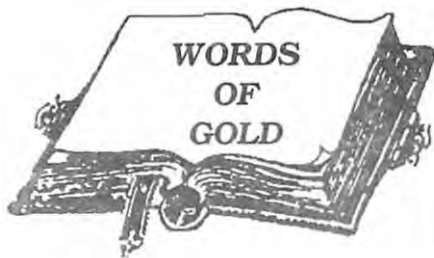
Ann was born into a poor Irish family in the early 19th century. Her home was one of those typical Irish shanties with its thatched roof. She was not blessed with godly parents to teach her about God and His great love for her. Neither her father nor mother made any attempt to serve

Him, so Ann had no training in religious matters.

Ann's education began and ended in little more than a week. During that time the teacher tried to teach her the first letters of the alphabet but without success—she just couldn't seem to learn them. Finally, after many vain attempts, the teacher's patience was exhausted to the point of despair. Tapping her on the head he said, "Poor Ann! She can never learn anything." And with this she was sent home in disgrace.

But Ann was not lazy. She went to live with a family where she worked as a housemaid. She did not want to be a burden to her poor parents—she would earn her own food. On this job she worked hard all week long caring for the family. Then, on Sundays, she had to herd the cows so her master could attend church.

About this time a woman became interested in Ann. She decided to do what she could to teach her about God. First she decided to teach her the Lord's Prayer, but she was shocked at her ignorance. She would say to Ann, "Now, repeat it after me, 'Our Father which art in heaven.'" Ann at once followed in parrot-like fashion, "Now, repeat it after me, Our Father which art in heaven." Time and again this friend tried to impress the words on Ann's memory but without any



The Bible Lives On

**Jeremiah 36:1-2;
4-7; 10-16; 21-23**

1 ...This word came unto Jeremiah from the LORD, saying,

2 Take thee a roll of a book, and write therein all the words that I have spoken unto thee against Israel...

4 Then Jeremiah called Baruch...and Baruch wrote...all the words of the LORD...upon a roll of a book.

5 And Jeremiah commanded Baruch, saying...

6 ...Read in the roll...in the ears of the people in the LORD'S house upon the fasting day:...

7 It may be they will present their supplication before the LORD, and will return every one from his evil way:...

10 Then read Baruch...in the ears of all the people.

11 When Michaiah...heard out of the book all the words of the LORD,

12 Then he went down into the king's house...and, lo, all the princes sat there....

13 Then Michaiah declared unto them all the words that he had heard, when Baruch read the book in the ears of the people.

14 Therefore all the princes sent...unto Baruch, saying, Take...the roll...and come. So Baruch...came unto them.

15 And they said unto him, Sit down now, and read it in our ears.

So Baruch read it in their ears.

16 Now it came to pass, when they had heard all the words, they were afraid...and said unto Baruch, We will surely tell the king of all these words.

21 So the king sent Jehudi to fetch the roll:... And Jehudi read it in the ears of the king,...

22 Now the king sat in the winterhouse...and there was a fire on the hearth burning before him.

23 And it came to pass, that when Jehudi had read three or four leaves, he cut it with the penknife, and cast it into the fire that was on the hearth, until all the roll was consumed in the fire that was on the hearth.

.....
The Message: We have the privilege of having a Bible because men were willing to give their lives to preserve it!

Questions:

1. Who did the word of the Lord come to?
2. What did the Lord tell him to do with the words He gave him?
3. Who actually wrote the words?
4. Why did Jeremiah want the words of the Lord read to the people?
5. What did the princes ask Baruch to do?
6. When they heard the words they were _____.
7. Where was the king sitting?
8. What did the king do after three or four pages were read?

Verse to Memorize

All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness....

II Timothy 3:16.

Let's



Talk . . .

Your Bible is the most precious Book you own. Maybe it is not the most expensive one in dollars and cents, but it has lived on in spite of evil men's desire to destroy it.

In our lesson God told Jeremiah to write down His words warning Israel that they would be punished if they did not confess their sins and turn from their wicked ways.

The people and the princes gladly listened to God's message. But when words were read to the king he became angry. Taking his knife, he cut the roll into small pieces and threw them into the fire until the whole roll was burned up.

However, this did not destroy the words of God. God repeated His message to Jeremiah so they could be recorded again.

Many years later, William Tyndale realized that the common people needed to be able to read the Scriptures for themselves. One day a fellow student expressed the attitude of most people of that time when he said, "The Bible is not necessary. All the people need is the word of the pope!"

Passionately Tyndale shouted, "I defy the pope and all his laws, and if God spares me, I will one day make the boy that ploughs in England to know more of the Scriptures than the pope does!"

It was not an idle boast. Tyndale went right to work to make an English Bible that all the people could read. Some people thought it was evil to put the Bible in terms the common man could understand. The pope knew his power would be broken if the people

could understand the Word of God for themselves. He sent spies to arrest Tyndale. After spending over a year in prison he was hung and his body burned on October 6, 1536. But this did not stop translators. It just stirred them on to greater efforts.

Adoniram Judson, a missionary to Burma, translated the New Testament into Burmese. Before he could have it printed he was thrown into prison.

His wife buried the precious translation for awhile, but she knew it could not remain there safely. She made a pillow from a roll of cotton and placed the translation inside of it. The guards permitted her to give the pillow to her husband to sleep on. For seven months he slept on this hard pillow.

When Judson was taken to another prison the keeper threw the pillow away. A native Christian saw it and took it home as a keepsake. Later the New Testament translation was found safely preserved and complete. God had worked a miracle to preserve this portion of His Word.

A young man went to New York City to find a job. He went from place to place without success until he finally went to a place and applied for a position as a clerk. At first he was told that there was no opening. But as he was looking for some letters a Book fell to the floor. The young man quickly picked it up and wiped off the covers carefully.

"What Book is that?" the manager inquired.

"It is a Bible, sir."

"What do you plan to do with it in this big city?"

"Read it, sir. I promised my mother I would read it every day."

The man was impressed and hired him.

—Selected

Don't let your Bible stay under a pile of other books or lie around unread. In order to let it guide your life, you must read the Bible carefully every day.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

success. It seemed she just could not learn the words! The good friend finally gave up in despair.

Ann worked in this home for four years. Then God opened a job for her with a Christian woman named Mrs. McKay who witnessed to everyone who came into her home. She always had family prayer and Ann was invited to join them in worship. This was a new experience for Ann! Her dull mind comprehended very little of what was being said because she was totally ignorant about religious matters. When she was asked to bring the New Testament she went and brought back a newspaper. The Bible had never been used in any home that Ann had ever lived in so naturally she didn't know what it was.

Mrs. McKay was very anxious to win Ann to the Lord, but she used wisdom in dealing with her. For some time she said nothing to Ann about attending church with her. She finally ventured to invite her to come to a meeting. After a little pressure, Ann agreed to go.

It was all so new to Ann! She looked on in amazement as she saw some weeping and others praising God. Then she decided these people had to be just putting on. She watched to see whether the crying was real, or whether they were wetting their faces. She hardly knew what to think of all this!

After dinner that day the mistress rang the bell. Obediently Ann came into the parlor to see what she wanted. She was surprised when Mrs. McKay invited her to sit down. Then Mrs. McKay asked, "Well, Ann, how did you like the meeting?" Ann tried to evade the question. Finally she answered, "I don't know," although if she dared she would have told Mrs. McKay that she thought they were all just putting on.

"Well," said Mrs. McKay, "won't you go again?"

Ann replied stubbornly, "I don't think so."

Mrs. McKay would not let her off so easily. She asked why she didn't want to go again. Finally Ann told her that she felt utterly out of place in the meeting because she had nothing to say. While others were speaking and praying and weeping all she could do was sit and look on.

Mrs. McKay tried to help her. She suggested that she had plenty to say because she had many reasons to praise God. "Who gives you food to eat and clothes to wear?" Mrs. McKay prompted.

Ann wanted to blurt out, "I guess I work hard enough for them!" but she kept her thoughts to herself.

Mrs. McKay got very little satisfaction that day, but she did not give up. The next Sunday she persuaded Ann to go and hear a Mr. Armstrong Halliday preach. The meeting was held in a private home. On this notable Sunday the parlor was crowded. Ann was very glad to find space in another room where the minister could not see her.

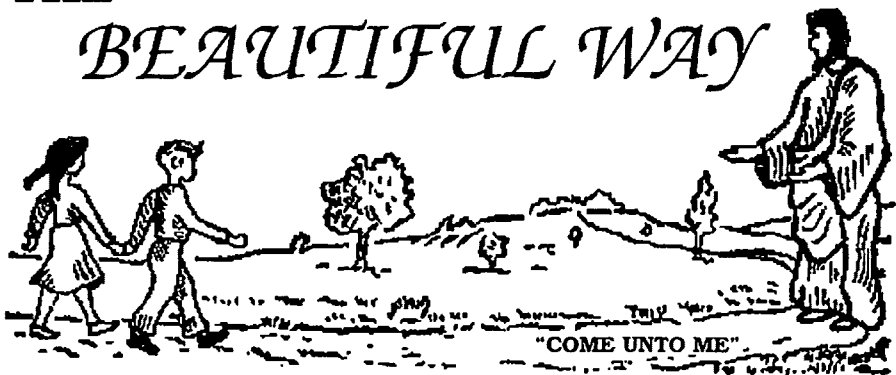
Out of the entire sermon Ann remembered nothing that was said except for the text which the minister read. It was not one that would strike the average sinner. The words were, "Thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut the door pray to thy Father who seeth in secret, and thy Father who seeth in secret shall reward thee openly."

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Jeremiah. 2. Write them in a roll of a book. 3. Baruch. 4. He hoped they would turn from their evil way. 5. Bring the roll and read it to them. 6. Afraid. 7. In the winterhouse. 8. He cut the roll with his knife and burned it in the fire.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 6 Feb. 8, 2004

The Great Change

(Continued from last week.)

Ann Preston was an ignorant Irish girl. She had never learned to read and knew nothing at all about God or His word, the Bible. Ann worked hard as a housemaid to earn her living. Her employer, Mrs. McKay, a devout Christian invited Ann to attend church with her. Of all the minister said, nothing struck Ann's mind except the text he used, "But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly." Matthew 6:6.

Between eight and nine o'clock that evening after the day's work was finished, Ann made her way up to the attic. It was just a bare room. The only furniture there was a large wooden chair. Ann hardly knew why she did it, but she voluntarily knelt for the first time in her life and began to cry out without any idea of what was the matter. She lost all control of herself, and her mistress heard the noise down three flights of stairs. Turning to her daughter she said, "Ann is taking the minister's advice!" After a while she went up and asked Ann what was the matter. Ann looked

up and answered, "I don't know, ma'am." But just then she seemed to have a sudden revelation of her trouble, and she added, "Oh, yes, I do. I see all the sins that ever I did from the time I was five years old all written on the chair in front of me, every one." And then, as she looked down, she cried out, "Oh, ma'am, worse than all, I see hell open ready to swallow me." Then, like the sinner Jesus told about, she began to hit her chest in agony. Without knowing that she was repeating Scripture, she cried out, "God be merciful to me, a sinner." Once more she became desperate, as she cried over and over again for mercy.

Mrs. McKay tried to hush her up, saying, "Don't let my husband hear you." She suggested that Ann should go to her own room and pray, and said, "I will go to mine and pray for you."

But Ann was too much in earnest for this. She said, "I don't care, ma'am, if all the world hears me; I must cry for mercy."

After a little while she did go to her room, but conviction did not leave. She continued to pray until twelve o'clock, when she jumped up and said, "Is there no mercy, Lord, for me?" But as she said the words her heart was assured that God had heard



Finish The Race

I Corinthians 9:24-27

24 Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain.

25 And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown: but we an incorruptible.

26 I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air:

27 But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a cast-away.

II Timothy 4:1-8

1 I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom:

2 Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season: reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.

3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine: but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears:

4 And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.

5 But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry.

6 For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand.

7 I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:

8 Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.

Hebrews 12:1

1 Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us....

The Message: I want to finish my race with victory and hear God say, "Well done!"

Questions:

1. How many win the prize for first place in a race?
2. Every man that strives to win is _____ in all things.
3. What did Paul bring under subjection?
4. Paul charged Timothy to _____ the word.
5. He said the time would come when they would not endure sound _____.
6. What would they turn to after they turned from the truth?
7. Paul told Timothy to do the work of an _____.
8. What kind of crown was laid up for Paul since he had finished his course?
9. Who else will get this crown?

Verse to Memorize

I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:

II Timothy 4:7.

Let's



Talk . . .

It was October the 20th at 7 p.m. in Mexico City. Most of the spectators had already left. The last of the Olympic runners were stumbling across the finish line. Then they heard the wail of sirens. As all eyes turned toward the gate a lone runner from Tasmania staggered into the Stadium. He was the last contestant to finish the 26 mile race. He had been injured in a bad fall and blood was oozing through his crude bandage. Everyone rose and applauded as he hobbled across the finish line.

Someone asked him why he had not quit when he was injured. He replied simply, "My country sent me here, not just to start the race, but to finish it."

I have been to the Monark camp meeting and seen many get saved. They have such a glorious testimony. It seems they are off to a good start and determined to make it through to heaven.

But how about when they go home and it is time for prayer meeting, will they still be on fire for God? The devil will do all he can to hinder them. It may seem too cold outside or he may tell them that they don't feel too good anyhow. That's when the running seems to get hard.

But consider what others have gone through. When Paul said, "I am now ready to be offered," he knew that he would soon pay with his life. Not long after this his head was cut off because he stood faithful to God.

The persecution of the Christians during the reign of Marcus Aurelius

was very bitter. The Emperor himself decreed the punishment of forty of the men who had refused to bow down to his image.

"Strip to the skin!" he commanded. They did so.

"Now, go and stand on that frozen lake," he commanded, "until you are prepared to abandon your Nazarene-God!"

And forty naked men marched out into that howling storm on a winter's night. As they took their places on the ice they lifted up their voices and sang: "Christ, forty wrestlers have come out to wrestle for Thee; to win for Thee the victory; to win from Thee the crown."

After a while those standing by and watching noticed a disturbance among the men. One man had edged away, broken into a run, entered the temple and prostrated himself before the image of the Emperor.

The Captain of the Guard, who had witnessed the bravery of the men and whose heart had been touched by their teaching, tore off his helmet, threw down his spear, and disrobing himself, took up the cry as he took the place of the man who had weakened.

The compensation was not slow in coming, for as the dawn broke there were forty corpses on the ice. At least a thousand of God's saints served as living torches to illuminate the darkness of Nero's gardens, wrapped in garments steeped in pitch. "Every finger was a candle."

October 10, *Springs in the Valley*

There is a crown for every one of us and a great reward. To gain it we must be faithful to the end. It may get where you can no longer run. But if you can't run, walk! And if you can't walk get down and crawl! We must finish the race and win the crown. Heaven will be worth it all!

—Uncle Dale

her cry. For the rest of her life she would tell how, as she looked up she saw the Savior on the cruel cross. Somehow God revealed to her right then that His blood atoned for her sins. "I felt something burning in my heart," Ann said later. "I couldn't wait for the time to come that I could go home and tell my father and mother what the Lord had done for me!"

She went over to the table and picked up a Testament which the young ladies used. Then she prayed her first simple prayer as a child of God. "O Lord," she said, "You that have taken away this awful burden, intolerable to bear, couldn't you enable me to read one of these little things?" As she prayed she put her finger on the verse which says, "Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again, but whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give shall never thirst."

In answer to this simple prayer God enabled Ann to read for the first time in her life! She did not get the whole verse, but this was the beginning of God's mercy in opening up His word to this ignorant Irish girl.

The next day Ann managed to get home to tell her father and mother of her newfound joy. On the way the devil began to talk to her. "You don't feel the burning in your heart now," he sneered. "You had better not say anything about it till you are sure."

But Ann knew what God had done for her. Joyfully she told her parents all that had happened. She was disappointed when they did not share her joy. Their only response was, "Oh, you are like your old grandfather; you are going out of your head!"

That very day Ann received a letter from her older sister Mary, who worked in another town. It was as if the Lord timed it to encourage His new child. Taking the letter to her

mistress, Ann asked her to read it to her. Years later Ann could not remember anything her sister said in the letter except one statement. She had written, "I am sure you have good news to tell me, Ann. I know by the answer that I have got in prayer."

When the letter was written two days before, Ann had no thought of giving her heart to God. But by the time the letter reached her she had undergone the great change—she was now a child of God! This is a good example of the wonderful power of prayer!

In her early Christian experience Ann was greatly affected by her feelings and whatever circumstances she found herself in. Of course she was not well acquainted with the Word of God and the only spiritual help she received was at the meetings where she listened to the experiences of others. This was a help to her, but it could not take the place of thorough instruction in the truth.

For instance, one evening she cleared the ashes from the fireplace. Instead of leaving them by the grate until the morning as she usually did, she took them out and set the box on a brick floor. In the morning the box and part of the lid had burned up. At once Ann decided that this was evidence that she was saved and that God cared for her because if she had not taken the box out that evening the house would have been burned down!

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Only one. 2. Temperate. 3. His body. 4. Preach. 5. Doctrine. 6. Fables. 7. Evangelist. 8. A crown of righteousness. 9. All who love His appearing.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 7 Feb. 15, 2004

Stumbling Upwards

(Continued from last week.)

A great change came in Ann Preston's life after she prayed through and God forgave her sins. She had much to learn about God's will for her life but she was eager to learn. One evening she set a box of hot ashes on a brick floor. Customarily she would have left them on a wooden floor until the morning. The next morning she saw that the box and part of the lid had burned up. If she had not set the box on the brick floor the house would have been burned down! At once Ann took this as evidence that she was saved and that God cared for her.

There were evidently two ways of looking at the same thing. When her boss, Mr. McKay, heard about the incident he immediately fired her. To him this was evidence that she was unsafe to have working in his home and that she was not to be trusted!

Not long after this, Mr. Halliday, the minister who preached the sermon that caused Ann to turn to the Lord, came to see her. Evidently he had watched her and saw she was a good worker. He told her that one of the best homes in his circuit needed a girl, and if she was ready to go he would introduce her to the family.

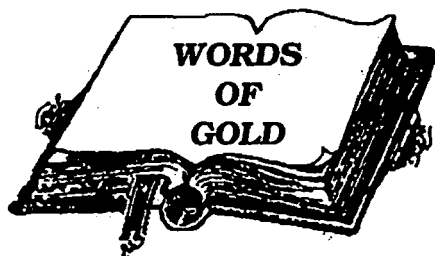
At once Ann replied, "I will go

anywhere, sir, where I can be free to serve the Lord."

So he took her to a neighboring town and introduced her to the family of Dr. Reid. She had no way of knowing it then but she would spend many eventful years working for them. Ann was pleased when Dr. Reid agreed to pay her the generous wage of two dollars a month!

In her own quaint way, Ann used to say, "The minister married me to Mrs. Reid," for he made Mrs. Reid promise that she would keep Ann as long as she would stay, and made Ann promise that she would stay as long as she would keep her. Many times Ann became dissatisfied and sorely tried with the difficulties of her job. She would pack her little bundle ready to leave, but when she remembered her promise she knew she must stay with this family.

One time Ann remembered getting so terribly tried that she decided she would commit suicide! She chose a strange way of going about this. Her master, Dr. Reid, had bought a very vicious cow, and scarcely anyone dared to go near it. It was always necessary for the man who tended it to accompany Ann while she milked. They kept it about a mile out of town. So Ann decided that she would slip off and do the milking without anyone to protect her. She expected that the



But What If You Fail?

Mark 14:29-31; 54; 66-72

29 But Peter said unto him, Although all shall be offended, yet will not I.

30 And Jesus saith unto him, Verily I say unto thee, That this day, even in this night, before the cock crow twice, thou shalt deny me thrice.

31 But he spake the more vehemently, If I should die with thee, I will not deny thee in any wise. Likewise also said they all.

54 And Peter followed him afar off, even into the palace of the high priest: and he sat with the servants, and warmed himself at the fire.

66 And as Peter was beneath in the palace, there cometh one of the maids of the high priest:

67 And when she saw Peter warming himself, she looked upon him, and said, And thou also wast with Jesus of Nazareth.

68 But he denied, saying, I know not, neither understand I what thou sayest. And he went out into the porch; and the cock crew.

69 And a maid saw him again, and began to say to them that stood by, This is one of them.

70 And he denied it again. And a little after, they that stood by said again to Peter, Surely thou art one of them: for thou art a Galilaean, and thy speech agreeth thereto.

71 But he began to curse and to swear, saying, I know not this man of whom ye speak.

72 And the second time the cock crew: And Peter called to mind the word that Jesus said unto him, Before the cock crow twice, thou shalt deny me thrice. And when he thought thereon, he wept.

Luke 22:60-62

60 And Peter said, Man, I know not what thou sayest. And immediately, while he yet spake, the cock crew.

61 And the Lord turned, and looked upon Peter. And Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said unto him, Before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice.

62 And Peter went out, and wept bitterly.

The Message: If at first I don't succeed—with God's help I will try again!

Questions:

1. Who said he would never be offended at Jesus?
2. What did Jesus say he would do before the cock crowed twice?
3. Who followed Jesus afar off?
4. With whom did he sit to warm himself?
5. Who accused Peter of being with Jesus?
6. What did the second maid say to those standing around?
7. What did Peter do when they said they could tell by his speech he was a Galilean?
8. Who turned and looked at Peter?
9. What did he do when he remembered that Jesus said he would betray Him?

Verse to Memorize

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

I John 1:9.

Let's



Talk . . .

What should you do if you get saved and seem to be doing well; then all of a sudden something happens and you fail? Too many just give up. What if you did this when you were learning to walk?

Through our failures we learn what not to do. If we have done wrong we ask forgiveness and make restitution if necessary. Then we get up and go on—a much wiser person!

A Personal Testimony

In one of my elementary classes, we had taken a test and many students had failed it, including me. We were to study the test and take it again the next day. For some reason, I didn't study like I should have and test time came. It was a semester test and the grade was important and would definitely affect my report card.

I was tempted in advance and just in case I couldn't remember the answers, I put the old test under my desk in the storage compartment. I knew it would be wrong to cheat. I had learned that in worship at home and in Sunday school, but I also knew my parents wouldn't be very happy with a low report card grade. My mind went blank as the tests were handed out and I couldn't remember any of the answers. I knew the answers were all available, but I knew that it would be cheating.

Finally, as the testing time was almost over, I sneaked a peek. It seemed so easy and in a short time I had all of the answers and was ready to turn my paper in. I was struggling

in my heart with right and wrong. It was such an important grade.

I made 100% on that test, but the good grade didn't feel good at all. Soon afterwards, Bro. Mart Samons was holding a revival in Loranger. At altar call time they sang the song, "Eternity." I headed for the altar.

As I prayed and asked the Lord to forgive me, I knew what I had to do. The next day I went to my teacher, who was a very stern man, and trembling and in tears confessed what I had done and asked his forgiveness. He was surprised and said he would check to see if it changed my overall grade.

Even if I had made a failing semester grade, I felt so light and free again in my soul. I was never tempted again to cheat. By the way, he left the good grade.

Many times when we finally make our restitutions, the Lord works on the other side and makes the end results turn out much better than we expected.

After I gave in to cheating on the test, the devil reminded me that all my classmates and even that stern teacher knew I was a Christian and confessing such an act would be a reproach. That thought coupled with the fact my semester grade was in the balance could have kept me from making that restitution.

I shudder to think of what that could have cost me. My most valuable possession as a child and for sure as an adult has been feeling peace with God in my heart. I could have sacrificed that here—and more fearfully—for eternity.

Oh children, resist temptations, but if you do stumble, get up, go back and straighten it out with whoever was involved, and God will forgive as though it was never done. Eternity hinges on our honesty with God and our fellowman. —Sis. Irma Sallee

cow would do the rest! But to her astonishment, the savage brute stood perfectly quiet while she milked her. Ann started home uninjured with her pail of milk.

Meanwhile Mrs. Reid had discovered her absence and given the alarm. She was surprised when she saw Ann coming toward the house carrying the milk. When asked who held the cow she simply answered, "Nobody." The event encouraged Ann in the thought that God really cared for her. The next morning she faced her chores with fresh courage. When they told her to go and milk that day she refused to go alone.

After Ann had worked for Dr. Reid and his family for about five years, he decided to move to Canada. He at once began to collect all his back debts. There were no banks in those days so he had to keep all the money in the house. Ann was very nervous about being left alone since many people knew this.

Dr. and Mrs. Reid were away one night attending the watch-night service at the coming in of the New Year. Ann was left alone with the baby. To get to the house anyone would have to come through two large gates. One of these was iron and the other was made of very heavy wood. These gates were always kept locked. The back yard was surrounded by a very high stone wall so the house was well protected.

At midnight Ann heard the iron gate shake. This was Dr. Reid's usual signal that he was home. She was just about to go out and unlock the gate when she remembered that the service could not possibly be over, and so she sat still. In a few minutes she heard the noise again and she saw a man climb over the iron gate! Then, climbing a stack of turf, he managed to get over into the garden.

This is where the potatoes were kept. The man filled his sack full of them before disappearing again into the darkness.

Ann was relieved when her master and his wife came home. She told them all that had happened and how scared she was but Mrs. Reid made light of her fears. In spite of this, Ann insisted that this was a warning. Dr. Reid was so impressed that he at once had the windows fixed with iron bars, and a large iron bolt put on the back door leading into the yard.

It was just two weeks after this that the doctor was away out in the country attending a patient. Mrs. Reid and Ann were sitting up waiting for him to come home. Then Ann heard the gate rattle. Since this was Dr. Reid's usual signal she was just about to go out with the key. Suddenly she felt restrained. She told Mrs. Reid, "O ma'am that is the very same noise I heard two weeks ago!"

Her mistress asked, "Is the kitchen door locked?"

Ann replied, "No," and with that she turned the key and pushed the long iron bolt across the door. She had hardly taken her hands off when the latch was lifted by someone outside! Finding the door locked, the intruder evidently thought it would be a simple matter to just burst the lock off. So stepping back he threw his full weight against the door. But, thanks to the large bolt Dr. Reid had just installed, the door did not budge.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Peter. 2. Deny Him three times. 3. Peter. 4. The servants. 5. A maid. 6. "This is one of them." 7. He began to curse and swear. 8. Jesus. 9. He went out and wept bitterly.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 8 Feb. 22, 2004

The Long Journey

(Continued from last week.)

It was late at night and Ann and her mistress were waiting for Dr. Reid to come home. Ann heard a noise that sounded like the doctor's signal to open the gate. She started out to unlock the gate when she became afraid. Instead she told her mistress that it was the same noise she heard when the robber came two weeks before.

Now Mrs. Reid was frightened. She asked if the kitchen door was locked and it wasn't. Ann had scarcely turned the lock and bolted the door when she saw that someone was trying to open the door!

Finding the door locked, the intruder evidently thought it would be a simple matter to just burst the lock off. So stepping back he threw his full weight against the door. But, thanks to the large bolt Dr. Reid had just installed, the door did not budge.

The intruder was so determined to break in he tried again and again.

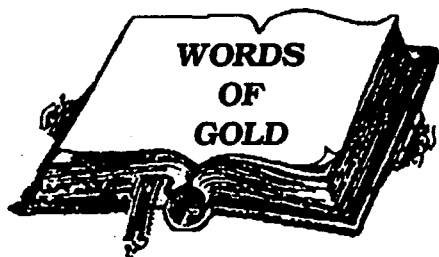
The two women inside naturally were terrified! Ann began to pray, but Mrs. Reid decided that she should go and call for help. Ann was afraid to venture out at the front door, but when it came to a choice of doing that or staying there alone, she decided that she would run for help.

The first place where she called the man would not come so she went on to the army barracks. There she found only one soldier. He was on duty so he could not leave. Finally she knocked on the door of a home where they had not yet gone to bed. A big, burly fellow came out. When he heard her predicament he agreed to go with her. He grabbed his revolver and hurried toward Dr. Reid's house following Ann.

They got to the house just in time to meet Dr. Reid coming home. When Dr. Reid gave his usual signal to open the gate the robber jumped over the wall, thinking the doctor was alone. He was surprised to find there were two men outside the gate instead of one. He quickly turned and ran into the darkness but not before the doctor recognized him as a man he had occasionally hired to do odd jobs around the house.

In May all the preparations had been made. The family would soon be sailing for their new home in Canada. Mrs. Reid asked Ann if she would go along with them. She answered simply, "Yes, for I can't break my promise to Mr. Halliday."

So Ann went home to tell her parents goodbye. Her father loved her so much his first response was, "Ann, I can't let you go." But Ann insisted that she must, as she had already



Keeping A Good Conscience

Exodus 22:1-3

1 If a man shall steal an ox, or a sheep, and kill it, or sell it; he shall restore five oxen for an ox, and four sheep for a sheep.

2 If a thief be found...

3 ...He should make full restitution...

Luke 19:1-10

1 And Jesus entered and passed through Jericho.

2 And, behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus, which was the chief among the publicans, and he was rich.

3 And he sought to see Jesus who he was; and could not for the press, because he was little of stature.

4 And he ran before, and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him: for he was to pass that way.

5 And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up, and saw him, and said unto him, Zacchaeus, make haste, and come down; for to day I must abide at thy house.

6 And he made haste, and came down, and received him joyfully.

7 And when they saw it, they all murmured, saying, That he was gone to be guest with a man that is a sinner.

8 And Zacchaeus stood, and said unto the Lord; Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have taken any thing from any man

by false accusation, I restore him fourfold.

9 And Jesus said unto him, This day is salvation come to this house, forsomuch as he also is a son of Abraham.

10 For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.

Acts 24:16

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

II Corinthians 1:12

12 For our rejoicing is this, the testimony of our conscience . . .

Hebrews 13:18

18 Pray for us: for we trust we have a good conscience, in all things willing to live honestly.

The Message: When Jesus comes into our heart He helps us make all our wrongs right so we can always have a good clear conscience before God.

Questions:

1. Who was chief among the publicans?
2. Who did he want so see?
3. Why did he climb the tree?
4. What did Jesus tell him to do?
5. Why did the people murmur?
6. Who was he willing to give half of his possessions to?
7. If he had cheated anyone, how much was he willing to restore?
8. What came to his house that day?
9. What did the Son of man come to do for the lost?

Verse to Memorize

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

Acts 24:16.

Let's



Talk . . .

More than anything else Zacchaeus wanted to see Jesus but he was so short he could not see over the crowd. Although he was a government official, Zacchaeus forgot his embarrassment. Running ahead of the crowd he quickly climbed into a tree.

When Jesus passed by the tree, He looked up and saw Zacchaeus. What Jesus did next shocked everyone. He told him to hurry down out of the tree because He would spend the day at his house. Some who heard Jesus' words were upset. Tax collectors were not respected people. The Jews thought it was shameful for Jesus to spend time with a sinner!

But Zacchaeus repented of taking unfairly from others. He not only vowed to give away half his wealth, but to repay anyone he had cheated. He believed on Jesus and was saved. Zacchaeus was truly a changed man after he met Jesus.

Jesus told Zacchaeus, "This day is salvation come to this house." So not only was Zacchaeus himself blessed, but his entire household with him. It is when Christ is received as a personal Savior that salvation comes to the soul. Zacchaeus had received Jesus, not merely as a passing guest in his home, but as the One to live and rule in his heart.

When Jesus comes into our heart there will be a great change. Like Zacchaeus we will gladly repay anything we have stolen and ask forgiveness of anyone we have wronged.

PERSONAL TESTIMONY

When I was in the sixth grade, two other girls and I were asked to clean the teachers' lounge. While doing our job, one of the girls found a box of sugar cubes, ate one, and exclaimed how delicious they were. We all helped ourselves to a couple cubes, and as I was heading for the third one, I felt a prick in my heart and said, "These cubes don't belong to us. Do you think we're stealing them?"

My friends assured me that we were not stealing and reminded me that we weren't paid for all the work we were doing and a few sugar cubes were cheap wages. That made sense to me. So, I ate the third one but somehow I couldn't feel right eating any more.

Throughout my school years I thought of those cubes and reasoned with myself why I didn't owe restitution for them. Finally, years later, while I was asking the Lord if there was anything in my life displeasing to Him, wouldn't you know, here came those three sugar cubes!

I was embarrassed because I knew that would seem like a ridiculous restitution to many people, but my heart was so troubled that I wrote a letter to the principal of my school, apologized, and sent plenty money to pay for them. From the moment I dropped that letter in the mail, that nagging guilt was gone, never to return again.

That experience in the sixth grade caused me to always be very careful to not take things that weren't mine. I knew if God cared about three sugar cubes, He certainly would not overlook larger temptations.

I thank God that I was taught about honesty and restitutions as a child. It has saved me from so many more temptations and regrets. God cares about even the smallest details of our life!

—Sis. Irma Sallee

promised. Besides that she told him they had already bought her ticket.

Ann stayed at home all night and then asked her parents to go a little way with her. After walking some distance down the road Ann turned around to speak to her father. But he had suddenly disappeared. He just could not stand the pain of saying goodbye to her. Her mother went with her to the town where Ann's sister was living. Together her sister and mother pleaded with Ann to stay at home, but Ann paid no attention to their entreaties.

Her mother finally broke down completely and wept as she said, "O Ann, I just can't let you go." In a very heartless and unfeeling way Ann turned and said, "I will go. Sure what's the difference? You won't live more than seven or eight years anyway." These cruel words come back to Ann many times in the years that followed.

She walked on alone. Her mother and sister stood watching her as long as they could see her. The look on her mother's face haunted Ann for many days.

Ann and those with her boarded the ship headed for Canada. In those days it took seven weeks to sail from Ireland to Canada. Nor did they have the conveniences of our modern ships. It was not an enjoyable leisure trip! There were seven in the Reid family. Beside this two relatives and their families came along and Ann had to take care of all of them. There were no cooks on the ship or stewards to supply their needs. They carried their own supplies and cooked their own food.

When all three families became seasick Ann had an even greater load. She was the only one that kept well throughout the entire trip. "Sure, I had no time to get seasick," she later explained.

The long journey had its usual incidents, and Ann's duties furnished

plenty of opportunity for unusual annoyances. She had to cook on the ship's ranges, and when her back was turned her pots were often set aside. On such occasions she had trouble controlling her hot temper.

Ann came to be called "the praying-man's biddy," because Dr. Reid would have family worship three times a day. Most of the other travelers were very wicked and did not appreciate his prayers.

Mrs. Reid only went up on deck once during the whole voyage. While she was on deck the ship gave a sudden lurch. A poor man who was high up fixing the rigging lost his hold. He fell, mangled and dead, onto the deck almost at her feet. The nervous shock from this, combined with the seasickness, kept her in her berth during the rest of the voyage. This all made harder work for Ann.

They met with several severe storms and twice during the journey the sea was so rough that the passengers were not allowed on deck. During these frightful times Dr. Reid, the despised "praying man," was in great demand. Even Ann herself thought that the end had come during a particularly fierce storm. She and the rest of the passengers expected that the ship would go down any minute. She definitely committed herself to the Lord and others could be heard praying too. However, as soon as the danger was over and the waves calmed down most of the passengers returned to their old life of gambling, drinking and swearing.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Zacchaeus. 2. Jesus. 3. He was too short to see over the heads of the people. 4. To hurry and come down. 5. Because Jesus was going to a sinner's house. 6. The poor. 7. Four times as much. 8. Salvation. 9. Seek and to save them.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 9 Feb. 29, 2004

From Defeat To Victory

(Continued from last week.)

In our day the beautiful ocean liners make the voyage from Ireland to New York in a fraction of the time that it took Ann and the Reid family. It was a hard trip with no leisure time since Ann had the care of three families. There were no banquets and lavish meals served—Ann had to prepare everything they ate.

One can hardly imagine how glad they all were to see land after seven weeks on the water!

They entered the port of New York and sailed up the Hudson River. The beautiful scenery there was very refreshing after the ocean journey. From Albany they took the overland route and reached Toronto, then known as Little York. They stayed here for a few months and then moved to Thornhill. Dr. Reid decided this was the place he would live and work.

Through all these changing circumstances Ann's temper often caused her to do things she regretted afterwards. There was a good place of worship near her new home but she had little interest in attending.

After about five years in Canada Mrs. Reid died suddenly. This put all the responsibility of the home and children directly on Ann. With the increased work load Ann often had

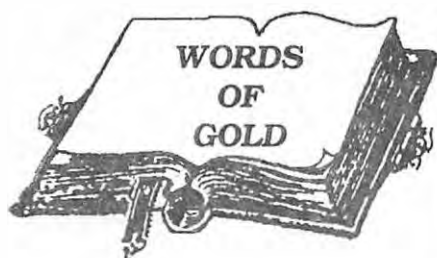
terrible outbreaks of her temper though she still professed to be a Christian.

It is true the children were annoying. Sometimes when Ann had finished scrubbing her floors they would track right in with their muddy shoes, in spite of her protests. This seemed more than she could stand, and what followed was anything but an exhibition of Christian graces!

Dr. Reid did not always help Ann in spiritual things. In fact, he sometimes tried her sorely. Ann was expected to look after the horse and buggy, and she had to attend to the blankets. The doctor was very particular that these should be brought out at the last minute from the stove so that they would be nice and warm for his journey.

One day he saw Ann coming back to the house. She had already taken the blankets to the buggy and he was not ready to leave for awhile. Evidently annoyed, he pulled Ann's hair as she went past him. Instantly Ann's temper blazed up and she snatched up a big stick of wood that lay in the pathway. She threw it at him with all her might. Fortunately it missed its mark.

Evidently neither of them was very much edified by what followed because neither would speak to the other for the next two weeks. During



Liberated Through Loss

Matthew 19:21; 29

21 Jesus said unto him (the rich young ruler), If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come and follow me.

29 And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life.

Mark 8:35-36

35 For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel's, the same shall save it.

36 For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?

Philippians 3:7-14

7 But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ.

8 Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ.

9 And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith:
10 That I may know him, and the

power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;

11 If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead.

12 Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus.

13 Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before.

14 I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

The Message: God can turn great losses into our greatest good!

Questions:

1. What did Jesus tell the rich young ruler to do if he wanted to be perfect?
2. If he gave it to the poor what would he have in heaven?
3. Everyone who forsakes all for Jesus will inherit _____ life.
4. How can we save our life?
5. If we try to win the whole world, what will we lose?
6. Why was Paul willing to lose everything and count it as nothing?
7. Paul said he was pressing toward the prize of what high calling?

Verse to Memorize

...I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord:...

Philippians 3:8.

Let's



Talk . . .

The old man stood on a spot of ground where his little home used to be. He was grief-stricken. Why, oh, why, had this happened to him? He tried to do right. Was God angry with him?

Just yesterday the flash flood came so fast and the water built up so quickly it just swept his meager possessions away. It is true he didn't have much. But it had taken a lifetime to get them. He thought and thought but he did not get an answer to his dilemma.

Then, as he looked dejectedly down at the ground which had been swept clean by the flood he saw something sparkling. Poking at it with the toe of his old shoe he noticed other sparkles here and there.

Upon closer examination he found that the bits of sparkle were actually gold! He was actually standing on great riches but it took his awful loss to reveal it. If everything else had not been swept away he probably would never have discovered the gold.

It is easy to get caught up in the busy activities of life and forget the things that really matter. God, in His mercy, often sends storms that sweep away the vain, temporary treasures that we may find Him and eternal life. Paul suffered the loss of everything he had worked for. But he said he could not count it a loss because He had found Christ, the true treasure! He lost his prestige among the strict Pharisees but God sent him to witness for him before kings. Paul's name and life is known throughout

the world while the worldly dignitaries of his time are all but forgotten.

How do we as Christians handle the storms of life that come? No matter who we are, saint or sinner, trouble will come and it will hurt. But it all depends on how we face our troubles. Do we give up in deep despair or do we still, even while grieving our losses, remain confident of God's wisdom, love and power and move on with hope into tomorrow?

Thomas Edison, the great inventor, was sixty-seven years old when he suffered the loss of a lifetime of work. A great fire destroyed his factory! Yet the very next morning while walking among the smoldering rubble of the buildings that had housed so many of his projects, Edison said, "There is great value in disaster—all our mistakes are burned up! Thank God we can start anew."

Abraham realized God was calling him to leave his birthplace and follow wherever He led. First he gave up his home and family ties, convinced that God would always be a Father to him and provide all his needs. He gave up his inheritance to Lot, his selfish nephew, to keep peace. He was even willing to give up Isaac when God told him to offer him on Mt. Moriah. But through all the loss God brought him great gain. He became the "father of the faithful", an example of the happiness and prosperity God reserves for those who are willing to give up everything to follow Him. His life is still an inspiration to all who hear it.

So no matter what hits our lives be like our dear brother Paul. Forgetting the past let us press forward! When God liberates us from our past by great loss it is only so that He may lead us to a wealthier place, a deeper acquaintance with Him and, in the end eternal life!

—Uncle Dale

family prayer Ann even put her fingers in her ears to keep out the sound of her master's voice!

But in spite of these outbursts of anger, Ann did not give up the struggle to do right. She describes her life at this period as truly awful, sinning and repenting, sinning and repenting. She knew nothing of abiding rest. However, through her struggles a kind hand was guiding her on to a place where she should not only enjoy greater blessing, but bear sweeter fruit.

Ann's ungovernable temper brought her the greatest grief. She wept over it, confessed it, fought with it, but all too frequently the whole process had to be repeated in the face of some great outbreak under specially trying circumstances. There came a change, however, and a time when she was delivered from its slavery.

It happened this way: A young man who stayed all night at the home led the family worship before retiring. He read Psalm 34. The 16th verse was strongly impressed upon Ann's mind: "The face of the Lord is against them that do evil, to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth."

She asked the young man to mark that verse for her. Then in her room she knelt down and prayed for understanding. She opened the Bible to the place the young man had marked but the devil was right there to contend with her. His first suggestion was, "You can't read it."

To this Ann replied, "Well, the Lord will give it to me!" And in a wonderful way she was enabled to read that verse over and over again. This was a miracle because until this time, with one exception, Ann had never been able to read a word or make sense of the alphabet. But from this time on she could read from the Bible in a simple way. Until toward

the close of life she was unable to read any other book. A newspaper was like a foreign language to her.

So, reading the verse while still on her knees, she said, "Lord, what is evil?"

The answer came, "Anger, wrath, malice," etc.

Ann was so affected by the verse of scripture that she cried and prayed all night long as she saw her inward sinfulness. Toward morning she cried out in sheer desperation, "O Lord, how will I know when I get deliverance?"

The answer came, "Well, Jacob wrestled until he prevailed."

In her simplicity, Ann asked, "What does 'prevailed' mean?" and to her the reply came, "Getting just what you come for and all you want."

Again she questioned, "And what will it do for me when I get it?"

The reply came back, "It will enable you to rejoice evermore, pray without ceasing, and in everything to give thanks. You will live above the troubles of this world and the things that now upset you."

But then the devil brought back to her mind the former outbreaks of temper. The suggestion came, "Yes, just wait until you are scrubbing the floor and the children come in with their dirty feet; then you will see!"

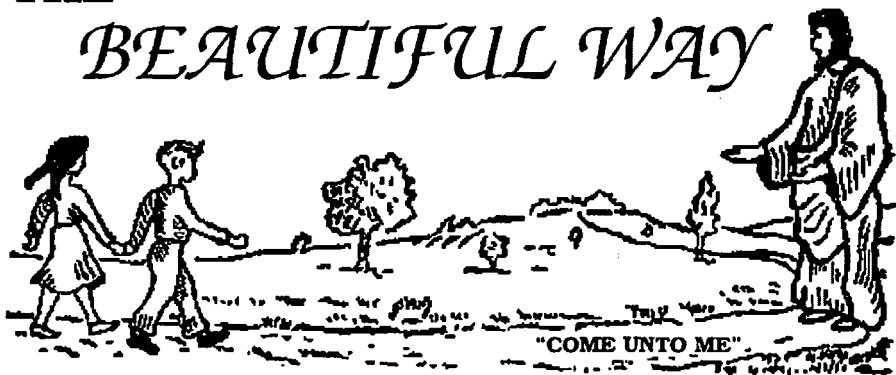
But God's Word had convinced Ann that these outbreaks were displeasing to God and that there was deliverance from them. She was determined to have deliverance at any cost!

(To be continued from last week.)

(Answers: 1. Sell all he had. 2. Treasure. 3. Everlasting life. 4. By losing it for Jesus' sake. 5. Our soul. 6. So that he might win Christ. 7. The high calling of God.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 10 Mar. 7, 2004

The Second Great Change

(Continued from last week.)

Ann Preston was convinced by God's word that her outbreaks of temper displeased Him. During prayer the Lord revealed to her that He had a second work of grace that would deliver her from this evil. Tired of the constant struggle, she was determined to have the victory and power God had for her at any cost!

"I may die, but I'll have it!" Ann Preston said with determination.

She got off her knees and went downstairs to do her work. In the parlor she met the young man who read the verse that reached her heart. He asked her what she had been crying for all night. She answered earnestly, "I want to be sanctified throughout—body, soul and spirit."

He simply said, "Well, Ann, how were you justified?"

She replied, "Why, just by believing what God said."

"Well," he said, "complete victory comes in the same way."

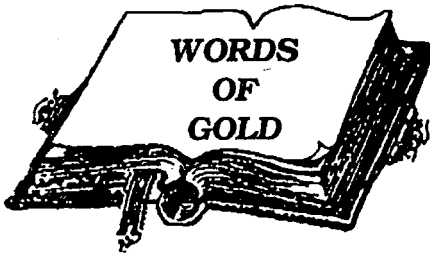
Again Ann went to prayer and pleaded the promise. "Ask and it shall be given you, seek and ye shall find, knock and it shall be opened unto you." She cried, "Lord, I have been knocking all night. Open unto me! Open unto me!"

And there is little doubt but that the answer came there and then. For two hours it seemed to her as though she had entered heaven. This time the family was aroused with her shouts of praise instead of her cries and groans. She said the very trees seemed to be clapping their hands and praising God. With her heart overflowing, she cried, "Father, didn't you intend that man should praise you more than these?"

She at once began to tell her experience to everyone around. She went to her old class leader and told him about her newfound joy. He instructed her to rejoice evermore, and pray without ceasing in order to keep it. This brought in a shade of doubt, as she wondered how she could pray without ceasing. She thought of the absorbing affairs of life and the things that would occupy her mind and wondered how such a thing was possible. But her mind was speedily set at rest by the Scripture saying, "Not slothful in business, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord."

Her joy was so great that she could not eat, and for eight days she was without food. Friends tried to persuade her to break her fast and to go give her testimony. It was some time before she felt that she could return to the ordinary duties.

For seven years and a half after this it just seemed as though she were



Kind Words

Genesis 50:14-21

14 And Joseph returned into Egypt, he, and his brethren, and all that went up with him to bury his father, after he had buried his father.

15 And when Joseph's brethren saw that their father was dead, they said, Joseph will peradventure hate us, and will certainly requite us all the evil which we did unto him.

16 And they sent a messenger unto Joseph, saying, Thy father did command before he died, saying,

17 So shall ye say unto Joseph, Forgive, I pray thee now, the trespass of thy brethren, and their sin; for they did unto thee evil: and now, we pray thee, forgive the trespass of the servants of the God of thy father. And Joseph wept when they spake unto him.

18 And his brethren also went and fell down before his face; and they said, Behold, we be thy servants.

19 And Joseph said unto them, Fear not: for am I in the place of God?

20 But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive.

21 Now therefore fear ye not: I will nourish you, and your little ones. And he comforted them, and spake kindly unto them.

II Chronicles 10:3-7

3 ...Jeroboam and all Israel came and spake to Rehoboam, saying,

4 Thy father made our yoke grievous: now therefore ease thou some-

what the grievous servitude of thy father, and his heavy yoke that he put upon us, and we will serve thee.

5 And he said unto them, Come again unto me after three days. And the people departed.

6 And king Rehoboam took counsel with the old men that had stood before Solomon his father while he yet lived, saying, What counsel give ye me to return answer to this people?

7 And they spake unto him, saying, If thou be kind to this people, and please them, and speak good words to them, they will be thy servants for ever.

The Message: Kind words are always the right words!

Questions:

1. Where did Joseph and his brothers go after they had buried their father?
2. Why did Joseph's brothers think he would hate them?
3. Who did they send to ask Joseph for forgiveness?
4. What did Joseph do when he heard their words?
5. What did his brothers do when they came before Joseph?
6. How did Joseph comfort his brothers?
7. Who came with all Israel to speak to Rehoboam?
8. What did they say they would do if he would ease their heavy load?
9. What did the old men advise Rehoboam?

Verse to Memorize

A man hath joy by the answer of his mouth: and a word spoken in due season, how good is it!

Proverbs 15:23.

Let's



Talk . . .

An unusual obituary in the newspaper caught my eye a few days ago. It said, "The funeral service for an 'Affable Fixit Man' will be today." The obituary did not describe the man as famous or tell what great things he had accomplished. It was the story of a 79 year-old appliance repairman who was known for his integrity, his character and his unquenchable happiness.

The president of the company where this man worked said, "Half of his job was to go to the customer's house and fix the appliance but the other half was to fix the people. Many of the people would call for him by name. He was always very jovial and friendly with always a kind word for everyone."

This can be a lesson to all of us. No matter what our job is, the most important work we can do is to help and encourage everyone we meet. There are many people in trouble. Many don't know where to turn and can't seem to find a way out of their dilemma. All around them looks hopeless.

With the peace of God in our hearts and the sunshine of His love beaming in our lives we have what they need! The Lord can use us to channel His hope into their gloom. We can give them a smile and encouraging words that will change their outlook. God can give them hope and cheer through our kind words!

After their father's funeral Joseph's brothers feared Joseph. They still remembered their cruelty

to him. But Joseph saw God's hand in everything that touched his life. He could now see that it was God who sent him to Egypt to preserve food so his family and others could survive the long famine. "Don't be afraid," Joseph told them kindly. "I will nourish you and your little ones." His brothers were comforted and greatly relieved when they heard his kind words.

When King Solomon died his son, Rehoboam, became king. The people came asking him to have mercy on them. If he would make their load lighter they would gladly serve him. When Rehoboam asked the wise old men for advice they told him to speak kindly to the people and listen to their complaints.

Instead of taking their advice Rehoboam turned to his young friends for their opinion. These foolish young men advised the king to speak harshly to the people and threaten them with even harder burdens. Rehoboam took the young men's advice and it cost him most of his kingdom. Ten of the twelve tribes of Israel broke away and chose their own king. Because this foolish king refused to use kind words the kingdom was divided!

Kind words come from a heart full of love and genuine concern for others. When we give our hearts to Jesus He fills it with love, joy and peace. His presence brings heavenly sunlight into our lives that we can share with others. There is a song that says, "Who but the Christian is happy and free, filled with the glory of God?"

Remember you will represent Christ today! What an honor it would be to be known as a "happy person who has a smile and a kind word for everyone!" We are an example, good or bad. Why not be a good one?

—Uncle Dale

living in heavenly places. At the first dawn of consciousness in the morning she would praise the Lord and clap her hands for joy. There was very little difficulty in maintaining her Christian life with such a joyous experience!

One morning, however, she awoke, and instead of the usual sense of joy and the burst of praise, she felt and said nothing. At once the devil whispered, "You have lost the blessing." Soon she fell asleep again and dreamed that she was talking to another woman with a similar experience. In her dream Ann urged her to walk by faith, quoting the text, "But the just shall live by faith," and urged her just to trust God.

With that she woke up and realized the message was for her. By faith she obtained perfect peace of mind and victory that did not depend on her feelings.

Jacob wrestled all night with an angel and would not let him go until the angel blessed him. That is when he was given the new name "Israel" which meant that as a prince he had power with God and with men.

After Ann prayed through and got victory over her awful temper she was like a new person. Some time after this great change some Catholic boys scribbled these words on her door, "Holy Ann lives here. Go in and have a word of prayer."

The boys were making fun of Ann but the name was so fitting that it gradually became so common that even friends began to call her by the name, "Holy Ann". When she saw there was no way to keep from being called by that name, Ann went to her place of prayer. She prayed, "Oh, Father, they are calling me Holy Ann. Make me holy, so that the children will not be telling lies." After awhile even most of her friends knew her only by this name and did not know her proper name, Ann Preston.

The new name certainly did not cause Ann to become puffed up. Its effect was to cause her, with the whole purpose of her life, to desire to fulfill the command of God, "Be ye holy, for I am holy."

From this time on Ann was like a new person. Wherever she went she became a faithful witness for God and an inspiration to all who knew her. This poor, ignorant woman had stepped from a life of struggling, marked too often by defeat, into a life of power and blessing. She stepped into a life of wonderful intimacy with God and prevailing prayer.

It was not long before this became generally recognized. Other weaker Christians asked her advice and begged for her to pray for them. It was very plain to see that when she prayed she could "ask and receive". She had become a special subject of the thoughtful care of her Heavenly Father.

There was one incident that she often told which beautifully illustrates this. In jumping over a fence Ann twisted her foot and injured the ankle. It got worse and worse until finally she was not able to walk. Dr. Reid said she would have to have the bone scraped before it would heal.

Ann submitted to this painful operation without any anesthetic saying the Lord sustained her through it. It was a long, long time before the wound healed up, and for over a year Ann was not able to walk. During this time, while she could not be so busy, she learned many precious lessons.

(To be continued from last week.)

(Answers: 1. Back to Egypt. 2. Because of the evil they had done him. 3. A messenger. 4. He wept. 5. Fell down before him. 6. With kind words. 7. Jeroboam. 8. Serve him. 9. To be kind and speak good words to them.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 11 Mar. 14, 2004

How God Answered Prayer

(Continued from last week.)

Ann twisted her foot and badly injured her ankle when she tried to jump over a fence. It was over a year before she could walk. She had become very weak through the great strain upon her system. One day the doctor told her she must have fresh eggs and milk. It did not occur to him that he was giving an impossible prescription. It was in the dead of winter, and not a fresh egg was to be had anywhere in the village.

But Ann was learning that the things that are impossible with man are possible with God. She took her need to God in prayer. She was sitting in her chair shortly after this, between the kitchen door and the back stairway. Someone had left the door open. To her surprise a hen came in and dropped down at Ann's feet. Something said to her, "Lift it up and put it on the first step of the stair." Immediately Ann recognized that her Father was about to meet her need.

The hen went upstairs, and in her simple way Ann asked that it might not be permitted to cackle. She did not want Dr. Reid's daughters to know a chicken was in the house. (There was a woman, named Peggy Casey

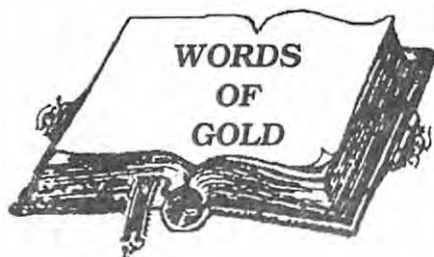
who let her hens live in the house with her. The boys laughed at her and Ann did not want to be compared to her!)

After a few minutes the hen came down very quietly and Ann reached to the door and let her out. Then another great difficulty faced her. She had not put any weight on her foot for a long time. It was impossible for her to walk, and while she was confident that the doctor's prescription had been filled at the top of the stairs, she did not know how she was to obtain it. She prayed, and felt that the answer came, "Go up for it." But in her simple way she said, "Father, how can I? It is impossible."

Some time before this she had learned a little refrain which she had taken as one of the motto verses of her life. It ran like this:

*"Faith, mighty faith, the promise sees,
And looks to God alone,
Laughs at impossibilities
And cries, 'It shall be done.'"*

When she spoke of impossibilities the inward voice said, "Well, say your verse." She hesitated for some time, but at last faith conquered and she repeated the simple words. Then she received her instructions as to how she was to act. She worked her chair toward the door, and then, sitting on the first step, she raised herself with her hands, step after step, until she



Just A Coincidence?

Acts 12:1-12

1 Now about that time Herod the king stretched forth his hands to vex certain of the church.

2 And he killed James the brother of John with the sword.

3 And because he saw it pleased the Jews, he proceeded further to take Peter also....

4 And when he had apprehended him, he put him in prison, and delivered him to four quaternions of soldiers to keep him,...

5 Peter therefore was kept in prison: but prayer was made without ceasing of the church unto God for him.

6 And when Herod would have brought him forth, the same night Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains: and the keepers before the door kept the prison.

7 And, behold, the angel of the Lord came upon him, and a light shined in the prison: and he smote Peter on the side, and raised him up, saying, Arise up quickly. And his chains fell off from his hands.

8 And the angel said unto him, Gird thyself, and bind on thy sandals. And so he did. And he saith unto him, Cast thy garment about thee, and follow me.

9 And he went out, and followed him: and wist not that it was true which was done by the angel: but thought he saw a vision.

10 When they were past the first and the second ward, they came unto the iron gate that leadeth unto the city: which opened to them of his own accord: and they went out, and passed on through one street: and forthwith the angel departed from him.

11 And when Peter was come to himself, he said, Now I know of a surety, that the Lord hath sent his angel, and hath delivered me out of the hand of Herod, and from all the expectation of the people of the Jews.

12 And when he had considered the thing, he came to the house of Mary...where many were gathered together praying.

The Message: Prayer moves God. That can move the world! The church prayed and God sent His angel to deliver Peter!

Questions:

1. Who killed James the brother of John?
2. Why did he capture Peter?
3. Where did he put him?
4. What was the church doing while Peter was there?
5. What was Peter doing when the angel came to him?
6. What did the angel do to Peter?
7. What happened to the chains?
8. Peter couldn't believe what was happening to him. He thought he saw a _____.
9. What were the people doing who had gathered at Mary's house?

Verse to Memorize

Peter therefore was kept in prison: but prayer was made without ceasing of the church unto God for him.

Acts 12:5.

Let's



Talk . . .

A missionary was on his way to a village in Africa. When he came to the river he was dismayed to see that it was overflowing its banks. The river which was normally very narrow was now raging and turbulent. It would be impossible for him to wade across. The rushing water had washed out all the bridges—yet it was urgent that he get across!

So falling to his knees the missionary begged the God of heaven to please provide a way across the river. Then he heard a loud crash! When he looked he saw that the noise came from a very large tree next to the water. Its roots had been undermined by the rushing water. It fell across the river, making a perfect bridge! The missionary, rejoicing at God's answer to prayer, went across to keep his appointment.

Now some unbelievers might say, "Now that just happened at the right place at the right time. It was a mere coincidence." But I am convinced that God does answer prayer like this.

I have been quite severely crippled for several years. There have been a number of times that I have asked the Lord for help and suddenly someone 'just happened' to come along right when I needed them!

I guess one of the strangest incidents happened at the service station in town. I had gotten some gas so I got my billfold and pulled out a \$20 bill. Somehow it slipped out of my hand. Instantly the wind caught it and blew it right out onto the driveway! I knew that at any second

another gust of wind could blow it to no telling where. I knew I could never walk fast enough to catch it so I just quickly begged the Lord to help me.

At that moment a pickup pulled away from the pumps. The driver didn't see the \$20 bill but he did see my frantic gestures. He rolled down his window to ask what my problem was. I pointed and said, "That is my \$20 bill!" He jumped out and grabbed it just as another gust of wind was about to carry it away.

Great things can happen when we use the power of prayer!

—Uncle Dale

When I Stopped To Pray

When four-year-old Charles Odam, a neighbor's son, strayed from home, everyone in our heavily wooded, rural area pitched in to look for him. After checking out a big, deep spring I climbed the mountainside, calling the boy and listening. No answer.

At the top of the mountain, green moss grew in a thick carpet on the woodland floor and late afternoon sunlight glimmered through the trees. I dropped to my knees and prayed to God for His help. Raising my head, I noticed a faint trail I had never seen before—just a trace used by forest animals; an enticing trail for a little boy! But it ended where someone had cut logs. No sign of Charles there.

The sun was going down. It was time to go back. Just then I heard a wild animal's cry, a little "mia ow" like a bobcat's kitten. Again it came. I peered through some bushes. There was Charles! He'd cried till he could only make that funny little sound.

He locked his arms around my neck and I carried him all the way home. On the way I thought about the hidden trail. What if I hadn't bowed my head to pray?

—Nadine Moody, *His Mysterious Ways*

had reached the top. The hen had laid the egg in an old box just at the head of the stair, and she was able to reach it without getting off the top step.

But how was she to get down with the egg in her hand? In her simple way—for she used to pray about all these little things in a very familiar manner—she asked for directions, and the word came, "Put it in your pocket."

She then managed to descend in the same fashion, and was just safely back in her chair when Paddy, the servant, walked in. Ann prayed, "Now, Father, don't let him ask me where I got it."

Paddy took the egg and fixed it for her as if there was nothing unusual about her having one. Yet he had been all through the village trying to find eggs for Ann without any success!

For three weeks the hen returned every day without making the slightest noise. Then one morning, while the hen was upstairs, the doctor said she did not need any more milk and eggs. Just after this one of the young ladies came in and startled the hen. It came down the stairs cackling loudly. The young woman was so surprised she said, "What, Ann, have you got hens upstairs like old Peggy Casey?"

Then she shooed the hen out into the yard. It never returned.

When Ann was able to walk and go outside again she tried to single out the hen. She wanted to show it special kindness since it had been so faithful to meet her need. But she could not tell which hen it was. In her customary way she appealed to her Father to show her which one it was. Instead she heard the voice speaking to her inward consciousness, and telling her, "My glory will I not give to another."

For a long time Ann hesitated to speak of this incident. She was sure

no one would believe her. But God reproved her for not telling others about His goodness to her. She heard Him say, "I fed you just as really as I fed Elijah through the ravens, and yet you are ashamed to make it known." Some time after this Ann was away from home visiting some friends. When she got up courage to tell them how God had provided eggs for her the lady did not believe her. Ann said quietly, "Well, my Father will make you believe it before I go."

Ann did not have enough money to get home and did not know how much she needed. One morning as she knelt in prayer she asked her Father how much it would cost. Later when she asked the lady she told her exactly the same amount.

Then the woman asked, "Do you think you will get it, Ann?"

She answered, "I am sure the Lord will send it to me."

A little later, while Ann was away from the house, a man came asking for the "shouting girl."

The lady told him she wasn't there and then added in an amused way, "Do you know, she was praying this morning for money to take her back home, and she says she is sure her Father will send it."

"Well," said the man, "and so am I, for I have it here in my pocket." He then told her how he had been impressed to give her the amount and to bring it to her.

The woman could not wait to tell Ann. When she did, Ann answered, "I knew my Father would send it to me. You wouldn't believe about the egg. My Father has done this to make you believe."

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Herod. 2. To please the Jews. 3. In prison. 4. Praying continuously. 5. Sleeping. 6. Hit him on the side. 7. They fell off. 8. Vision. 9. Praying.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 12 Mar. 21, 2004

More Answers To Prayer

(Continued from last week.)

Ann Preston was a new person when she learned to pray to her "Father". She would often pray for hours as she poured out her heart to God in praise and petitions. She was so truly transformed through faith in Christ that her violent temper disappeared. Her great delight was to talk to her "Father" in prayer and attend church services so she could share her joy and experiences with others.

Her prayer didn't stop when she left her room, however. Ann was constantly speaking to her "Father" about each and every seemingly insignificant thing. "Father, where did I put that laundry?" "Father, what am I going to do about supper tonight?" "Father, help me through today . . ."

When the Catholic boys of the neighborhood noticed that Ann prayed constantly they nicknamed her "Holy Ann". After reading this, Ann prayed to her "Father" that she truly would be holy so they would not be telling a lie.

Soon her family and the neighbors began noticing something else about Holy Ann. Whenever she prayed for something, it came true! And so, they began to approach this mysteri-

ous neighbor of theirs with their requests.

Ann loved to help others. Every spring she used to make two barrels of soft soap—one for their own use, and always one for the poor. On one occasion she had made the one barrelful and was at the last kettleful of the second, when something seemed to go wrong. The soap would not thicken.

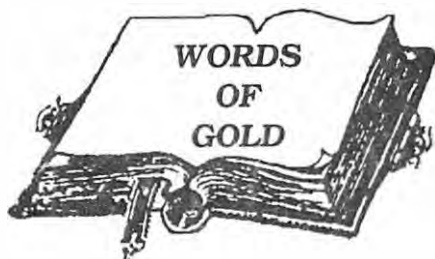
The children came out to see how she was getting along, and of course, childlike, they wanted to know what was wrong with the soap. In her familiar way Ann said, "My Father says it only needs a bone."

They asked, "Well, haven't you got one?"

She said, "No, but my Father bids me wait till morning."

"But suppose it should rain in the night? The water would spoil it more." But Ann quietly said, "My Father said wait till the morning, and I will wait, and cover it up now."

By three o'clock the next morning Ann was up and out to see her soap. There by the side of the kettle lay a large marrow bone. All the meat had been taken off of it but it had not been boiled. With her quiet "Thank you," Ann lifted up her heart in praise. Then she picked up the axe, broke the bone and put it in the soap. In a



Responsibility

Luke 19:12-13; 15-26

12 He said therefore. A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom, and to return.

13 And he called his ten servants, and delivered them ten pounds, and said unto them, Occupy till I come.

15 And it came to pass, that when he was returned, having received the kingdom, then he commanded these servants to be called unto him, to whom he had given the money, that he might know how much every man had gained by trading.

16 Then came the first, saying, Lord, thy pound hath gained ten pounds.

17 And he said unto him, Well, thou good servant: because thou hast been faithful in a very little, have thou authority over ten cities.

18 And the second came, saying, Lord, thy pound hath gained five pounds.

19 And he said likewise to him, Be thou also over five cities.

20 And another came, saying, Lord, behold, here is thy pound, which I have kept laid up in a napkin:

21 For I feared thee, because thou art an austere man: thou takest up that thou layedst not down, and reapest that thou didst not sow.

22 And he saith unto him, Out of thine own mouth will I judge thee,

thou wicked servant. Thou knewest that I was an austere man, taking up that I laid not down, and reaping that I did not sow:

23 Wherefore then gavest not thou my money into the bank, that at my coming I might have required mine own with usury?

24 And he said unto them that stood by, Take from him the pound, and give it to him that hath ten pounds.

25 (And they said unto him, Lord, he hath ten pounds.)

26 For I say unto you, That unto every one which hath shall be given; and from him that hath not, even that he hath shall be taken away from him.

The Message: God gives each of us at least one talent. We have the responsibility to use it to His glory

Questions:

1. Where did the nobleman go?
2. Why did he take this trip?
3. How many servants did he call?
4. What did he give them?
5. How much had the first servant gained?
6. He made the second servant ruler over how many cities?
7. What did the last servant do with his pound?
8. What did the nobleman say he should have done with the pound?
9. To whom did they give his pound?

Verse to Memorize

**It is good for a man that he bear the yoke in his youth.
Lamentations 3:27.**

Let's



Talk . . .

Charles was not yet acquainted with the city so he decided to ride the bus and just look around a bit. He got on the bus and paid his fare but he didn't bother to count the change until he found a seat and sat down. It was then that he noticed that the driver had given him a quarter too much.

He thought about it, knowing that he would have to give it back. But then he thought, "Why bother? I'll just forget it—the bus fare is too high anyway and the bus company will never miss such a little bit!"

His mind went back and forth as he was riding along. When it finally came time for him to get off he got up and started for the door. Then, on impulse, he stopped and turned to the driver saying, "You gave me too much change." Then he handed him the quarter.

The driver smiled and thanked him. Then he asked, "Aren't you the new pastor of the church here in town?"

Charles answered, "Yes, I am."

The driver said, "I'm looking for a good church to attend so this morning I decided to see how honest you are. I gave you too much change on purpose. I am looking forward to coming to church and being with you!"

After Charles got off the bus he had to lean against a telephone pole awhile. It made him feel weak all over to think how close he had come to keeping the quarter and failing God! "What if I had not realized my responsibility to be strictly honest? It could have meant that this man would never

accept the Lord into his life and he and others would be lost!" He shuddered at the thought.

We all have responsibilities and it is up to us how we handle them. It is easy to get careless and feel that it really doesn't matter if we choose to do right or wrong. It is typical for children to want to try their own way. Unless they have given their heart to God and have His guidance, they will rebel against parents and others who try to protect them from the awful traps of sin. It is the devil's purpose to ruin young lives. Then they will never develop into the full power and usefulness God intended for them.

You are never too young to give your heart to God. You do not need to wait until you are an adult to begin working for Him. Jaya loved God and immediately obeyed everything He told her to do. Even though she was only seven or eight years old God used her to take His good news to many people and to heal them.

Samuel was a mere child when his parents left him alone to serve old Eli in the house of the Lord. When Jesus was still very young He knew that He should be doing His Father's business. Joseph was a boy who loved God and was obedient to his own father. Daniel and his three friends determined to serve God even if it cost them their lives. All of these were normal children yet they possessed a faith that enabled them to stand head and shoulders above others their age. They had strong faith in God and accepted their responsibility to stand true to Him. God used them in such wonderful ways they are still an inspiration to us.

While you are young you have lots of energy, strength and stamina. Don't waste these precious years and blessings. Learn to accept responsibility now. Invest all your talents in service to God!

—Uncle Dale

short time she had a batch of perfect soap.

The next morning the children were anxious to see what had happened to the soap. They really expected that Ann's prayers would be answered and when they looked at the soap they could see that they were. When they questioned her she explained that she got the bone that she needed.

"It was here by the kettle when I came out," she told them.

One of the children said, "Oh, I guess a dog dropped the bone there." Like a flash Ann retorted, "I don't care if the devil brought it; my Father sent it."

At one time Ann found out that a group of gospel workers were hungry and in need.

She asked some friends with whom she was staying if they ever took them any food. They told her that they had on several occasions, but added, "We haven't very much to give."

Ann asked the woman if she would take them some eggs. She answered that the hens were not laying then. Ann said, "Well, but if I ask my Father for them, will you give them to the officers?"

The woman replied, "Yes, I will." Ann went to prayer and shortly afterwards she went out to the barn and gathered over a dozen eggs. The woman was amazed. Years afterwards this woman sent word to Ann when she needed prayer.

Of course, in many of these incidents one may find a natural explanation. God frequently uses natural things in order to answer the prayers of His children. Some unbelievers may say that the things all happened by chance. But it is certainly a most convenient chance that always appears to meet the needs of those who cry to God in prayer!

Ann told an incident that happened while she was still on crutches. A special meeting started at church and Ann wanted to be in every service but it was most difficult to get there. She was always eager to help and do everything possible to lead others to know her "Father".

One morning when Ann got up she was dismayed to see that it had snowed heavily during the night. Her first response was to turn to God in prayer. She said, "O Father now I can't go to the meeting tonight. Won't You please send someone to make a path for me?"

At that time there was no man around to shovel a path and the house was nearly a quarter of a mile back from the road. On several other occasions, in answer to her prayers, someone had come along who shoveled the snow for her.

After prayer Ann heard the girls laughing. "Come and see what is making the path for Ann," they told the others. When Ann looked out she saw five horses going up the lane one after the other as straight as a line. They ran up and down in colt fashion at least four times. Soon there was a perfectly beaten track all through the deep snow. As soon as they got out on the road they would go different ways. But each time they walked up the lane it was in one straight track.

Ann enjoyed the meeting that night even more than usual. Her face beamed with joy as she told the others how God had opened her way through the snow.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. To a far country. 2. To receive a kingdom. 3. Ten. 4. Talents. 5. Ten pounds. 6. Five cities. 7. He laid it up in a napkin. 8. Put it in a bank so it would earn interest (usury). 9. To the servant who had ten pounds.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 1 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 13 Mar. 28, 2004

The Story Of The Well

(Continued from last week.)

One of the most remarkable answers to prayer in Ann's experience was when she was able to draw water out of a dry well. It had been a long dry summer. It was usual for the family well to be dry for two or three months during the summer. This meant that the boys had to haul water in barrels from the well that was about half a mile away.

This was very hard work. They had to draw enough water for all the household needs and for the animals as well.

One evening Ann was sitting in the kitchen with the boys around her. She began to tell them some of the remarkable ways that her Heavenly Father had answered her prayers. When she finished telling about one incident Henry said, "Ann, why don't you ask your Father to send water in that well? Then we boys would not have to work so hard. I was down in the well looking at it today and it is just as dry as this floor!"

Henry said this in a half-joking, half-earnest way, as though to challenge her faith. He did not dream that Ann would take it so seriously. When she got up into her little room that night she knelt in prayer and said, "Now, Father, you heard what Henry

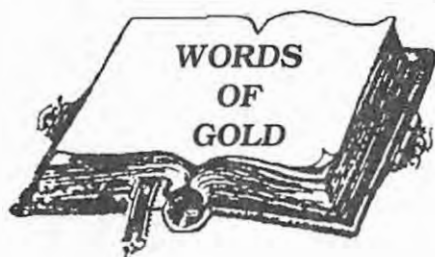
said tonight. If I get up in class meeting and say, 'My God shall supply all your needs according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus,' the boys won't believe I am what I profess to be if you don't send the water in the well."

She then continued to plead that there would be water in the well. Finally, rising from her knees, she said, "Now, Father, if I am what I profess to be, there will be water in the well in the morning."

When she came down the next morning Henry was out preparing to go for the water as usual. To his surprise and great amusement he saw Ann take up the two pails and start for the well.

He watched her from the kitchen window as she hooked the pail to the windlass and began to lower it. If she had done it the night before it would have gone with a bang to the bottom. But instead he heard a splash and the pail kept going deeper. Then Ann began to pull the bucket back up. Henry could see it was hard for her to raise.

At last Ann put the pail up on the well-stand. It was full of water! She lowered the second pail into the well. Again Henry heard the splash as the pail hit the water. Letting it sink until it was full of water, Ann pulled this pail up with some difficulty. Then with both pails full of clear, sparkling water, she walked up to the house.



Earthquakes

Acts 26:22-30

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

23 And when they had laid many stripes upon them, they cast them into prison, charging the 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 earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: 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 sprang in, and came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas.

30 And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved?

Psalms 18: 2-3, 6-7

2 The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer: my God,

my strength, in whom I will trust: my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower.

3 I will call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised: so shall I be saved from mine enemies.

6 In my distress I called upon the LORD, and cried unto my God: he heard my voice out of his temple, and my cry came before him, even into his ears.

7 Then the earth shook and trembled: the foundations also of the hills moved and were shaken, because he was wroth.

The Message: When the world all around is crumbling God is the rock to stand on.

Questions:

1. Who tore off Paul and Silas' clothes and demanded them to be beaten?
2. Who did they charge to keep them safely?
3. Where did he put them?
4. What did Paul and Silas do at midnight?
5. What caused all the prison doors to fly open?
6. Why was the jailor about to kill himself?
7. What did Paul cry out to him?
8. What question did the jailor ask Paul and Silas?
9. Who did David say he called upon when he was in distress?

Verse to Memorize

The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust:...

Psalms 18:2.

Let's



Talk . . .

Have you ever been in an earthquake; a really big one? If you have you will probably never forget the experience. It is kind of like being in a boat on the ocean. The ground actually moves, often in a motion like the ocean waves. Suddenly everything begins to shake and sway. It is a fearful experience—nothing is stable and there is no safe place to hide.

On Monday, January 17, 1994, at 4:31 a.m., the Northridge earthquake hit Southern California. It probably lasted less than a minute yet there was extensive damage. Freeways, buildings and houses collapsed. Power and water lines were cut off. Gas lines exploded. Hillsides crumbled and fires broke out. Many people found themselves trapped in the wreckage of their homes. Fifty-seven people died including a policeman who rode his motorcycle off a high freeway overpass. In the darkness he could not see that part of the highway had dropped away!

The bottom of a three-story apartment building collapsed until it looked like a two-story building with minimal damage. People were trapped in the collapsed portion but fire trucks and rescue vehicles passed right by. It took a while for anyone to notice that the whole ground floor was missing. It was buried under the rest of the building!

God is in control even when it seems that everything is in chaos. The Bible tells of several instances where God showed His power through earthquakes. God came down on Mount Sinai to talk with Moses before

the Israelites. The whole mountain burned with fire and shook with a great earthquake. The people were so frightened that they begged Moses to speak to them instead of God. They feared that they would be destroyed by His mighty presence!

When Jesus died on the cross the earth shook so violently that even the rocks broke apart. And when the angel of the Lord came to roll back the stone from the door of the sepulcher where Jesus' body had been laid there was again a great earthquake.

In our lesson the magistrates thought they had everything under control when they put the jailor in charge of Paul and Silas and demanded that he put them where they could not escape. The jailor was sure his prisoners would never get away since he put them in the inner prison and even fastened their feet in stocks.

But when Paul and Silas prayed to Him and sang songs at midnight God took action. He sent an earthquake so strong it opened the prison doors and shook off the stocks from the disciples' feet!

Like Paul and Silas, serve God and keep your trust and confidence in Him. Then although you may experience a threatening situation you need not be alarmed because God has promised to always be with you. He is all powerful. He is able to care for us and protect us no matter what might happen.

Once in a small village an earthquake struck, causing great fear. One woman calmly went on with her usual activities. This attracted the attention of her neighbors. They asked, "What is your secret? How can you be so relaxed when the ground is shaking under your feet? Aren't you afraid?"

With a smile the woman replied simply, "No, I'm not afraid. I'm just glad I serve a God who is strong enough to shake the world!"

—Uncle Dale

She set the pails down in front of Harry and said triumphantly, "Well, what do you say now?"

To her surprise he simply answered, "Well, why didn't you do that long ago and saved us all that work?"

Years after this a friend visited the well. They were told that from the time Ann prayed for water the well had never been known to be dry again, summer or winter!

Some might think it was almost irreverent to speak to God with such intimacy and familiarity as Ann did. Some would say that you shouldn't bring the thousand and one little matters of everyday life into the sphere of prayer. It was quite a common thing for Ann to go around at her daily tasks talking as familiarly to the Heavenly Father about every little thing as she would talk to any other person that might be in the home. She sought His guidance in every little detail of her life.

Yet those who lived with her witnessed that she received special answers to her simple prayers. Even the children would run to Ann when they ran into difficulty while they played. On one occasion one of the boys had lost a spade. He was dreading the punishment he would get from his father when he found out the spade was missing. He went to Ann and appealed to her to ask her Father about it. She at once closed her eyes and said in her simple way, "Father, where is it?"

We cannot explain how she understood, or in what form these answers made themselves known to her but she immediately made a beeline for the back of the garden. There the spade was, hidden in the grass!

This was not by any means an isolated case. The children would come to her when their toys were lost. Invariably after Ann had prayed she would go at once to where the missing article was lying.

There was only one occasion when Ann did fail to get her answer about something that was lost. A young minister was visiting the home and was out on the lawn playing croquet with the girls. Ann did not think it was right for the minister to be spending his time in that way. In her blunt way she asked if he could keep his mind stayed upon God while he was doing this.

He replied, "Oh, yes, for a little while."

During the game one of the girls lost something that she prized greatly. However, she was quite unconcerned and said, "Oh, never mind. Ann will soon find it for me."

Later she came in and said, "Ann, get it for me now, quick."

Ann, in her usual way, went to her Father, but no answer came. She went out to look for it, but could not find it, and it was never found.

Years later she went to live in a home where there were young boys. They enjoyed hiding things that Ann would need and then watch to see how she would find them. They would wait for the time when Ann missed the article. Of course she did not know they had hidden it. She would go up to her room or walk up to a corner with her eyes closed, and in her simple way she would say, "Father, where is it?"

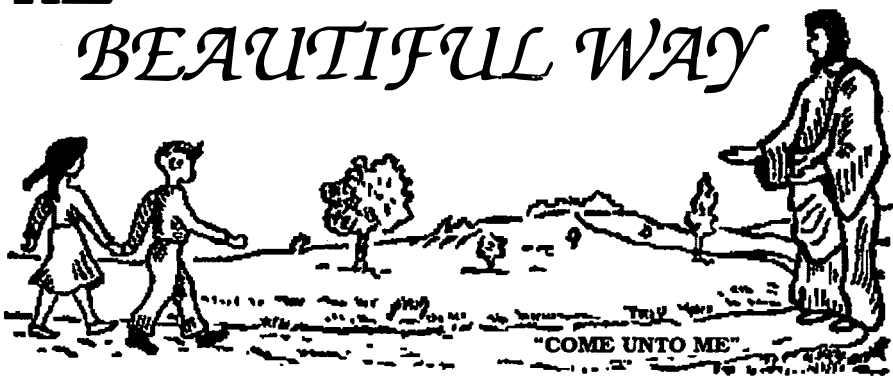
After standing a moment or two in silence she would turn around and go directly to the spot where the thing was hidden!

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. The magistrates. 2. The jailor. 3. In the inner prison. 4. They prayed and sang praises to God. 5. An earthquake. 6. Because he thought all his prisoners had escaped. 7. "Do thyself no harm: for we are all here." 8. "Sir, what must I do to be saved?" 9. The Lord.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 1 April 4, 2004

Marie Learns About Easter

Anne came rushing in from school with pigtails flying and her sweet little face all smeared up with dirt and tears.

"Mamma!" she cried.

"Whatever is the matter?" asked her mother, drying her hands on her apron.

"It's Marie!" Anne wailed. "She's going to have a new dress and new socks and new shoes and new everything!"

"Why, Anne," Mother said, "I think that's fine. Aren't you glad Marie is going to have nice things?"

"Yes, but - Yes, but -" Mother found a hanky to wipe the tears away.

"She's going to have them all to wear on Easter Day. And I won't have any! And she laughed at me. And-and she said that's what Easter is for! And -and -"

"Poor Anne!" Mother said. "Marie has got you all mixed up, hasn't she?"

"She's mean!" wailed Anne.

"No," Mother said, "I don't think she's really mean. She's just got Easter backwards. Sometimes we have new clothes for Easter, but Easter is not especially for wearing new clothes."

Anne dried her tears and washed her dirty face.

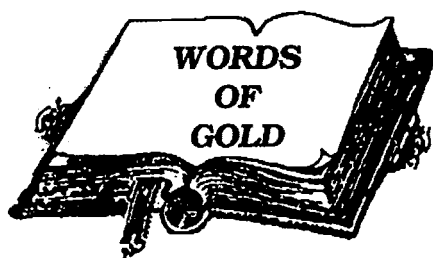
"Itellyou what," Mother suggested. "You ask Marie to come to supper tomorrow. Then we'll get Daddy to read about the Easter story for our devotion."

The next day everybody was seated around the supper table with bright faces and clean hands. Daddy put on glasses and cleared his throat. He opened the big Bible carefully and started to read about Easter.

Anne smiled at Mother and sat very quietly to listen. She loved stories.

When he had finished reading, Daddy closed the Bible and began to pray. "Dear Father in heaven, look down on us tonight and bless our little family and our little friend. Thank you for this food You have given us. Thank You, too, for Jesus who died in our place. Help us to love Him as much as we should and to keep His Easter with all our hearts. Amen."

After supper Marie and Anne went out to play, but Marie didn't say anything about the Easter Story. Anne was disappointed. But that night when Marie went home, she told her mother: "I had the most wonderful time, Mother. Before we ate supper Anne's father read a story in the Bible and said a prayer, just like in church. And you know what? Easter isn't for candy, toys and new dresses at all! Easter is because Jesus died in our place and



It Makes A Difference!

**John 19:12, 14-18, 25, 29-30,
32-34, 36-39, 41-42**

12 ...Pilate sought to release (Jesus):...

14 ...and he saith unto the Jews, Behold your King!

15 But they cried out, Away with him, away with him, crucify him....

16 Then delivered he him...to be crucified. And they took Jesus, and led him away.

17 And he bearing his cross went forth into a place called the place of a skull,...

18 Where they crucified him, and two other with him,...and Jesus in the midst.

25 Now there stood by the cross of Jesus his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Cleophas, and Mary Magdalene.

29 Now...they filled a sponge with vinegar,...and put it to his mouth.

30 When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost.

32 Then came the soldiers, and brake the legs of the first, and of the other which was crucified with him.

33 But when they came to Jesus, and saw that he was dead already, they brake not his legs:

34 But one of the soldiers with a spear pierced his side, and forthwith came there out blood and water.

36 For these things were done, that the scripture should be fulfilled, A

bone of him shall not be broken.

37 And again another scripture saith, They shall look on him whom they pierced.

38 And after this Joseph...a disciple of Jesus,...took the body of Jesus.

39 And there came also Nicodemus, which at the first came to Jesus by night, and brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes,...

41 Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden; and in the garden a new sepulchre, wherein was never man yet laid.

42 There laid they Jesus...

The Message: We should observe Easter in such a way that we truly commemorate Jesus' resurrection from the dead.

Questions:

1. Who wanted to release Jesus?
2. What did the mob cry out?
3. Jesus carried His cross to a place called _____.
4. How many others were crucified with Jesus?
5. What three words did Jesus say just before He died?
6. Why didn't the soldiers break Jesus' legs?
7. What happened when Jesus' side was pierced?
8. Who took the body of Jesus?
9. Who brought myrrh and aloes?

Verse to Memorize

For these things were done, that the scripture should be fulfilled,...

John 19:36.

Let's



Talk . . .

Satan has succeeded in stripping the real meaning from Easter in the eyes of the world just as he has commercialized Christmas. On these dates we should give serious thought to what was accomplished for us by Jesus' birth, death and resurrection. Instead the world has become caught up in a whirl of activities and customs that steal the true meaning of both occasions. How we celebrate Easter does make a difference!

Easter, and the events leading up to Jesus' resurrection made all the difference in one woman's life. Her name was Mary Magdalene. She was there when the soldiers nailed her Lord to the cruel cross. As she watched, numb with grief, she thought back over her own life and how different it had been since she met Jesus.

Mary grew up in the village of Magdala. It seems that her family was quite wealthy but this did not bring her true happiness or peace. Poor Mary was often driven to do things that were hateful and destructive. She despised herself afterwards and hated her evil deeds but she had no power to stop them. The devil had taken control of her body and life.

Then one day she heard that Jesus was teaching nearby and decided to investigate. She listened in fascination as He spoke of forgiveness, of cleansing and of being made whole. He announced that the kingdom of God had come. She could actually feel God's presence all

around her! The sick and maimed were healed at Jesus' touch. Even those tormented like Mary were set free. At Jesus' command demons came out. Lives were liberated—actually transformed!

Mary felt strangely drawn to Jesus yet a terrible power held her back. Then suddenly she was face to face with Him! Panic filled her heart but He looked down in such love and pity she knew she could trust Him. His eyes seemed to pierce right into her soul, seeing her desperate need.

Then with great authority He said, "Come out of her, you foul demons, and let her go!"

There was a violent inward struggle, and then all was peaceful. She looked up at Jesus. "Mary, you're forgiven," He said, "and you're free!" And from that moment she *was* free. The Bible tells us that seven demons came out of her! She felt so clean, so light, that she fairly flew home to tell her family the good news. Even without a word they could see that Mary was changed. Her father marveled. His little Mary, so long tormented, was finally happy!

After this Mary spent her days with the multitudes around Jesus. She was hungry to learn more about God and His kingdom. She used her money to buy food for Jesus and His disciples. Her compassion and hope overflowed. She loved to introduce other desperate people to the Lord.

Mary was jerked back to reality by an agonizing cry from the cross. She realized her Lord and Savior was dying!

Easter would always bring vivid memories back to Mary. She was the first one Jesus appeared to after His resurrection. Knowing He was alive meant that she too could experience eternal life after death. She would always praise and glorify God for this—especially on Easter!

—Nelda Sorrell

then arose. The story is right in the Bible!" —*Beams of Light*

The Parable Of The Butterfly

As two caterpillars crawled along they saw a beautiful butterfly soaring overhead. One caterpillar said to the other, "You'll never get me up in one of those things!"

But as unlikely as it might have seemed at the time, this caterpillar too will someday be a butterfly. With time there will be a drastic change. It will finally lose the urge to be constantly crawling and chewing. Then attaching itself firmly to a stick or some other object it will instinctively begin to form a hard shell, called a chrysalis, around itself. Soon all you can see is a leather-like case hanging there. For weeks it hangs there—nothing moves and there is no sign of life of any kind. You would think for sure that this is the end of the caterpillar—surely it is dead!

But then one spring morning the life inside the chrysalis begins to move and turn. Eventually the top cracks open and slowly you see, not an ugly caterpillar, but a beautifully-formed butterfly squeezing through the small opening! For hours it stands stretching and drying its wings, moving them slowly up and down, up and down. And then, when the wings are strong and dry, the butterfly soars gracefully into the air, effortlessly floating on the breezes. It flits from one gorgeous flower to another as if to compare its brilliant colors with those of the bright blossoms.

The chrysalis still hangs there but now it is only an empty shell. On Easter morning when the disciples went to Jesus' tomb they saw only His grave clothes lying on the cold slab. Jesus was gone; the tomb was as empty as the chrysalis deserted by the butterfly!

"He is not here, but is risen" the angel told the frightened women who came to the grave early that morning. As proof Jesus Himself appeared to the disciples later that day. Over the course of the next few weeks He frequently visited them, appearing to as many as five hundred people at one time. Even "Doubting Thomas" was convinced that Jesus was really alive when he saw Him for himself.

The miracle of the butterfly is also a living illustration of the promise of our own resurrection. Paul assures us in I Corinthians 15:51-54 "Behold, I show you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, 'Death is swallowed up in victory'".

Jesus' resurrection from the grave is God's proof to us that death is not the end. The empty tomb and Jesus' Spirit within us testify that Easter morning is God's triumph over death.

This is why we gather to worship God on Easter morning, not to show off our new clothes. We come to celebrate Jesus' victory over death itself. For since He is our Lord and our Savior, His victory is our victory. In celebrating His resurrection we celebrate our own assurance of ultimate triumph over death. —Nelda Sorrell

(Answers: 1. Pilate. 2. "Crucify Him!" 3. The place of a skull. 4. Two. 5. "It is finished" 6. He was already dead. 7. Blood and water came out. 8. Joseph. 9. Nicodemus.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 2 April 11, 2004

The Prize Egg

I walked to the edge of the lawn and called out to Gilbert. "Hey, Bert Dirt are you going to the Easter egg hunt at the park Saturday?" (I knew he wouldn't go, that's why I asked him.)

He didn't answer, so I insisted: "You are going to the Easter egg hunt, aren't you? All the others are going!" "No, I won't be going," he answered rather halfheartedly.

"I suppose you think it would be a sin of some kind to run over the grass and look for some painted-up eggs? Big sin! Some religion you have! I'd trade it for something with a little fun in it if I were you!"

"Ah, Jim," he said, calm as a hibernating woodchuck, "if you knew what Easter was all about you would understand me."

"Me know what Easter is about? Sure I know! It's a special day in which Christians celebrate Christ's rising from the dead. The egg is a perfect symbol of His coming out of the tomb. Just as the little chicken pecks the shell open and comes out, so Jesus came out of the tomb alive."

"Yes, Jim, I know about all that but Easter means even more to me. It means that because Jesus had power over death, He will also give me power

over death. He will give me a new body after I die and I will live forever in heaven."

"Ah, Bert Dirt," (I like to call him that to see if he will get mad, but he never does!) "if you would give up your fanatic scruples and do the fun things that all the gang does, you wouldn't be wishing so much for that happy life after death that you talk about all the time. Just like Saturday. We'll go to the park to hunt eggs. After that we'll go on some rides and then to a movie."

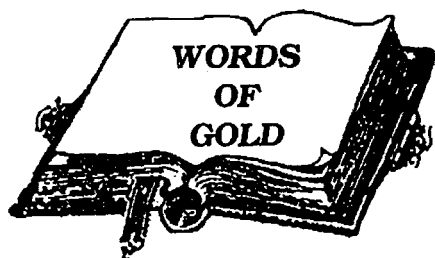
"That's just why I don't want to go. Now hunting around for some eggs in the grass isn't a sin, it's all the other things that go along with it. Besides, I'm working for Uncle Bill that day because his usual helper wants the day off."

"Well then, work while the rest of us have fun!"

"So long, Jim, I'll see you Monday at school."

Saturday morning Gilbert went to work with his uncle. I begged ten dollars from my dad and went to the park where I met my other friends. Everyone was there; the city mayor, our preacher, my Sunday school teacher, our neighbors, and lots of teachers and children from school. I felt sorry for Gilbert!

"Hi, Jim," called Tom. "Couldn't you get Bert Dirt to come?" (We all called him that.)



I Have Seen The Lord

John 20:1-6, 8, 10-16, 18

1 The first day of the week cometh Mary Magdalene early, when it was yet dark, unto the sepulchre, and seeth the stone taken away from the sepulchre.

2 Then she runneth, and cometh to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and saith unto them, They have taken away the Lord out of the sepulchre,...

3 Peter therefore went forth, and that other disciple,...

4 So they ran both together: and the other disciple did outrun Peter,...

5 And he stooping down, and looking in, saw the linen clothes lying:...

6 Then cometh Simon Peter...and went into the sepulchre,...

8 Then went in also that other disciple,...and he saw, and believed.

10 Then the disciples went away again unto their own home.

11 But Mary stood without at the sepulchre weeping: and as she wept, she stooped down, and looked into the sepulchre,

12 And seeth two angels in white sitting, the one at the head, and the other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain.

13 And they say unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? She saith unto them, Because they have taken away my Lord, and I know not where they have laid him.

14 And when she had thus said, she turned herself back, and saw Jesus standing, and knew not that it was Jesus.

15 Jesus saith unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? whom seekest thou? She, supposing him to be the gardener, saith unto him, Sir, if thou have borne him hence, tell me where thou hast laid him; and I will take him away.

16 Jesus saith unto her, Mary. She turned herself, and saith unto him, Rabboni; which is to say, Master.

18 Mary Magdalene came and told the disciples that she had seen the Lord, and that he had spoken these things unto her.

The Message: Jesus honored Mary Magdalene's faith and loyalty by appearing to her first after His resurrection.

Questions:

1. When did Mary Magdalene go to the sepulcher?
2. What had happened to the stone?
3. Who did she run to tell?
4. What did Peter do when he got to the sepulcher?
5. What did Mary do after the two disciples went back home?
6. What did she see when she looked into the sepulcher?
7. Who did she think Jesus was?
8. What did Mary tell the disciples?

Verse to Memorize

Now when Jesus was risen early the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had cast seven devils.

Mark 16:9.

Let's



Talk . . .

Mary Magdalene's heart ached with grief. She watched helplessly as the soldiers fastened Jesus to the cruel cross. Through her tears she saw Him hanging there between the two thieves. Then she heard His voice—the voice that once proclaimed God's kingdom on the hillsides of Galilee. "It is finished!" He shouted. Then His head dropped to His chest.

There was a loud clap of thunder from the clouds which had been gathering ominously all afternoon. Lightning flashed across the gruesome hilltop. Jesus' body hung limp. Around her Mary could hear the sobbing of Jesus' mourners. She took one long last look, then buried her face and wept. It was all over now. She knew her Lord was dead yet she could not leave.

Then Mary recognized Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus as they came to take the body of Jesus. Night was falling. Nicodemus and Joseph worked quickly now, binding the body with long strips of linen, enfolding what few spices they had with them as they wrapped. Finally, they tenderly lay the body on a limestone ledge in the new tomb. Mary watched while they heaved the massive stone into place across the opening to the tomb. It was dark when they turned to leave.

As Mary turned toward home she determined to return as soon as the Sabbath was over. She would bring spices and the things necessary to give Jesus a proper burial.

The hours seemed to drag on endlessly. Saturday's sun finally dipped

below the mountains; Sabbath was over. Now Mary could prepare the spices. Then, long before sunup, she and two other women started for the tomb. Hurrying along, one of the women whispered, "Who'll move the stone?"

"Oh, the stone!" Mary said. She had forgotten about it!

As they came in sight of the tomb, she gasped. The stone had already been pushed aside—the tomb was empty! "Grave robbers!" Mary cried. "Can't they leave Him alone—even in death?"

Mary ran to find Peter and John. "They've taken the Lord's body out of the tomb," she said breathlessly. "We don't know where they've put him!" Peter and John ran to see for themselves. When they came to the tomb they saw the grave clothes that Joseph had wrapped around Jesus' body. Mary, too tired to run any farther, trudged slowly back to the garden tomb. By the time she got there, Peter and John had come and gone. She stood by the empty grave and wept.

Finally stooping down to peer into the tomb, Mary saw two angels. One was sitting at the head and another at the foot where Jesus' body had been. "Woman, why are you weeping?" the angels asked.

She answered, "Because they have taken away my Lord and I do not know where they have laid him."

Mary turned and saw a man whom she supposed was the gardener. He too asked, "Why do you weep?"

"Sir," she pleaded, "if you have carried away my Lord, tell me where you have laid Him."

"Mary!"

Instantly she knew it was Jesus! She fell at His feet and cried, "Rabboni! Master!" Jesus, her Lord, was alive! Overjoyed she ran to find the disciples. "I have seen the Lord!" she exclaimed breathlessly.

—Nelda Sorrell

"Nope! He thinks we're going to do too many bad things. Besides, he is working for his uncle today. He says he is going to give half the money he makes to his church as a thank-you to Christ for dying on the cross."

"Wow!"

"I told him I'd be giving more than him because I am going to find the prize egg that's worth a crisp new one hundred dollar bill. And I'll have a day full of fun, too!"

While we were waiting for the whistle I whispered to Tom, "I'm saying a prayer that God will help me find that prize egg." Right there I closed my eyes and prayed.

At the sound of the whistle Tom and I ran to the far end of the area with several of our friends. First Tom found an egg, then Phil and Rick. I was looking everywhere! I heard shouts all over the area as children found eggs, but I found none.

Then suddenly I spotted the prize egg carefully hidden under a turf of grass. I couldn't believe my eyes! I trembled all over as I carefully picked it up. I didn't say a word about it because I was afraid someone might take it away from me. Hiding it under my shirt, I walked quickly to the head man.

"The prize egg has been found by Jim McRush!" he announced. My friends rushed to congratulate me. My Sunday school teacher and preacher came to congratulate me. I told the preacher about my promise to give more money to our church than Gilbert was giving to his. He praised me!

After that the boys and I went for the rides. Since I couldn't get the prize money until Monday I borrowed twenty dollars from Phil's older brother. That was soon gone, so I borrowed ten extra dollars that Rick had along. We had a great time trying

all the rides we hadn't tried before. At the movie that night I treated all eight of them to pop and popcorn with money I borrowed from Tom's mom who met us there to drive us home. After the movie, I begged her to let me treat them to pizza. She did not want to, but after much persuasion by all the boys, she consented.

I didn't have to tell Gilbert about finding the prize egg; the gang beat me to it! I wonder how he felt.

After school I collected my prize money. Mom cashed the check then took me around to pay my debts. After they were all paid I only had thirty-four dollars and twenty-six cents left. Mom was furious with me for wasting the money. I wasn't a bit happy either! I had such a headache I went to bed without supper.

I still wanted to keep my promise to give more to the church than Gilbert did because I thought God had helped me find the prize egg. It was Thursday before I had the courage to ask Gilbert how much money he was giving. He said, "Uncle Bill paid me five dollars an hour and we worked ten hours, so he gave me fifty dollars! He said he'd have paid his helper more than that to work on Saturday and I did almost as much work."

"So you are giving the church twenty-five dollars?"

"That's right," he assured me. (I knew he would because he always did just as he said.) For some reason I just couldn't call Gilbert "Bert Dirt" after that. He is the kind of guy I want to be!

—Charlotte Huskey

(Answers: 1. The first day of the week while it was still dark. 2. It was taken away. 3. Peter and John. 4. Went in. 5. Stood at the sepulcher weeping. 6. Two angels. 7. The gardener. 8. That she had seen the Lord.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 3 April 18, 2004

Seeking God For Everything

(Continued from last quarter.)

Ann Preston was constantly aware that God was right there with her. Throughout the day she talked to Him as she went about her work. Then when a special need came up she naturally told her Father all about it and asked His help. Over and over again she would ask God's help in locating a lost article. After a few quiet moments she would go directly to it!

One time the boys where she lived hid the cat and then asked Ann where it was. She had no idea what they had done but in her simple way she looked up in prayer. Then she walked straight over to the stove and opened the oven door and out jumped the cat!

One morning Ann got up and, as usual, asked her Father to give her a verse for the day. He gave her Romans 8:28, "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God." This verse came to her while they were having family prayer. After quoting the verse to the family Ann said, "And we will see this verse work before night, too! God will prove it." All day Ann watched, but nothing unusual happened.

That night, when the girls returned from meeting, Ann asked if they had had a good service. One of them an-

swered, "Why, how could we when I lost all the money I had to live on next week on the way there?" They told Ann that they lost the money on the way to service and had looked for it all evening with a lantern.

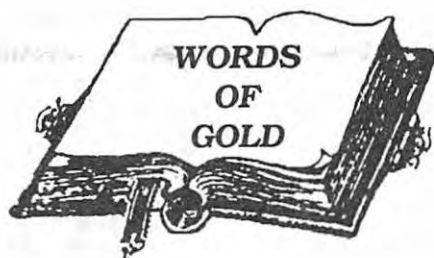
Before they went to bed they again met for family prayer. Ann reminded her Father of the promise He gave her that morning of working everything out for good. Then she boldly asked Him to keep the money safe for her wherever it was.

Early the next morning God woke her up saying, "Get up and go get the money that you gave Me to keep for you last night."

Then came the other voice: "Nonsense! Your leg is too bad for you to get up and go." So she did not obey at once and was just falling back to sleep when the Voice spoke again telling her to get up.

This time she obeyed. She went out and walked down the path, not looking for it especially. But all at once her Father told her to stop. Then she saw a bill lying by the side of a hill almost hidden in the snow!

Since she couldn't read she picked up the bill and took it across the road where her friend, Mrs. Hughes, lived. Rapping at the door, she said, "Get up and see if this is a bill." The lady took the bill and looked at it in amazement and said, "This is a five dollar bill!"



God Hears You

Psalm 139:1-18

1 O LORD, thou hast searched me, and known me.

2 Thou knowest my downsitting and mine uprising, thou understandest my thought afar off.

3 Thou compassest my path and my lying down, and art acquainted with all my ways.

4 For there is not a word in my tongue, but, lo, O LORD, thou knowest it altogether.

5 Thou hast beset me behind and before, and laid thine hand upon me.

6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high, I cannot attain unto it.

7 Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence?

8 If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there.

9 If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea;

10 Even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me.

11 If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me; even the night shall be light about me.

12 Yea, the darkness hideth not from thee; but the night shineth as the day: the darkness and the light are both alike to thee.

13 For thou hast possessed my reins: thou hast covered me in my mother's womb.

14 I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvel-

lous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well.

15 My substance was not hid from thee, when I was made in secret, and curiously wrought in the lowest parts of the earth.

16 Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being unperfect; and in thy book all my members were written, which in continuance were fashioned, when as yet there was none of them.

17 How precious also are thy thoughts unto me, O God! how great is the sum of them!

18 If I should count them, they are more in number than the sand: when I awake, I am still with thee.

The Message: Remember—every word we say here on earth is heard in heaven!

Questions:

1. Who did David say had searched him and known him?
2. What did God understand afar off?
3. He said God was _____ with all his ways.
4. Who knew every word in David's tongue?
5. Such _____ was too high for David.
6. To what place could David go to get away from God?
7. Can the darkness hide us from God?
8. David realized that he was _____ and _____ made.
9. David said God's thoughts were _____ to him.

Verse to Memorize

For there is not a word in my tongue, but, lo, O LORD, thou knowest it altogether.

Psalm 139:4.

Let's



Talk . . .

One New Year's Eve a number of men had gathered at a saloon to celebrate the occasion. They had been drinking steadily for some time and by now were getting pretty drunk. Among them was a minister's son, Samuel, who had gotten away from the godly influence of home.

The door opened and in trudged Joe, stamping snow off of his boots. The conversation quieted down when he came in. Taking advantage of this he said, "They're having a New Year's service over at the church tonight. I don't see any reason why we can't have one of our own. I'm sure we could have a lively one! We can all take a part in it.

He asked Eldridge, the barber, to say a prayer, which he did to the delight of all. Then they sang a hymn changing the words to make a mockery out of it.

Joe turned to Sam next. He knew he was a preacher's son so he said, "Now we will have Brother Sam bring us the message!"

But Sam well remembered how he had been taught at home that God is not mocked. He knew God was looking down on them right then. He tried to get away but the men grabbed him and put him behind a table to deliver his sermon.

Sam's early training put fear in his heart. He felt deeply convicted for the sin these men were committing. In a stumbling way he started to speak. "We are all on the broad road heading right for hell," he mumbled nervously. Then, taking

courage he declared, "Tonight we all have the opportunity of breaking with our old sinful ways, turning to God and starting a New Year in our lives.

"As for me I have lived a very sinful life full of disappointments and giving in to temptations. The more I think of it," he continued, "the more I believe that God might have mercy and forgive me. I resolve right now to beg His forgiveness. I believe He sees that I mean it!"

Saying this, Sam dropped to his knees and began calling on God to have mercy on him. He humbly prayed for forgiveness for all the sins he had committed in the past. It was not long before he knew God truly had pardoned him. When he got up it was obvious that Sam was a new person! The first place he wanted to go was back home. He just had to tell his parents what a wonderful change God had made in his life.

God knows our innermost thoughts; we can't fool Him! If we really want to serve Him He will make a way for us. Man looks on the outward appearance but God looks into our heart. We cannot hide anything from God so there is no use trying.

Satan tries first to get you to think about something wrong. If he can get the evil thought into your mind he will then work to get it into your heart. From there the evil thought can soon become an evil deed. He works first through the head and then the heart before the evil thought is translated into an evil action.

This is why it is so important to reject any idea or thought as soon as you recognize that it is from the devil. If we stop it as it comes to our thoughts we won't have to worry about the actions becoming sin that we must then repent of.

—Uncle Dale

Ann answered, "Come and let us praise the Lord for answering prayer." After prayer Ann went back home. Going into the house she threw the bill down in front of the girls and said, "There is your money."

The girls looked at it in surprise. They had searched for it so long they were sure they'd never see it again.

Ann learned to read in a very strange and supernatural way. You may remember how her teacher gave up after trying in vain to teach Ann the letters of the alphabet. Then when she gave her heart to God she asked Him to help her read one verse from the Bible that had been a special comfort and strength to her. God did that for her. Still later when she fully yielded her life to the Lord and was filled with His Spirit, she was enabled to read another special verse that had been a help to her. So without any human help this process of instruction continued until Ann could read her entire Bible. The most remarkable thing was that Ann was never able to read any other book!

One time a person gave her a newspaper to read. She looked at it carefully, trying to figure out some of the smaller words but she couldn't. Finally she put her finger on one word and said, "That seems to be 'lord,' but I don't think it is my Lord, as my heart doesn't burn while I see it."

She was right. The word was in an article telling about Lord Robert, an officer in the South African War!

As hard as she tried Ann found it impossible to memorize verses. Yet the Holy Spirit was faithful to bring just the right verse to her when she needed it. It was quite common for the Christian people visiting her to request Ann to ask her Father for a verse for them. And in a wonderful

way, after lifting up her eyes and her heart to heaven, Ann would give them what God gave her. Evidently the passages given were most suited to their special need because over and over again the Lord used this method to guide, comfort or correct those who asked her help.

Some people thought that Ann had a wonderful memory because she was constantly quoting Scriptures. But the fact was that the Scriptures were such a part of her everyday language that she naturally expressed herself in Bible language. In fact one of Ann's sorest trials was her lack of memory. To the end of her life she always declared that she had no natural memory. If she needed a verse or Scripture about a certain thing she would walk over to a corner of the room. There she would lift her heart in prayer and ask her Father for a suitable Scripture. Soon it would be given her and she would tell it with wonderful power and anointing. It was obvious that the Lord had given it to her.

When Ann was first saved she had a great desire to memorize Scripture verses. One day she tried for an hour to get a verse but she found it impossible to remember it. The next day she went to a friend's house to baby-sit. Ann prayed that the child would sleep the whole time so that she might try again to learn her verse. She got a New Testament and went over and over the same verse again but without success.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. The Lord. 2. His thought. 3. Acquainted. 4. The Lord. 5. Knowledge. 6. Nowhere. 7. No. 8. Fearfully, wonderfully. 9. Precious.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 4 April 25, 2004

Divine Guidance

(Continued from last week.)

Ann Preston declared that she had no natural memory. When she wanted a verse or Scripture to give light on any subject she would walk over to a corner of the room and lift her heart up to God in prayer, asking her Father for something suitable. The word would be revealed to her and it was always just what was needed.

There was a time that Ann had a great desire to memorize Scripture verses. One day she tried for an hour to get a verse, but she found it impossible to remember it. The next day she went to a friend's house to stay with her baby while she was out. As soon as the friend had gone Ann prayed that the child might sleep all the time she was gone so she could try again to learn her verse.

She got a New Testament and went over and over the same verse. But it was no use. She just could not remember it! Finally it seemed as though a voice spoke to her and asked, "Ann, what is the matter with you?"

Ann replied, "Well, I never saw the like of me. I try and try but can't remember a word," at that she broke down and cried.

Again the voice spoke, "Well, I thought Christ was a satisfying portion—all in all to you."

Ann replied, "Well, Father, I would like to remember these verses."

"Why?" her Father asked.

"Well, the class leader always quotes verses in his prayer, and I like it," she answered.

The special verse Ann was trying to memorize was, "Whatsoeverye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive it and ye shall have it."

The voice spoke again, "Did you ever see a mother send a child on an errand and observe that the child forgot it before it got halfway to where it was supposed to go? Well, you would be just the same. But I will give it to you just when I want you to have it, and then you won't have time to forget."

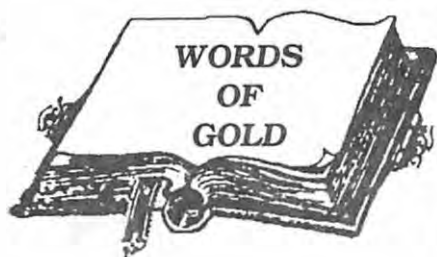
This seemed to satisfy Ann about the verses but she then asked, "Won't you teach me the little things on the doors?" (She couldn't read the address numbers on a house.)

The voice replied, "Why do you want to be able to read them?"

She said, "So that I could go around by myself."

Her Father was quick to answer, "No, because then you would go to places where they do not want you and where I did not send you. I will always take you Myself or send a pilot." Ann was so ignorant that she did not know what 'pilot' meant.

The next morning a woman came asking for her to go and pray with her



Can You Hear The Voice Of God?

I Samuel 3:1-10; 15-17, 19

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

2 And it came to pass at that time, when Eli was laid down in his place, and his eyes began to wax dim, that he could not see:

3 And ere the lamp of God went out in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was, and Samuel was laid down to sleep;

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

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

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

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

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

9 Therefore Eli said unto Samuel, Go, lie down: and it shall be, if he call thee, that thou shalt say, Speak,

LORD; for thy servant heareth. So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

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

15 And Samuel lay until the morning, and opened the doors of the house of the LORD. And Samuel feared to shew Eli the vision.

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

17 And he said, What is the thing that the LORD hath said unto thee?...

19 And Samuel grew, and the LORD was with him....

The Message: God speaks to us through His word. But we must be listening!

Questions:

1. What child ministered to the Lord?
2. Who could not see?
3. What was Samuel doing when the Lord called him?
4. What did Samuel do when he heard the Lord's voice?
5. What did Eli tell him?
6. How many times did the Lord call Samuel before he realized who it was?
7. What did Samuel answer the Lord?
8. What did Samuel fear to tell Eli?
9. Who was with Samuel as he grew?

Verse to Memorize

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

I Samuel 3:10.

Let's



Talk . . .

Among some of my best childhood memories is one of my mother reading Bible stories to us. Many of them made a deep impression on me. When I was older I would read them again myself.

I especially liked the story of Samuel which we have in this lesson. I couldn't help thinking that Samuel must have been very lonesome. He was far from home and his family. The tabernacle didn't seem like an ideal place for a young boy at all. He only had the prophet Eli for company and he was old and blind!

Evidently Samuel slept alone in his own little room. Since Eli was blind he was probably used to running quickly to see what he wanted whenever he heard him call.

One night Samuel had already gone to bed when he heard a voice call him. Naturally he thought it was Eli so he dutifully ran to see what he wanted. To his surprise Eli told him, "I didn't call you. Go back and lie down!"

That was strange! Samuel knew someone had distinctly called his name. But he did as Eli said and went back to bed. Again he heard someone call his name. This time he was sure it was Eli. He ran in and said, "Here I am. You *did* call me!" Again Eli denied calling him and sent him back to bed. After this happened three times Eli realized it must be the Lord calling Samuel. This time he told Samuel what to do if the Lord called again.

Of course Samuel obeyed. Then the Lord told what judgments He was

going to send because of Eli's wicked sons.

I would read this story and think, "I sure wish God would talk to me like that!" I would have different problems and think, "If God would only speak to me out loud I would know just what to do. I wish I could ask Him what to do right now!"

When I was older I learned that I have the opportunity to do just that! Right in the middle of my everyday activities and decisions I can take my problems to God. Maybe it isn't in an audible voice but God will direct me. I take His word and study it carefully and prayerfully. The Holy Spirit will then instruct me and let me know God's will.

God is no respecter of persons. Holy Ann talked to Him as if He was right there—just like you talk to another person. She would say, "Now, Lord, here is this problem. I need You to show me what You want me to do." As we have read in our stories God would tell her just what she should do.

He wants to be that real and personal to you! Maybe you are with some of your friends and pretty soon one of them suggests, "Hey, it would be fun to do something different!"

Maybe it isn't really wrong but you just don't feel good about it. Then is a good time to stop and just ask God, "Lord, what do you want me to do?"

Sometimes you already know what you should do but you just want to go your own way. Then the Lord cannot direct you because you are not listening to know His will.

It is better to listen carefully and do what the Lord directs the first time. There have been times I haven't. Then the Lord told me that I had to apologize. When I obeyed I felt so good and clean!

But I learned to listen carefully to the voice of God. It is a wonderful experience to have God speak to you!

—Uncle Dale

mother who was dying. Ann was instructed to go with this 'pilot'. Then she understood what her Father meant by a pilot.

A friend wrote: "I shall never forget my own experience with Ann. She had been invited by my parents to come and live with us and I was told to return with Ann to the city so she could collect her belongings.

"I was a perfect stranger in the city so I was no help in finding the various places. Ann had left her things here and there all over town and couldn't remember the names of the people, streets or the addresses where she had left them!

"Ever so often she would recall a name or maybe a street as we set out to collect her belongings. She could not tell me where she was going first; we would walk along the street, then suddenly Ann would stop and ask her Father which way to turn. I was not used to praying on street corners, and frankly confess that at times I felt greatly embarrassed!

"To find the first house we finally went into a store. The name of the person had come to Ann but she did not know where she lived. The storekeeper said that she had moved and gave her new address. Seeing that I was a stranger, he said he would write down the address for us.

"As he turned around for a pencil, Ann said, 'Father, don't let him find it!'

"After looking for some time, he came back and said, 'Well, that is strange. I had a pencil here just a little while ago, and I can't find it. I guess I will put on my hat and go out with you and show you the place.' This simplified matters on the first call.

"At the next place Ann could not remember the name of the individual and evidently did not even remember what the house looked like! Several times as we walked along she said,

'That looks like the house,' but then she was directed to go past it.

"Finally she stopped and said, 'My Father says this is the house.'

"I said, 'Well, Ann, you can go up and see; I am not going.' It seemed to me too ridiculous to ring the doorbell and meet people without knowing who you wanted to see or where they lived.

"But with perfect confidence Ann went up and rang the bell. When the people came to the door she turned around and motioned for me to come in a kind of triumphant way. Similar experiences were repeated over and over again that day. At first it was very humiliating for me.

"Then, to conclude matters, Ann wanted me to go that night to the Salvation Army with her. I went along, and when the opportunity was given for testimony Ann jumped up and in a joyful way began to praise her Father for the way He had led her that day and guided her.

"And then turning to me and calling everyone's attention to me, she said, 'She was afraid to trust my Father. She wouldn't believe that the Lord could guide me to the right houses.' As if that was not bad enough she concluded by turning and saying to me, 'Now, you get up and speak!'

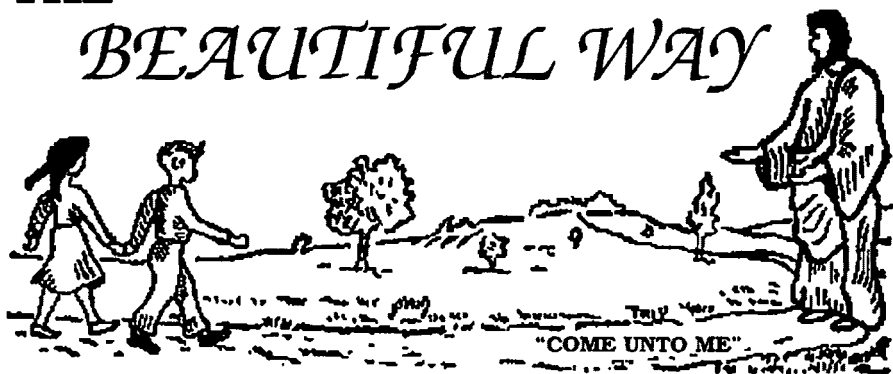
"As far as my own feelings were concerned, the day did not end very triumphantly, but I learned that Ann had a strange power. I had never before seen anyone who had such intimate guidance from God as I had seen exhibited that day!"

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Samuel. 2. Eli. 3. He had lain down to sleep. 4. He ran to Eli. 5. That he had not called and to go back and lie down. 6. Three. 7. "Speak, for thy servant heareth." 8. The vision (what the Lord had told him). 9. The Lord.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 5 May 2, 2004

Divine Protection

(Continued from last week.)

Ann Preston had quite a number of very narrow escapes. One time she was alone in the house. She had finished her churning on this particular morning and carried the buttermilk downstairs. But instead of taking it into the milk cellar, she put it just at the foot of the steps. In her usual way she told her Father that she was coming back to finish this work later on.

After dinner, noticing a small hole in the carpet, she said, "I will mend this, Father, before I go back in the cellar to clean."

While she was doing this a man entered their lane and came toward the house. Ann noticed him but kept mending. She saw him step into the hedge for a little while. When he came out his arm was in a sling. While she continued working on the carpet he suddenly appeared in the doorway and asked for help.

Ann said, "I have nothing."

"Where are the girls?" he queried. Ann answered, "They are gone out for the afternoon and won't be back till evening."

"Where are the men?"

"Back in the bush," she said.

"How far away is that?" he continued.

"About half a mile," Ann said.

Satisfied that there was no one around he asked her if she could get him a drink of buttermilk, knowing that she would have to go into the cellar for it.

Ann said, "Yes, sir, I can," and at once proceeded down the steps.

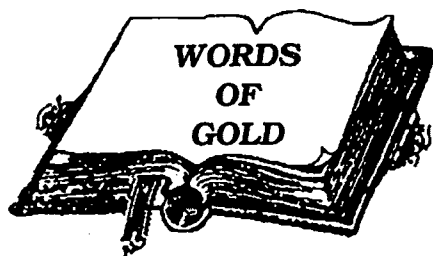
Her Father said, "Be quick!" and then Ann began to be afraid. She ran with all her might to the foot of the stairs and dipped into the crock for a drink and rushed up again. By this time the man stood at the top of the steps. However Ann rushed back so quickly with the can in her hand that it surprised him. He backed away from the cellar door and took the milk.

After he had taken a drink Ann again kneeled down to finish mending the hole. The man sat down and asked Ann if she would mend a small tear in his trousers. The man said that he had torn it in going into the hedge to tie up his arm in a sling. She did not know what to do so she got her thread and needle as if she would do as he asked. All this time she was praying for the Lord to take care of her. She was sure that the man intended to rob her.

Before she had finished threading her needle to her great relief she heard the windlass creaking at the well. She jumped up at once and said,

"Oh, there is Mr. Reid now, sir!"

The man evidently did not want to meet him. Instead he slunk away trem-



The Unknown

Joshua 3:1-11, 13

1 And Joshua rose early in the morning; and they removed from Shittim, and came to Jordan, he and all the children of Israel, and lodged there before they passed over.

2 And it came to pass after three days, that the officers went through the host;

3 And they commanded the people, saying, When ye see the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God, and the priests the Levites bearing it, then ye shall remove from your place, and go after it.

4 Yet there shall be a space between you and it,...that ye may know the way by which ye must go: for ye have not passed this way heretofore.

5 And Joshua said unto the people, Sanctify yourselves: for to morrow the LORD will do wonders among you.

6 And Joshua spake unto the priests, saying, Take up the ark of the covenant, and pass over before the people....

7 And the LORD said unto Joshua, This day will I begin to magnify thee in the sight of all Israel, that they may know that, as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee.

8 And thou shalt command the priests that bear the ark of the covenant, saying, When ye are come to the brink of the water of Jordan, ye shall stand still in Jordan.

9 And Joshua said unto the children of Israel, Come hither, and hear the words of the LORD your God.

10 And Joshua said, Hereby ye shall know that the living God is among you,...

11 Behold, the ark of the covenant of the Lord of all the earth passeth over before you into Jordan.

13 And it shall come to pass, as soon as the soles of the feet of the priests that bear the ark of the LORD,...shall rest in the waters of Jordan, that the waters of Jordan shall be cut off from the waters that come down from above; and they shall stand upon an heap.

**The Message: Remember—
God will not ask us to go
where He does not lead.**

Questions:

1. Who rose early in the morning?
2. Where did they lodge?
3. What were the people to do when they saw the priests carrying the ark?
4. Why were they to leave a space between them and the ark?
5. What did Joshua say the Lord would do among the people?
6. Who spoke to the priests and told them to take up the ark?
7. The Lord promised to be with Joshua as He had been with ____.
8. Joshua said they would know that the ____ God was among them.
9. What would the waters of Jordan do when the priests stepped into it?

Verse to Memorize

...I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee. Be strong and of a good courage:...

Joshua 1:5-6.

Let's



Talk . . .

When Steve was eight-years-old his cousin invited him to spend the night at his house. This would actually be the first time that he had been away from home overnight. It sounded like a real adventure!

When the time came his parents took him to his cousin's house. They enjoyed visiting for awhile then it was time for his parents to go home. When Steve realized that they were going to leave a strange homesick feeling suddenly hit him. With tears glistening in his eyes and his voice quivering he said, "Mommy, I don't feel so good. Maybe I'd better go home with you!"

"It's up to you," his mother answered, "but I know you would have a good time."

"But Mommy," Steve whimpered, "they said they were going to climb a big hill tomorrow and I've never been there before—"

I'm sure you, too, have had times when the future looked dreadful. You had never faced what lay ahead. Not knowing what to expect, you were naturally fearful. At such times it is wonderful to know you are God's child. He knows all about the future. Like a loving Father He will protect and guide you past all the dangers safely. You are at an age now to say, "Yes," when you hear the Lord speaking to you saying, "Give me your heart."

We had a very good meeting just this last week. The Lord gave the preachers messages on many subjects. Since it was necessary for me to sit near the back of the church, I could observe the congregation. During the message and especially during the

altar call I could tell that God was dealing with different ones.

Some seemed to be considering the message seriously. Others appeared to be unaware that the Lord was speaking to them through the preacher. They were just waiting for the service to end so they could get out and do other things.

But there were some about your age who really paid attention. Little Amanda sat still and listened intently. Then during the altar call she got her mother's attention and let her know that she wanted to get saved. Her mother gladly went to the altar with her where they prayed together. Before long she prayed through. She got up from the altar with a big smile on her face. After service she came and looked me up. With a beaming face she said, "I got saved!"

The next day I saw Amanda and asked her if she was still saved. She answered, "Yes," and added that she was planning to get baptized too! Amanda made a wise choice.

Maybe right now you are anxious about what will happen in the future. There is a way to be prepared for the unknown—put your whole life in God's hands. He speaks to you through His Word. Listen to the messages He sends through the preachers. Read your Bible—God's letter to you. Accept it as God speaking to you personally and the words will give you strength, courage and direction.

He told Joshua, "I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee. Be strong and of a good courage." Joshua believed His words and bravely faced the dangers ahead. God enabled him to lead the children of Israel across the river Jordan into the land of Canaan.

If you will just place your hand in God's and let Him lead you into and through the unknown paths you will have a happy life. You will safely reach your true goal—a home in heaven!

—Uncle Dale

bling as though he had the palsy. She knew that God had delivered her from danger.

Two or three days after this, just about the same time in the afternoon, she was busy outside in the cook-house when she noticed a queer-looking old woman coming toward the house. Her strange appearance struck Ann as being very peculiar. She said, "Who is it, Father?"

Instantly her answer came, "Don't you remember the man who was here the other day?"

"Yes, Father, is it him?"

"Yes, it is," came the answer.

This time he walked up and said, "I want to see the boss."

Although there was not another soul on the farm, Ann said, "Just step in, ma'am, and I will call him."

Ann at once ran toward the well, calling at the top of her voice, "Mr. Reid! Mr. Reid!"

When the old woman heard her shouting she turned and hobbled away, saying, "Never mind."

Afterward Ann was troubled over this. It was a question to her mind whether she had not told a lie when she called for Mr. Reid as if he was home though she knew that he wasn't. However, she felt better about it when she remembered that the first time the man came she had told him the truth, even though her life was in danger.

Another incident occurred years later. The Reid family had grown up and Ann was living in the little cottage which they had bought for her. When the two girls left home they decided to go out to the far Western States. When they left they stored their valuables in Ann's little cottage. They had perfect confidence in Ann and knew she would keep them safe for them.

The two girls had expected to return home within a year, but instead of that years went by and they were still living in the Western States. Mean-

while a neighbor noticed the valuable articles and tried to figure how she could steal them. She acted very friendly toward Ann all the while looking for a way to take advantage of her. When Ann became very sick this neighbor came in and wanted to take care of her. Ann did not trust her and tried to decline. But she would not take "No," for an answer!

Ann was suffering greatly from dropsy and heart trouble. The neighbor saw this was her chance so she came in one day and insisted that Ann drink a cup of tea that she had made.

Ann had been warned by her Father not to take anything from her so when she came in she refused to take it. The woman fairly glared at her and insisted that she must drink it. Under the pressure Ann was afraid to not do as she said. When she finally took the cup and drank it the woman left.

Now Ann was in trouble! She felt like she had disobeyed the revealed will of her Father. Satan was right there to torment her. "Now He won't hear your prayer," he sneered. But in an instant Ann was crying out, "Father, forgive me, forgive me. You know I love you better than anything else in the world. But you know I was afraid."

"Now, Father, like as a father pitieth his child, pity me. You know my frame and you remember that I am but dust."

Instantly she received the assurance that she was forgiven and that God would take care of her, even though she had been poisoned. In a little while she became very, very sick, and vomited for a long time. She felt that this saved her life.

(To be continued in part 7.)

(Answers: 1. Joshua. 2. By Jordan. 3. Follow it. 4. So they could see where to go. 5. Wonders. 6. Joshua. 7. Moses. 8. Living. 9. Stand up in a heap.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 6 May 9, 2004

The Missing Pie

Shawn loved his mother for many reasons. He loved her because she cooked good food for him to eat and never complained even though she had to work every day to earn money for food and to pay the rent. He loved her because she washed his clothes and always shared his problems.

One Friday Shawn was invited to eat at a drive-in. He ordered a hamburger, french fries, a strawberry shake, and an apple turnover. While he was eating he remembered how much his mother loved apple turnovers. "I'll save this turnover for Mother," he told himself. Not wanting anyone to know, he unbuttoned his shirt and carefully slid the pie inside. It felt warm against his stomach. Then he buttoned his shirt again.

As soon as he got home Shawn looked around for a place to hide the pie. He couldn't leave it on the table or his little brother, John, would get it. He couldn't leave it in the refrigerator or his big sister, Laura, would eat it. He pulled a chair up close to the sink, climbed up on it and laid the precious pie on a shelf high above the sink. "No one will find it here," he said. He then went outside to play with John.

Shawn always listened and as soon as Mother came home he came inside to help her with the housework. Sometimes the neighbor boys teased him

about doing girl's work but he was glad to help his tired mother.

When he heard the washing machine Shawn knew Laura was home. She had put a load of clothes in to wash.

About an hour later he heard Mother pull into the driveway. Shawn ran to meet her. "I brought you an apple turnover from my lunch," he told her excitedly, trying hard to keep his voice in a whisper. Mother gave him a real tight squeeze and smiled even brighter than usual.

"Give me a hug, too," wailed John. "You always hug him mor'n you do me."

Mother bent down and hugged John.

"It's on the top shelf by the sink," Shawn said to Mother when they were inside. Mother reached her hand high on the shelf, but she couldn't find the pie. She reached further back and felt all around.

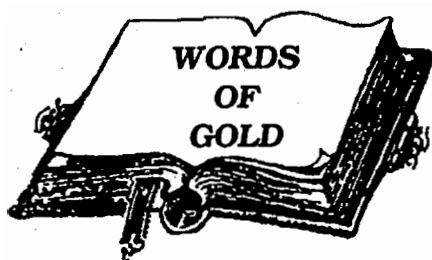
"I put it right there," Shawn moaned. Mother felt again, but there was no pie.

"Laura may know something about the pie because I left \$4.27 here for her to pay Mrs. Murray.

"Laura," Mother called, "did you see an apple turnover?"

"Yes, Mother, I found it," she answered from the bedroom. "Thank you, it was delicious!"

Shawn wanted to scream, "Why did you eat my pie?" But he just stood there with tears welling up in his eyes and



Hannah's Gift

I Samuel 1:11, 20, 24, 26-28

11 And she (Hannah) vowed a vow, and said, O LORD of hosts, if thou wilt indeed look on the affliction of thine handmaid, and remember me, and...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, when the time was come...that she bare a son, and called his name Samuel, saying, Because I have asked him of the LORD....

24 And when she had weaned him, she took him unto the house of the LORD in Shiloh: and the child was young.

26 And she said, Oh my lord, as thy soul liveth, my lord, I am the woman that stood by thee here, praying unto the LORD.

27 For this child I prayed; and the LORD hath given me my petition which I asked of him:

28 Therefore also I have lent him to the LORD; as long as he liveth he shall be lent to the LORD. And he worshipped the LORD there.

I Samuel 2:1, 11, 18-21

1 And Hannah prayed, and said, My heart rejoiceth in the LORD, mine horn is exalted in the LORD: my mouth is enlarged over mine enemies; because I rejoice in thy salvation.

11 And Elkanah went to Ramah to his house....

18 But Samuel ministered before the LORD, being a child, girded with a linen ephod.

19 Moreover his mother made him a little coat, and brought it to him from year to year, when she came up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice.

20 And Eli blessed Elkanah and his wife, and said, The LORD give thee seed of this woman for the loan which is lent to the LORD. And they went unto their own home.

21 And the LORD visited Hannah, so that she...bare three sons and two daughters. And the child Samuel grew before the LORD.

The Message: Hannah's longing for a son was not a selfish desire. She asked this gift from the Lord so that she could offer him back to God.

Questions:

1. What did Hannah pray for?
2. What did she vow if God answered her prayer?
3. What did she name her son?
4. Where did she take him after he was weaned?
5. For how long did she lend him to the Lord?
6. What did Samuel's mother make him every year?
7. Who blessed Hannah and her husband, Elkanah?
8. How many more children did Hanna have?

Verse to Memorize

Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the LORD, she shall be praised.

Proverbs 31:30.

Let's



Talk . . .

Hannah wanted a son more than anything else. One year when she and Elkanah, her husband, went to Shiloh to offer sacrifices and worship God, Hannah was so grieved she couldn't even eat. As soon as she could she slipped away and went to the temple to pray. There she promised God that if He gave her a son she would bring him back to the temple to serve Him all his life.

The old priest, Eli, saw Hannah praying. He told her that she could go in peace because God would grant her request. Hannah believed his words and was no longer sad.

After Samuel was born, Elkanah still went to Shiloh every year but Hannah stayed home with her young son. During those short years Hannah instilled a deep love for God in Samuel's heart. She taught him strict obedience. She wanted him to be his very best for God.

It must have been very difficult for Hannah when the time came to keep her promise. Hannah knew that she was giving up her young son for life—he wouldn't be coming back home with her.

When they got to Shiloh Elkanah and Hannah brought an offering to Eli the priest along with Samuel. "This is the child I prayed for," Hannah explained. "The Lord gave him to me in answer to my prayer. Now I am giving him back to God. As long as he lives he will belong to God for His service."

Hannah thought of Samuel often. She anxiously waited for the time to come when they would return to Shiloh and see him. Each year she took a little coat that she had sewn for him.

The Bible tells us that God used Samuel mightily. He had a great influence on the nation of Israel for good. Eli was old and his sons were wicked so God could not speak through them to guide His people. But God spoke to Samuel even though he was still very young. Eli and all the people recognized that God had chosen Samuel to be His special prophet. All Israel was greatly benefited because Hannah was willing to give her son to God.

—Nelda Sorrell

In His Mother's Footsteps

It was a busy day in our home. But then, with 10 children and one on the way, every day was a bit hectic. On this particular day, however, I was having trouble doing even routine chores—all because of one little boy.

Len, who was three at the time, was on my heels no matter where I went. Whenever I stopped to do something and turned back around, I would trip over him. Several times I patiently suggested fun activities to keep him occupied.

"Wouldn't you like to play on the swing set?" I asked again.

But he simply smiled an innocent smile and said, "Oh that's all right, Mommy. I'd rather be in here with you," then he continued to bounce happily along behind me.

After stepping on his toes for the fifth time, I began to lose my patience and insisted that he go outside and play with the other children. When I asked him why he was acting this way, he looked up at me with sweet green eyes and said, "Well Mommy, in Primary my teacher told me to walk in Jesus' footsteps. But I can't see Him, so I'm walking in yours."

I gathered Len in my arms and held him close. Tears of love and humility spilled over from the prayer that grew in my heart—a prayer of thanks for the simple, yet beautiful perspective of a three-year-old boy. —Davida Dalton

trickling down his cheeks. He quickly wiped them away so John couldn't see. He might tell the boys he was crying.

"I'm glad Laura ate the pie," sneered John. "'cause you're always doing things so Mother will love you more than me."

Shawn felt like hitting John, but he knew he shouldn't. He felt bitter at Laura, angry at John, and sorry for Mother and himself.

Mother was telling him something about it being all right. When their eyes met he knew she understood and that made him feel better. He said, "Okay," but he knew things weren't okay. He knew he didn't feel right inside.

John went outside and Shawn sat down on the sofa, thinking about his bitter feelings. Laura was still in the bedroom. He could hear Mother talking to her about the pie. Suddenly he remembered a lesson he'd heard about forgiving others when they do something to hurt you. "I must forgive," he told himself. He got up and went to the door.

There was John in the tree. John had laughed because Laura ate his gift. Sure he could forgive Laura, she hadn't known the pie was for Mother. She may have thought it was for her. Why else would it be laying where Mother had left the money? Besides, Laura did a lot of nice things for him.

He could hear Mother and Laura coming from the bedroom. He stood still, with his back to Laura. She was talking, "Shawn, I'm awfully sorry I ate the pie. I thought Mother had left it for me. Will you please forgive me?"

The bitter feelings came back. He did not want to forgive her. "She should have asked or shared it with John and me if she really thought it was for her," he reasoned. Again he remembered the lesson. The memory verse had been: "But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven

forgive your trespasses." He wanted God to forgive him when he made a mistake.

"Yes, I guess so," Shawn finally muttered.

Late that evening, after Shawn and Laura had finished cleaning the kitchen and doing their homework, Mother laid down her mending and called them for family worship. John put away his toys and they listened while Mother read from the Bible. "And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.... 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." Matthew 6:12-15. Shawn wondered how Mother knew what he had been thinking—she usually did.

After John went to sleep Shawn got out of bed and went into the living room and knelt beside the sofa. He stayed there a long time telling God all about his feelings. When he got up, all the bitter feelings were gone—even those towards John.

As he opened the door to his room, he could hear his mother praying in her room across the hall. "Oh, God," she prayed, "please help Shawn to not be bitter. Help him to forgive. Lord, You know how much I love him. He brings so much happiness to me. Thank You, God, for Shawn."

Hearing this Shawn walked over to John and kissed him as he slept. He crawled under the covers and lay there thinking again how much he loved his mother. Now he had even more reason to love her—because she prayed for him!

—Charlotte Huskey

(Answers: 1. A son. 2. That she would give her son to the Lord. 3. Samuel. 4. To the house of the Lord at Shiloh. 5. For as long as he lived. 6. A little coat. 7. Eli. 8. Three more sons and two daughters.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 7 May 16, 2004

A Godless Brother

(Continued from Part 5.)

Ann Preston's brother lived a very wicked life. The worst thing was that he was setting such a bad example for his little girl. He would even send her to the saloon for his liquor. Ann rebuked him for this and made it a special matter of prayer. She saw that such surroundings would likely lead the little girl to a life of sin so she cried out to God to save her and to take her away from the evil.

She received a strong assurance that her request would be granted. She boldly told her brother that he had sent his little girl to the saloon for the last time. This enraged her brother but God caused it to be true. For a few days the child happened to be busy when it was time to go for his liquor so he got it some other way. Soon after this she took sick.

As she grew worse her parents became very uneasy and appealed to Ann to pray that their little girl would get well. Ann told them plainly that she knew her Father was going to take the child away to deliver her from such a wicked home. The little girl died a few days after this, but before she died she let them know that she was saved and ready to meet the Lord.

Ann continued to visit her brother after this even though he lived a long ways away. She was staying with a friend when one morning her Father (God) told her that she was to go and see her brother, James, that day.

Ann replied, "Sure, Father, I cannot go; it is five miles, and I could not walk."

The reply came, "You do as I tell you. The earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof. The silver and the gold are His, and the cattle upon a thousand hills."

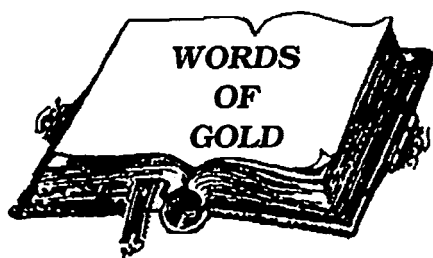
Ann saw it in a minute and said, "The horses, too, Father!"

She went on with her work. Just when she got the dinner ready her Father said, "Now is the time to go." Turning to one of the girls, Ann told her that she must go. They urged her to stay and eat dinner, but Ann insisted that her Father had said, "Now is the time."

They said, "Very well, you can do a little errand for us on your way. Just stop in and tell Mrs. ____ to send over two pounds of butter."

Ann hurried off. In the distance she saw a gray horse coming over the hill. Her Father said, "That is the horse that is to take you."

She hurried down the road to get the errand done first. Just before she went into the house she saw the horse stop at the tavern. She at once said, "Sure, Father, that cannot be



Is Heaven For Me?

Matthew 19:13-26

13 Then were there brought unto him little children, that he should put his hands on them, and pray: and the disciples rebuked them.

14 But Jesus said, Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven.

15 And he laid his hands on them, and departed thence.

16 And, behold, one came and said unto him, Good Master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life?

17 And he said unto him, Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God: but if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments.

18 He saith unto him, Which? Jesus said, Thou shalt do no murder, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness,

19 Honour thy father and thy mother: and, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

20 The young man saith unto him, All these things have I kept from my youth up: what lack I yet?

21 Jesus said unto him, If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come and follow me.

22 But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrow-

ful: for he had great possessions.

23 Then said Jesus unto his disciples, Verily I say unto you, That a rich man shall hardly enter into the kingdom of heaven.

24 And again I say unto you, It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God.

25 When his disciples heard it, they were exceedingly amazed, saying, Who then can be saved?

26 But Jesus beheld them, and said unto them, With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible.



Questions:

1. Who were brought to Jesus?
2. Why were they brought?
3. What did the disciples do?
4. Who welcomed the little children?
5. Why did the man want to know what good thing he should do?
6. What did Jesus tell him to do?
7. How do we know that the young man was not poor?
8. Jesus said a _____ shall hardly enter the kingdom of heaven.
9. With God all things are _____.

Verse to Memorize

But Jesus said, Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 19:14.

Let's



Talk . . .

I used to sit almost to the front of the church but now since I am in a wheelchair I sit more towards the back. From where I sit I have noticed that during the altar call many of the older, unsaved folks act as if they are thinking, "Don't worry about me. I can make it on my own." It seems like it is the younger children who humbly admit their need to be saved and receive Jesus.

Barbara was about nine years old and very timid. She sat in her Sunday school class week after week just listening. Her difficult home life made her afraid and insecure. She never talked, giggled or even sang with the others. But one morning after the teacher brought a lesson about heaven she raised her hand and asked, "Is heaven for girls like me?"

Her teacher was glad to tell her that Jesus especially loved little children. That morning she asked Him to come into her life and He saved her!

You may be thinking, "Yes, I want to get saved some day. I am not planning on missing heaven but I want to have some fun first. When I get older I will get saved."

Such a decision is dangerous. The devil loves to convince you life will be more fun without Jesus to guide you. But he does not let you see the awful traps he has waiting. He does not tell you what a cruel master he is. Jesus is talking about the devil when He says plainly in John 8:44, "He is a liar!"

Eve made the dreadful mistake of

believing the devil when he spoke through the serpent. He convinced her that she wouldn't really die if she ate the forbidden fruit. Then he boldly accused God of trying to keep something good away from her. He told Eve, "God knows that when you eat that fruit your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods because you will know good and evil!"

That one act of disobedience brought sorrow and pain into a world that had been a paradise. Immediately Adam and Eve were driven out of the Garden of Eden. By their choice sin had entered their hearts. They could no longer speak to God in the cool of the day as before. Now they must work hard just to survive. The devil did not tell them all this would happen!

Now thousands of years later people still believe the devil and his lies. God was willing to send Jesus down to save us from sin and its awful consequences. Yet very few accept His free gift of salvation and eternal life.

Everyone is offered salvation—even little children. In fact Jesus said we all must become as little children if we want to enter into the kingdom of heaven. In our lesson He invited the little children to come to Him. He is still inviting every one of us. If we simply tell Him we want Him to come into our heart He will do that. He has made the way to be saved simple enough for even a little child.

The devil lures people with the promise of fun and pleasure. He does not show them that this will entangle them in awful sins and habits that will ruin their lives. They may intend to get saved when they are older, but by then they are so bound that it seems impossible to ever change and be free. So you see right now, at your age, is the time for you to be saved.

—Uncle Dale

the one, or it would not stop there!" But the answer came, "Yes, that is the horse that is to take you."

When she came out of the house another rig overtook her and she accepted the invitation for a ride but this man was only going two miles. After a little while the gray horse overtook them and Ann said to the man who was driving her, "There, that is the horse that my Father said was to take me. Ask the man how far he is going."

In reply the man said he was just going two miles. Ann was not satisfied with the answer and insisted that he ask again. The next time the man said that he was going five miles and right along the road where Ann needed to go.

The man then asked him if he would give Ann a ride since she wanted to go that far. He answered, "I don't take women with me."

Ann spoke up then and said, "My Father said that He sent that horse for me."

Her answer surprised the man, who happened to be a priest. "What do you mean?" he asked. "Who is your father?"

She replied, "My Heavenly Father." He then said, "Well, jump in."

Ann got in and all the way she talked to the priest about her Father and His wonderful Word. The priest was so impressed he offered to take her all the way to her brother's house but Ann thanked him and walked the rest of the way praising God for the provision He had made for her.

Since her Father insisted that she visit her brother that very day she wondered what she would find when she got to his house. She hoped he had decided to change his wicked ways and give his heart to God. But this was not the case; he was as stubborn as ever.

Instead it was his wife that God intended her to minister to. She was tired of sin and wanted Ann to pray for her. They called on God to save her and it was not long before this poor woman was wonderfully converted. The change was just as real and deep as it had been in Ann's life. From that day she lived in close intimacy with God even though her husband was still a drunkard. God answered prayer for her in wonderful ways.

Ann kept house for the Reid family until all the children had grown. Even after she no longer worked for them she constantly followed each one of them with her prayers.

Two of the boys went to New Orleans. They had only been there a short time when a terrible sickness swept through the city. People died by the hundreds. Ann had no way of knowing what was going on but at that very time Ann had a heavy burden to pray for the boys. This lasted for two weeks. Every day she visited a friend who would pray with her for the two boys.

Then one night Ann had a vision that the youngest boy had died. She was so certain that the next morning she told her friend that she could no longer pray for this boy as she knew he was dead. The friend tried to convince her that she was mistaken but Ann was sure her Father had given her the dream so it must be so. Six weeks later the surviving boy wrote saying his brother had died on the very day of Ann's vision.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Little children. 2. For Jesus to put His hands on them. 3. Rebuked them. 4. Jesus. 5. So he could inherit eternal life. 6. Keep the commandments, sell what he had and give to the poor. 7. He had great possessions. 8. Rich man. 9. Possible.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 8 May 23, 2004

The Habit Of Prayer

(Continued from last week.)

When people heard how God answered Ann Preston's prayers they began to send for her to pray for them, especially when they were sick. One time Ann visited a woman who was so sick with typhoid fever she was not able to sleep. Ann went in and knelt by her bedside. In her simple way she asked her Heavenly Father to give the woman at least two hours of quiet sleep.

As soon as she finished praying Ann went out and confidently told others in the house to keep very quiet. She told them that she had asked her Father to give the woman two hours' sleep, and added, "I know He will."

The patient went right off to sleep and slept for four hours! From that point she began to get better until she was well again.

One time Ann was visiting a family. Their youngest boy told Ann, "People say God does wonderful things in answer to your prayers but we haven't seen anything outstanding done around here since you came."

A few days later one of the cows took very sick. Ann overheard the men say that the cow could not get well and would have to be shot. Ann went out to the field and looked at the cow. She saw it was very, very sick.

To her surprise the Lord said, "Now, here is your chance."

Ann said, "Chance for what?" The reply came, "To show them that My power is unchanged."

Ann knew nothing was impossible for her God but the cow was so near death that she was like Gideon; she asked for two or three signs before she was entirely satisfied that God indeed wanted to heal the cow. Then she went back and told the boy that she knew the cow would soon be well.

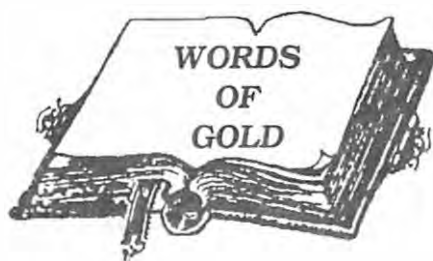
When the boy heard this he exclaimed, "Oh, good! It will get better now."

But that night he saw no change. He came home disappointed and told Ann, "The cow is no better."

This did not disturb Ann. She knew God had said that He would heal the cow. It was not long before the cow was perfectly well.

Ann constantly talked to her Father through the day. She would also spend hours on her knees in prayer.

A woman who heard Ann testify at church couldn't help wondering if she always had such victory even in her every day life. Not long after this she and Ann were assigned the same room at a meeting they were attending.



Hypocrites

Matthew 23: 1-15

1 Then spake Jesus to the multitude, and to his disciples,

2 Saying, The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat:

3 All therefore whatsoever they bid you observe, that observe and do; but do not ye after their works: for they say, and do not.

4 For they bind heavy burdens and grievous to be borne, and lay them on men's shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with one of their fingers.

5 But all their works they do for to be seen of men: they make broad their phylacteries, and enlarge the borders of their garments,

6 And love the uppermost rooms at feasts, and the chief seats in the synagogues,

7 And greetings in the markets, and to be called of men, Rabbi, Rabbi.

8 But be not ye called Rabbi: for one is your Master, even Christ; and all ye are brethren.

9 And call no man your father upon the earth: for one is your Father, which is in heaven.

10 Neither be ye called masters: for one is your Master, even Christ.

11 But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant.

12 And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted.

13 But woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye shut up the kingdom of heaven against men: for ye neither go in yourselves, neither suffer ye them that are entering to go in.

14 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye devour widows' houses, and for a pretence make long prayer: therefore ye shall receive the greater damnation.

15 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye compass sea and land to make one proselyte, and when he is made, ye make him twofold more the child of hell than yourselves.

The Message: You can have lots of religion without having an ounce of salvation.

Questions:

1. Who was Jesus speaking to?
2. Who sat in Moses' seat?
3. What was the motive of all the scribes' and Pharisees' works?
4. What rooms did they love at feasts?
5. What did they want to be called?
6. Why are we not to be called masters?
7. What will happen to the one who exalts himself?
8. The one that humbles himself will be _____.
9. What did they make for a pretence?

Verse to Memorize

Even so ye also outwardly appear righteous unto men, but within ye are full of hypocrisy and iniquity.

Matthew 23:28.

Let's



Talk . . .

I read about a man in Massachusetts who had a deep secret which he kept hidden from others for several years. No one suspected that there was anything wrong. Even his wife did not suspect that he had a problem. At home his behavior with her and his family appeared normal in every way!

Each evening he would come home from work and visit with the family for awhile before sitting down and eating dinner with them. Then he would get up and go to his favorite chair with the newspaper.

But finally the day came when he felt like he couldn't take the strain any longer. After years of guarding his secret, he finally had to confess—he couldn't read! He had only been pretending!

Many people are like this in their spiritual lives. They appear to be Christians. They go to church quite regularly and act real pious at church. They make such a good impression that people think that they are saved. The Pharisees were careful to look very religious and say long prayers out where people would be sure to see them. They studied the law for hours at a time and should have been the first ones to recognize that Jesus was the promised Savior. The very prophecies that they studied all foretold the events of His birth. But these men were hypocrites—pretenders. Jesus warned His disciples about them. He said, "Do as they say, not as they do!"

God only knows how many of us are like that. We know we want to go

to heaven and we know what we need to do to get there. But we just don't want to pay the price. We feel like we can surely take a shortcut. We may reason with ourselves, "Surely I don't have to be that strict!" and feel that it just takes too much effort to live a godly life.

But somewhere down the road God will cause something to show where we really are. The Pharisees were able to hide their true feelings for quite awhile, but when they got the opportunity they were the ones who demanded that Jesus should be crucified.

In the fourth and fifth chapters of Acts it says that there was no one that lacked food or necessities because those who had houses or land sold them and gave the money to the apostles. The apostles then distributed the money to those in need.

Ananias and his wife, Sapphira, sold some property. They wanted the praise for giving as others were but they weren't willing to give it all. So they decided between themselves to pretend they were giving the full price—they would keep the rest themselves.

But the Holy Spirit revealed this to Peter. When Ananias laid the money down he asked, "Ananias, why have you let satan persuade you to lie to the Holy Ghost and keep back part of the price of the land?" The penalty for Ananias' hypocrisy was sudden. As soon as he heard these words he fell down dead! Sapphira too fell dead when she lied to hide the fact that they had not given all the money.

It is a fearful thing to be a hypocrite. God sees our hearts and knows every thought we think. When we come to the end of our life won't it be terrible to have the Lord say, "I'm sorry, I never knew you. Depart into everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels."

—Uncle Dale

Long after they went to bed she could hear Ann quietly talking with her Father. Every now and then she would get so happy she would have to praise God out loud. This continued until nearly midnight!

About five o'clock the next morning Ann woke up, as she usually did, praising God. The room was dark so she had trouble finding her clothes. She would ask her Father where each thing was that she needed. Then, walking right to it she would say, "Thank you, Father!"

Next Ann poured water into the wash-basin. Suddenly she stopped saying, "What is that you say, Father?"

After listening for a moment she exclaimed, "Yes, that is it. Thank you, Father!" Then she happily repeated the verses He had given her: "Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean; from all your filthiness and from all your idols will I cleanse you. A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you, and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh, and I will put My spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and ye shall keep My judgments and do them."

After this she finished dressing and then knelt in quiet prayer for at least an hour. The woman could now understand the secret of Ann's power with God!

The men of the family where Ann lived went with others to plough for a man who had been sick all winter. Soon after they left the sky became so dark it looked like it would pour rain any minute. The youngest boy asked Ann where the men had gone. After telling him she said, "It is a pity that the men will all have to come home because of the rain!"

"Why, Ann, couldn't you ask your Father to stop the rain?" the little boy asked. Then he began quoting her favorite verse, "Faith, mighty faith, the promise sees."

At once Ann asked her Father to stop the rain then asserted boldly that it would not rain that day. The clouds gathered thicker and blacker than ever. The little boy told Ann that it was sure to rain but Ann's faith did not waver. God had assured her that it would not rain and it didn't. The men were able to finish their day's work without getting wet!

On another occasion a young woman was supposed to pick up a friend at the train depot about five miles away. Just before time to leave a heavy thunder shower came up. The young woman had always been very much afraid of the lightning and dreaded the idea of being caught in a thunderstorm away from home. Her mother didn't think she should go because there was no doubt that there would be a fierce storm.

Finally they asked Ann's advice. After quietly talking to her Father she told them that it was all right for her to go. "Not a drop will fall until she gets to the depot!" she assured.

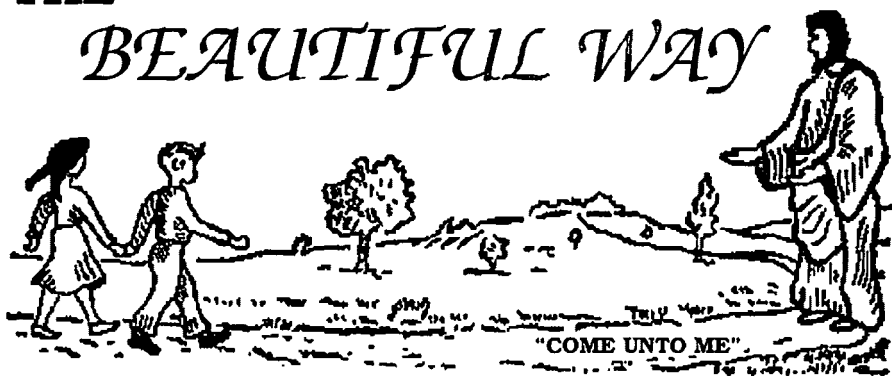
Confident that she could trust Ann's word the young woman drove off in spite of the gathering storm. She reached the depot where they put the horse in a barn. Just after she met the friend the rain came down in torrents as lightning crackled in every direction!

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. The multitude and His disciples. 2. The scribes and Pharisees. 3. To be seen of men. 4. The uppermost. 5. Rabbi, Rabbi. 6. Because Christ is our Master. 7. He will be abased. 8. Exalted. 9. Long prayers.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 9 May 30, 2004

Their Works Do Follow Them

(Continued from last week.)

God blessed Ann Preston with a long life. One Sunday morning when she was ninety-six years old she was up as usual and present at the seven o'clock prayer meeting. After breakfast she attended Sunday school and the preaching service. It was only a few days later that she died peacefully to always be with the Lord she loved.

A minister who knew Ann saw her obituary in the paper. He had first met Ann fifty years earlier. He said he soon realized that she was a true Christian who knew what it meant to walk and talk with God. She was accustomed to speaking to God and hearing Him speak to her in turn. Her life was a clear definition of the word "consecration."

He said, "The most remarkable thing about this woman was her knowledge of Scripture and the use she made of it in prayer. I never heard her equal even in the pulpit.

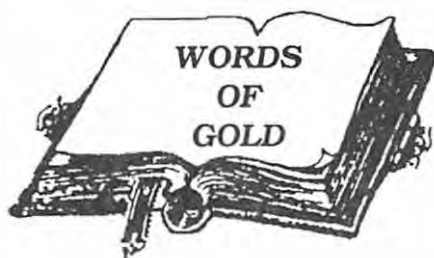
"Ann made the very highest profession. She affirmed that she was sanctified wholly and that the blood of Jesus Christ cleansed her from all unrighteousness. I never knew anyone, saint or sinner, who could say

that either her conduct or her character was out of harmony with her profession. Best of all those with whom she worked daily readily attested to the fact that she lived a life of sincerity and consistency."

In speaking about Ann another minister said, "She was a saint in the truest sense of that word. The memory of her prayer life has often been a blessing to me. She knew God so well that when one heard her pray they would feel the presence of God.

"I have often heard Ann, when speaking in public, quote a passage of Scripture that was brought to her mind in the following way: When she could not recall a verse she needed she would stop and say out loud, 'Father, give me that verse,' and the next instant she would exclaim, 'I have got it,' and then she would repeat it as accurately as if she were reading it. A person could tell at once that she was living in constant communion with God. Like Enoch of old, she walked with God.

"I remember one time at a camp meeting Ann stood up to give her testimony. A minister was so touched that I saw tears rolling down his cheeks as that dear woman poured forth her torrents of living truth from a heart overflowing with love and praise to our God. I cannot recall her



Troubles Become A Blessing

Genesis 37:5, 9-10, 19-20, 23-28; 42:6; 45:4,5,7-8

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

9 And he dreamed yet another dream, and told it his brethren....

10 And he told it to his father....and his father rebuked him....Shall I and thy mother and thy brethren indeed come to bow down ourselves to thee...?

19 And they said one to another, Behold, this dreamer cometh.

20 ...Let us slay him, and cast him into some pit, and we will say, Some evil beast hath devoured him:...

23 And it came to pass when Joseph was come unto his brethren, that they stripped Joseph out of his coat....

24 And they...cast him into a pit: and...there was no water in it.

25 And they sat down to eat bread:...and [the] Ishmeelites came...with their camels...going...down to Egypt.

26 And Judah said unto his brethren, What profit is it if we slay our brother....

27 Come, and let us sell him to the Ishmeelites....

28 Then...they...sold Joseph to the Ishmeelites for twenty pieces of silver: and they brought Joseph into Egypt.

6 And Joseph was the governor over the land, and he it was that sold

to all the people of the land: and Joseph's brethren came, and bowed down themselves before him with their faces to the earth.

4 And Joseph said unto his brethren....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:...

7 And God sent me before you...to save your lives by a great deliverance.

8 So now it was not you that sent me hither, but God: and he hath made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house, and a ruler throughout all the land of Egypt.

The Message: Joseph's troubles turned out to be God's plan for him and a blessing for his family.

Questions:

1. Why did Joseph's brothers hate him?
2. Who rebuked Joseph for his dreams?
3. What had Joseph's brothers planned to do with him?
4. What did they do with Joseph?
5. Where did the Ishmeelites take Joseph?
6. For how much silver was Joseph sold?
7. Did Joseph forgive his brothers?
8. Who became ruler over all Egypt?
9. Why did God send Joseph to Egypt?

Verse to Memorize

And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God,...

Romans 8:28.

Let's



Talk . . .

Joseph's brothers hated him. Each time they saw Joseph wearing the beautiful multi-colored coat their father had made just for him, it made them angry. One day when Joseph returned from watching the cattle with his brothers, he reported their evil actions to his father. This intensified their hatred for him. After that he had two dreams. In the first dream his sheaf stood tall while his brothers' sheaves bowed before his. In the second dream the sun, moon and eleven stars bowed before him. Even his father rebuked him for that dream.

His brothers smoldered with anger. They watched for a chance to get rid of him. Then one day, while they were far from home with the cattle, they saw Joseph coming towards them.

"Look!" one of them said, "Here comes the dreamer!" They decided they would kill him and throw his body into a deep pit where it would never be found. "Then we will see what becomes of his dreams!" they agreed.

Reuben, Joseph's oldest brother, persuaded them to just put him in a pit instead of killing him. He planned to come back later and rescue Joseph. But when some Ishmeelite traders came by on their way to Egypt they decided to sell Joseph to them. They were sure they were rid of him forever!

Joseph was taken into Egypt and sold there as a slave. While he was cleaning pig pens, mopping floors, grinding corn and baking bread, he must have often asked, "Why has this

happened to me?" He may have wondered if God was still alive. Perhaps he blamed himself, wishing he hadn't tattled on his brothers or told his dreams. We do not know what Joseph thought while working in Egypt.

We do know he obeyed God's commandments. Even when strongly tempted, he did not yield to sin. When suffering in prison, he did not grow bitter. He trusted God although he did not always understand.

Joseph turned his troubles into steppingstones. He took each trial as a lesson sent from God to educate him for the future. Joseph did not know his future work, but he learned the lessons well. When the time came that God needed him, Joseph was prepared.

We, too, must learn lessons from trials. When we can't have things the way we want them, we must learn to be happy anyway. If others hate us and abuse us as Joseph's brothers did him, we must suffer patiently. If others try to force us to do wrong, we must be strong as Joseph was. Trials help us to build character which we will need in the future.

Remember, all things will work together for good to those who love the Lord—that is, under one condition. The condition is that we keep the right attitude and do the very best we can under troublesome conditions.

Many times troubles turn into blessings. Troubles are like dark clouds that cover the bright sun. The sun, like God's will, shines always, but we may not see it. Sometimes the clouds bring rain that interrupts our plans but furnishes needed moisture. Later when the hills are green and producing food for cattle and wildlife we thank God although the rain was unpleasant. It is the same with many troubles—later we see they work for our good. —Charlotte Huskey

words but they were full of power from the Holy Spirit which indwelt that feeble body of clay. Her face used to shine with joy and gladness lit up by the Divine life within.

"On another occasion I was taking our sister Ann to spend a few weeks in a home near Whitby. During the train ride a Catholic priest sat behind us. He overheard our conversation as I asked Ann about how the Lord dealt with her in answer to prayer. Soon the priest was also asking her questions. Ann's usual answers were Scriptures which the Lord gave her at the time. The priest looked at her with wonder and a certain amount of admiration. Here was an uneducated old Irish woman who evidently knew more about real godliness than he did!

"Another time," the minister continued, "I was making pastoral calls with another brother. When we stopped at one house we learned that our sister Ann was there, very sick in bed. We went into her room and found that she had been praying for God to send us to see her. As we waited upon God in prayer, Ann began pouring out her heart in prayer saying, 'Father, sure the devil told me that my two brothers would not come to see me, as they did not know I was sick, and that I could not write to tell them how ill I was. But, Father, you told me I could telegraph them by way of the Throne of Grace. So I just telegraphed to you, and now you have sent the message to them, and here they are. Glory to God!'

"We were all filled with holy joy and laughter, and could do nothing but praise God from the bottom of our hearts. God graciously answered prayer and Ann was immediately restored to health. Later she was faithful to testify how she had been raised up from a sick bed in answer to the prayer of faith on that memorable visit."

A well-known Bible teacher gave the following testimony concerning the way God revealed events in other people's lives to Ann as she talked with Him in prayer. He wrote:

"Several winters ago I was holding meetings in Toronto. My wife and I were staying at the China Inland Mission Home.

"One day I suggested that we go to visit 'Holy Ann'. I had met her and was profoundly impressed by her testimony.

"We had an excellent talk with her. She seemed on fire with the Word of God, being occupied with nothing else. She would bring up passage after passage with a kind of holy triumph that was most refreshing.

"In the middle of her conversation she suddenly turned to my wife and said, 'Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivereth them out of them all. I think you will be sick. Some trouble will come to you, I think, pretty soon but the Lord will deliver you out of it.' She said this with much earnestness and conviction, as if she had Divine light on the subject.

"My wife and I spoke of the matter as we walked back to the Mission. About the next day my wife became ill with acute pneumonia. She was very sick for several weeks and seemed near death. But, as Ann had prophesied, she recovered.

"I was never in my life so impressed with what seemed to be prophetic insight as on this occasion," he concluded.

(The End.)

—Taken from *An Irish Saint* by Helen E. Bingham

(Answers: 1. Because of his dreams. 2. His father. 3. To kill him. 4. They sold him to the Ishmeelites. 5. To Egypt. 6. Twenty pieces. 7. Yes. 8. Joseph. 9. To save the lives of his family.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 10 June 6, 2004

Faithful Friends

It was a fine summer morning. Thirteen boys from the Southgate Christian School had looked forward to this day for a long time. Now, at last, the day had come for their day's outing in the mountains. As they waited they talked excitedly about what a wonderful day it was going to be and the many fun things they planned to do. Each had their lunch—packed in lunch boxes or paper bags, all ready for the journey. They were a noisy group, each laughing and shouting to one another.

Finally they crowded into three cars driven by older friends and away they went as happy as could be. Higher and higher they climbed up the mountain road until at last they came to the beautiful forest where they all loved to go for special recreation. Here they all jumped out. The drivers waved good-bye and returned to the city.

Now they were alone—thirteen boys all ready for the greatest day of their lives.

They wandered among the trees down to the river and followed it to the lake. There someone suggested that they might as well eat since this was such a pretty spot. It didn't take more than one suggestion like that. All of them readily agreed and began opening their lunches.

There was silence for awhile. Everybody was too busy eating to talk. At last David, who was a leader among them, spoke up and asked what the others would like to do after lunch.

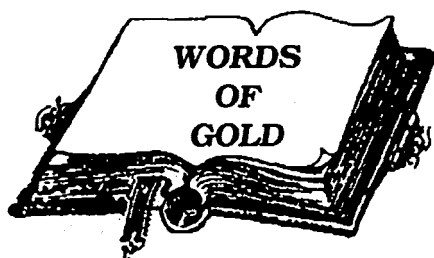
"Let's swing on the wild vines," they all called out together, and it was clear that this was what they wanted to do most of all.

"All right," said David. "Has everybody finished eating? If so, then let's be off to the vines."

You see, the boys had all been in this forest several times before, and they remembered that in a certain part of it there were some strange wild vines that not only grew around the trees, but actually spread from tree to tree until all were bound together as in some tropical jungle. Between the branches of some trees the vines would hang in great loops like the ropes of a swing, and the boys were not slow to recognize the fun they could have swinging from vine to vine or just using one as a swing.

There were so many of these loops that there were plenty of swings for all of them and more to spare. Soon all thirteen boys were hanging on to the vines, swinging to their hearts' content.

It was such fun! Each boy tried to swing higher than the rest. If one of them did not like the swing he had



God Loves Everyone

**Acts 10:1-3, 5, 9, 11-12, 17-20,
24, 28, 35, 42-44, 46-48**

1 There was a certain man in Caesarea called Cornelius,...

2 A devout man, and one that feared God with all his house, which gave much alms to the people, and prayed to God alway.

3 He saw in a vision...an angel of God...saying...

5 ...send men to Joppa, and call for...Peter.

9 On the morrow, as they went on their journey,...Peter went up upon the housetop to pray...

11 And [he] saw heaven opened, and...a great sheet knit at the four corners, and let down to the earth:

12 Wherein were all manner of fourfooted beasts of the earth, and wild beasts, and creeping things, and fowls of the air.

17 Now while Peter doubted...what this vision...should mean,...the men...from Cornelius...stood before the gate,

18 And asked whether...Peter, were lodged there.

19 ...the Spirit said...Behold, three men seek thee.

20 ...Go with them,...for I have sent them.

24 ...And Cornelius waited for them, and had called together his kinsmen and near friends.

28 And he said unto them,...God hath shewed me that I should not call any man common or unclean.

35 But in every nation he that feareth

him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him.

42 And [Jesus) commanded us to preach unto the people,...

43 ...that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins.

44 While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word.

46 For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God. Then answered Peter,

47 Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we?

48 And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days.

The Message: In any nation every-one who fears God and is righteous is accepted of Him.

Questions:

1. To whom did the angel speak?
2. What kind of man was Cornelius?
3. For whom did Cornelius send?
4. What did Peter see coming from heaven?
5. What was God's message in the vision?
6. Who is accepted by God?
7. What happens to all who believe in the name of Jesus?
8. What came upon the believers in Cornelius' home?
9. Were Cornelius, his family and friends accepted as part of the body of Christ?

Verse to Memorize

...God is no respecter of persons: But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him.

Acts 10:34-35.

Let's



Talk . . .

"God is fair and equal in all His ways. He sent His Son to die for the sins of the whole world. His grace appears to all people regardless of who they are. He will save anyone who will call upon Him with their whole heart. Then He will pour out His Spirit on them."

—Tina Cox

God loves all people—rich, poor, black, white, intelligent, dumb, capable or disabled. Each one is beautiful to God. Christians have not always believed that God cared equally for all people. Some, like Peter, have thought that God loved only certain races.

God gave Peter a vision to teach him that salvation was for everyone. Then God sent Peter to stay a few days in a home which before he would not have entered. Peter obeyed God and he saw many people of another race being saved, filled with the Holy Spirit and baptized into the body of Christ.

Salvation is a free gift of God for all men, women and children. All who fear God and believe in Jesus as the Saviour of the world can have salvation. Cornelius had no religious education but he feared God, gave to the poor and prayed always. Every person has a conscience and this conscience will help them to obey God in the same way it helped Cornelius.

Neither wealth nor education makes a person more loved of God. Peter was uneducated. Paul was highly educated. All are equal—God can save and use people from all nationalities and walks of life.

We must never confuse equality with authority. Equality means that each person can start their Christian life at the same point—salvation. Who a person is does not cause them to start at a lower or higher point. All start as newborn babes.

As people live for Christ they gain knowledge, authority and respect; God also gives gifts according to a person's capabilities. As a person gains in these areas, his field of exercise also grows. At the same time he is exercising in the Lord, he is gaining a circle of people who respect him and will listen carefully to what he has to say.

Cornelius, his family and friends, were part of the body of Christ, but they did not have the gift of healing nor anointing for preaching as Peter had.

The Church of God has order—leaders and authority which are to be respected. We are all equal as brethren, but some are following and some are leading. God loves each one equally. They are all beautiful to Him.

—Charlotte Huskey

Peter knew the joy of preaching the Gospel. Three thousand were saved after he preached on the day of Pentecost. Now God wanted to teach Peter a deeper, greater truth—God is no respecter of persons! Everyone, Jew or Gentile, could be saved!

Peter knew that the Jews were God's chosen people. It seemed logical then that the Gospel was only for the Jews.

Cornelius was fasting and praying when God told him to send for Peter. Peter was on the housetop praying when God told him that he must call nothing unclean that God had cleansed. So, through prayer and obedience the full Gospel was made known. Peter declared, "God is no respecter of persons. Everyone who fears God and lives righteously is accepted by Him!"

—Nelda Sorrell

chosen, he just moved on and found a better one.

Sometimes a boy would climb quite a good way up a tree in order to reach one of the larger and longer loops, and then he would slide down till he reached the middle and swing until he was tired.

Presently David called out: "Look at that beauty over there," pointing to an unusually fine vine that drooped temptingly from one branch to another. It was fairly high up. Several made a rush to get to it first. David, however, was ahead, and making a great leap, seized the vine and was soon swinging away.

Suddenly, to their horror, they heard a terrible ripping sound as the vine broke loose from one of the trees. At that moment David was in the middle of a mighty swing and crashing down to the ground hit his head on a rock.

"Oh," exclaimed all the boys at once as they jumped from their swings and ran toward the place where David lay on the ground.

John was first to get there. He tried to help David get up. David did not move.

By this time all twelve boys had gathered around, looking down at David's limp form. Suddenly the dreadful thought came to them that he might be dead. No one said it but each knew what the other was thinking. They shuddered as they saw the blood trickling from the wound on David's head.

"What shall we do?" exclaimed Jarrad.

"Someone had better run and get help," gasped Bert. But nobody moved. Then somebody else spoke. "Let us kneel down and pray for him," he said. "It is the best thing we can do."

"Yes," murmured the others very solemnly, "let's pray."

There in that lonely forest these twelve boys knelt upon the ground around their friend, David, and asked God for help.

John prayed first, then Jarrad. Then another and another, until at last twelve had sent up a brief, halting petition to the great Heavenly Father, who they knew was a friend to all boys.

Now it may sound unbelievable I know, but when the last simple prayer had been said, David began to move!

"Look!" they all cried at once. "He is not dead after all!"

One of them ran for some water. They bathed David's face. Soon he opened his eyes. Then they gave him a drink. By and by he sat up.

They all sat around telling David what had happened and how they had thought he was dead. When David was finally about to stand up, they partly carried him, partly led him back to the highway where they waited for a car to take him home.

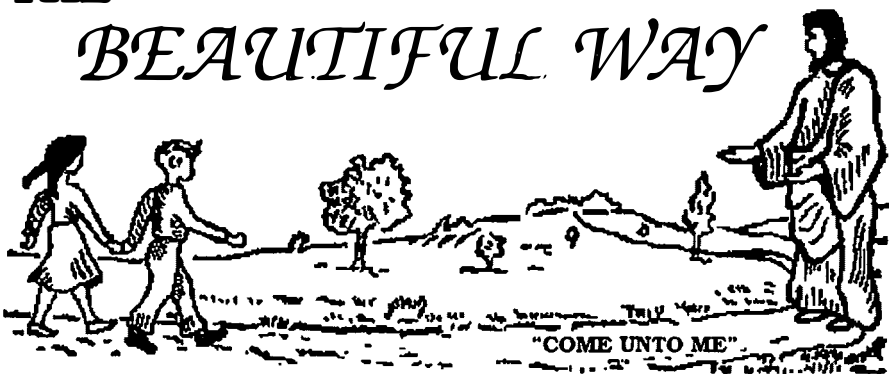
Years have passed since then but when they get together they talk about this wonderful day. Sometimes when their own boys want to go alone in the forest they tell them about this experience when they went with their friends to the woods. Not one of them has ever forgotten that strange and beautiful prayer meeting in the forest.

Every one of them agrees with David that it is a fine thing to have twelve faithful friends to pray for you when you need help! —Selected

(Answers: 1. To Cornelius. 2. A devout man who feared God, gave to the poor and prayed to God always. 3. Peter. 4. A sheet filled with many kinds of animals. 5. That all people are equal in God's sight. 6. All who fear God and work righteousness. 7. They receive forgiveness for their sins. 8. The Holy Spirit. 9. Yes.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 11 June 13, 2004

The Winner!

Janet lay on her bed sobbing. "Mother," she questioned, "why did you ask me to stay with Daddy? He's so mean." She sat up and looked at her legs, rubbing the red and blue welts from the whipping she had just received from him.

He was all right during the week. But every other Friday evening he came home drunk. Janet slid from the bed and on to her knees. "Oh, Jesus," she prayed, "please forgive me for being angry, and please tell Mother I'm sorry for not wanting to obey her just then. You know, Jesus, I love You, I love my mother too and want to honor and obey her even though she's in heaven with You. It's just that Daddy's strong and it hurts awfully bad when he beats on me."

That night Janet dreamed that her mother walked into her room. "Janet, dear," she said, "Don't leave your daddy. Someday he will change."

Janet cheerfully made breakfast for her father but he was too sick from being drunk the night before to enjoy it. "I hope you get to feeling better," Janet said kindly.

When she went to school Monday, she wore long socks to cover up the bruises on her legs. She did this often.

One Saturday evening it was raining so hard the windows and doors of the old house rattled. Janet felt alone

and afraid in the storm. Suddenly she heard someone banging at the door. Immediately, her father called, "Let me in! Let me in! Don't you know it's raining?"

Janet hurried to the door but not soon enough. Her father was angry. "Why didn't you open the first time I knocked?"

"I didn't hear you, Daddy," she said.

"I know why you didn't open the door. You didn't want me to come in. I'm your daddy, and you—" At this he ran toward her.

"No, Daddy, no!" Janet cried as she dashed into the kitchen. She unlocked the back door and slipped through just as he grabbed for her.

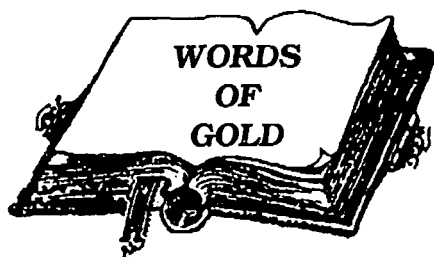
"Well, well," he laughed, "now you will see how I felt. Just stay out!" he stormed.

Janet heard him lock the door. There was no porch on the house, so Janet could only hover close to the wall.

At eleven o'clock that night the neighbor came home and saw her sitting on the front step. "What are you doing?" he asked.

"Daddy ran me out," Janet answered softly. "But he'll soon be asleep and then I'll go in."

"He can't do you like this," the neighbor stormed. "I'm going to call the police."



God Sees Everyone

Genesis 3:8-10

8 And they (Adam and Eve) heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God amongst the trees of the garden.

9 And the Lord God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou?

10 And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.

I Kings 19:1-4, 9-10, 15-19, 21

1 And Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and withal how he had slain (killed) all the prophets with the sword.

2 Then Jezebel sent a messenger unto Elijah saying...I (will) make...thy life as...one of them by to morrow about this time.

3 And when he (heard) that, he arose, and went for his life, and came to Beer-sheba....and left his servant there.

4 But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness....

9 And he came thither unto a cave, and lodged there; and, behold, the word of the Lord...said unto him, What doest thou here, Elijah?

10 And he said, I have been very jealous for the Lord God of hosts: for the children of Israel have...slain thy prophets...I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away.

15 And the Lord said unto him, Go, return...and...anoint Hazael to be king over Syria:

16 And Jehu...shalt thou anoint to be king over Israel: and Elisha... shalt thou anoint to be prophet in thy room.

17 And it shall come to pass, that him that escapeth the sword of Hazael shall Jehu slay: and him that escapeth from the sword of Jehu shall Elisha slay.

18 Yet I have left me seven thousand in Israel, all the knees which have not bowed unto Baal...

19 So he departed thence, and found Elisha...and cast his mantle upon him.

21 ...Then he arose, and went after Elijah, and ministered unto him.

The Message: God knows where we are, and He will help us with what we need.

Questions:

1. What did Adam try to do?
2. Did God find Adam?
3. What did Jezebel want to do to Elijah?
4. Where did Elijah hide?
5. Who found Elijah in the cave?
6. What did God tell Elijah to do?
7. Who was to be king in place of Ahab?
8. How many other men loved God and had not bowed to Baal?
9. Who became Elijah's helper?

Verse to Memorize

The eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him....

II Chronicles 16:9.

Let's



Talk . . .

Adam was a very foolish man. He thought he could hide from God.

Elijah had destroyed Jezebel's beloved prophets of the idol Baal. But he had done it according to the agreement that had been made with King Ahab and the people of Israel. The agreement was that the God who answered by sending fire was to be worshiped and the other gods and their prophets were to be destroyed. God answered by fire, so Baal and his prophets were destroyed.

Ahab's wife, Queen Jezebel, was so angry she determined to kill Elijah. He ran for his life all the way to Beer-Sheba. Not wanting anyone to know where he was, he left his servant at Beer-Sheba and walked another day into the wilderness. He hid there and an angel brought him food. Then he traveled forty more days on the strength of that food. No doubt about it—Elijah was well hidden from anyone. But God knew where he was.

One day Elijah was standing in front of the cave, which was his home, when God spoke to him. "What are you doing here?" God asked. "I have everything in control. I want you to anoint another king to take Ahab's place. And I have a helper picked out for you. Go anoint him."

I believe God must have chided Elijah for being afraid. Hadn't God done a miracle when He sent fire that burned the sacrifice and lapped up the twelve barrels of water? Why would it have been a problem for God to destroy Jezebel?

God knows where everyone is. He knows what we are doing. He knows

our fears, our doubts and our sorrows. He knows everyone's problems, and He will help us out if we will let Him.

He had the solutions for Elijah's problems, but Elijah had to do something about solving them. Elijah had to go and do what God told him to do. He may have still been afraid when he came out of hiding to go to Damascus to anoint Hazael. Everyone in the country knew Elijah. They could have reported him and Jezebel could have sent someone to kill him, but Elijah took courage and did what God said. Elijah had lost faith in everyone and he lamented, "I am the only one left." Yet he went and anointed Elisha to be the prophet in his place. That was difficult to do when he thought no one else in the land served God. Elijah did not know there were 7,000 men who had not bowed before Baal. These people needed a prophet to lead them. Elijah was old and tired. God was coming for him and God wanted another man ready to take his place.

Yes, God knew where Adam was and what he needed. God knew where Elijah was and what he needed. God was watching over them all the time. He is also watching over you and me all the time and knows where we are and what we need.

—Charlotte Huskey

In Jesus' last words He promised to always be with us. David Livingstone, John Paton and other missionaries relied on this promise and proved that Jesus was always with them, protecting and giving them strength and courage. Once Paton was surrounded by savages who intended to kill him. The Lord delivered him and later he wrote, "During the crisis I felt calm and firm of soul, standing erect and with my whole weight on the promise, 'Lo, I am with you always.'" —Nelda Sorrell

"Please don't do that," Janet begged. "He's nice when he isn't drunk."

"Well come on in my house and get warmed up. Wife will find some dry clothes for you."

"I'm listening for Dad to start snoring any minute now. Thanks anyway."

At times like this Janet did feel like running away, but in her heart she loved her daddy. She just wished he would change. And, besides, she had promised her mother just before she died that she would stay with him.

Months passed. Janet noticed that her father was not as violent and would often go right to sleep when he came home. She wasn't sure if he was getting better or just drinking more.

One Saturday Janet's father came home drunk and demanded, "Where's my supper?" Janet filled his plate with the food she'd been trying to keep warm for him. He took a bite of mashed potatoes. "Yuck, these potatoes are cold. And you burned the peas. I'll have to go down to Mr. Forg's Bar and get something fit to eat," he said cursing her.

Anger, fear and sorrow tore at Janet as she watched him leave. She was angry that he was going back to the bar and that he had used the food being cold as an excuse to go.

Thinking of how late it would be when he came home made her afraid. She always felt afraid when she stayed home alone late at night. "I'm afraid of him when he's drunk, and I'm afraid of staying alone," she mumbled.

She wanted to shout at the top of her lungs, "Why don't things change?"

As she went into the house, she remembered her mother saying, "Someday he will change." It gave her a glimmer of hope. Finding her favorite book—a Bible storybook, she read and waited.

For some reason she felt responsible to see that her father was safely home before she went to bed. Maybe it was because Mother always waited up

for him. Maybe that was her way of trying to win him back from his sinful ways.

She read awhile and then lay down on the sofa. When she awoke it was 11:30! Thoughts spun through her mind. He must have fallen and was too drunk to get up!

Out into the night she went to find him. She searched the street as she went to Forg's. Her heart beat fast as she slowly opened the bar room door. She hated the place because of what happened to her father when he went there.

"Looking for someone?" the bartender questioned.

"For my daddy, Lee."

"Over there on the floor."

"Oh," Janet screamed, rushing to his side.

"Don't get excited. He's not hurt, just drunken sleep."

Janet knelt beside her father and rubbed his face.

"Who's there?" he mumbled.

"It's me, Daddy. I've come to help you home."

"Oh, Janet, what makes you come to me?"

"Because I love you."

Suddenly Lee was wide awake. "You love me—a poor miserable drunk? Everyone else despises me. Why don't you?"

"Mother taught me to love you. And often I dream of her. She always says, 'Janet, don't leave your Daddy. Someday Daddy will change. He will get free from the power of drink. God will deliver him, and then how happy you will be!'"

That was Lee's last drink.

Janet's love and courage had made her a winner! —Charlotte Huskey

(Answers: 1. Hide from God. 2. Yes. 3. Kill him. 4. In a cave. 5. God. 6. To anoint Hazael king of Syria. Jehu king of Israel and Elisha to be a prophet. 7. Jehu. 8. Seven thousand. 9. Elisha.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 12 June 20, 2004

Tom Never Left The Bars Down Again

There is a fine story that comes from a New England home of years ago. It is told by one of the boys concerned, grown to manhood. As he tells the story:

Once I saved Tom from a promised whipping for leaving down the bars when he went after the cows at milking time, thus giving the young cattle left in the pasture a chance to get out, of which they always approved. If they were on the back side of the lot when Tom got the cows he thought it unnecessary to put up the bars. It would be so short a time when the cows would be driven back. Father cautioned and reproved him several times till finally he threatened to whip him if it happened again. Several weeks passed and he left the bars down again. The young cattle got into the corn, doing much damage.

The next morning Father said nothing but went about his usual work. Tom was gloomy, there was an air of depression in the house and I was greatly troubled. I could not bear to have Tom whipped, nor could I blame father. At last I resolved to go and speak to him.

The sun was shining brightly and he was opening up some bales of hay in the meadow. I approached him slowly,

for I did not feel sure of my ground, and stood still without saying a word.

He looked at me and said, "Well, Joe, what is it?"

"I have come to speak to you about Tom, I do not want him whipped."

"I do not see how I can help it, my son. I cannot have my crops destroyed in this way, and I must keep my word."

"Father, didn't you read this morning in the lesson, 'He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities, and by His stripes we are healed?'"

"Yes, what a boy you are to remember, Joe."

"Well, I will take half the blows you intend to give Tom."

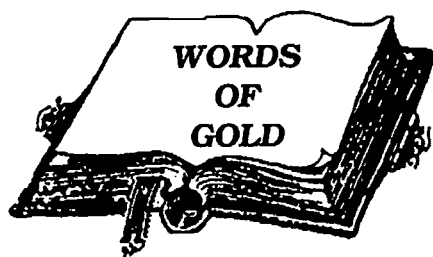
"I can't do that, Joe. Tom is the transgressor, not you," answered father, his face softening and his voice trembling a little. Then looking at me kindly, he asked, "Did Tom send you to me?"

"No, he knows nothing of my coming."

My father stood leaning on his pitchfork with both hands, looking down at the ground. At length he said, "Go and bring Tom."

I found him on the front porch with a sober face, trying to study. "Come with me, Tom, father wants you."

"I know what he wants," he said, turning a little pale. After a moment's hesitation he arose saying, "I might as well go and have it done with."



A Godly Father

Genesis 21:3, 5; 22:1-5, 7-13

3 And Abraham called the name of his son...Isaac.

5 And Abraham was an hundred years old, when his son Isaac was born unto him.

1 ...God....said unto him, Abraham: and he said, Behold, here I am.

2 And he said, Take...Isaac,...and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of.

3 And Abraham rose up early in the morning....and took...Isaac his son,...and went unto the place of which God had told him.

4 Then on the third day Abraham...saw the place afar off.

5 And Abraham said unto his young men, Abide ye here with the ass; and I and the lad will go yonder and worship, and come again to you,

7 And Isaac spake unto Abraham his father, and said, My father: and he said, Here am I, my son. And he said, Behold the fire and the wood: but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?

8 And Abraham said, My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering: so they went both of them together.

9 And they came to the place which God had told him of; and Abraham built an altar there, and laid the wood in order, and bound

Isaac his son, and laid him on the altar upon the wood.

10 And Abraham stretched forth his hand, and took the knife to slay his son.

11 And the angel of the LORD called unto him out of heaven,...

12 And he said, Lay not thine hand upon the lad,...for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me.

13 And Abraham lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold behind him a ram caught in a thicket by his horns: and Abraham went and took the ram, and offered him up for a burnt offering in the stead of his son.

The Message: A godly father must be an example in obedience and great faith!

Questions:

1. What was Abraham's son's name?
2. How old was Abraham when his son was born?
3. What did God tell Abraham to do with Isaac?
4. How soon did Abraham obey?
5. What did Isaac ask his father?
6. What did Abraham answer?
7. After he built the altar what did Abraham do to Isaac?
8. Who called to Abraham out of heaven?
9. What did he offer instead of Isaac?

Verse to Memorize

He shall cry unto me, Thou art my father, my God, and the rock of my salvation.

Psalms 89:26.

Let's



Talk . . .

Today is Father's Day!

What comes to your mind when you think of a father? Do you picture someone that is strong and always ready to protect you? Do you think of someone who tries to always provide his family with everything they need? Do you think of someone you can go to when you are in trouble? True godly fathers, such as Abraham, have all these qualities. Those who have such a father should truly thank God!

I read a story about a father whose little son was extremely sick with diphtheria. The disease is so highly contagious that the little boy had to be kept away from other people.

One day the boy asked his father, "Daddy, am I going to die?"

The father had taught his boy to always tell the truth. Now he must do as he had taught. So, even though it was painful, he told the little boy that it looked like he would soon die.

After watching anxiously to see what effect his words had on his little son, the father finally asked, "Son, you are not afraid are you?"

Looking up at his father trustingly the little boy replied, "Daddy, if God is like you are, I won't be afraid."

Every child should have a father who shows them what God is like. But many children do not have a father or they may have a father who has hurt, disappointed or even deserted them. Yet everyone has a heavenly Father!

God is that Father. He is always ready to help us when we call on Him. Even the most caring earthly father cannot always be there when his child

is in need or in grave danger. Many times a natural father cannot help, though he longs to. The father we mentioned above would have done anything to save his son from the dreadful disease of diphtheria but he was powerless to help.

But nothing is too hard for your heavenly Father! The prophet Jeremiah was so well acquainted with God he said, "Ah Lord GOD! behold, thou hast made the heaven and the earth by thy great power and stretched out arm, and there is nothing too hard for thee." Jeremiah 32:17. When God spoke to Abraham, He told him, "I am the Almighty God." He wants us, also, to know that we can bring every problem to Him. There is nothing He cannot do!

It would not help to have a strong, powerful Father if He was not concerned about us or our needs. But God wants us to know that He loves us deeply and cares about everything that we face. He inspired David to write, "Like as a father pitieth his children, so the LORD pitieth them that fear him." Psalm 103:13.

So, as the very best Father, God is always ready to do good things for His obedient children when they ask. He knows that we do not understand many things so He loves to instruct us. When we do wrong He is anxious to forgive us and draw us back to Himself in love.

When great trouble came to Job one of his visitors wisely advised him, "Acquaint now thyself with him (God), and be at peace: thereby good shall come unto thee." This is sound advice. Talk to God often in prayer. Confide your deepest secrets to Him. Tell Him your needs and desires. Read the letter He wrote, the Bible, to learn how to please and serve Him. Make Him your dearest Friend and you will always have unspeakable peace and happiness. What an honor and privilege to have such a Father!

—Nelda Sorrell

As we walked along I thought it best to give him a little advice, for he generally did as the occasion served him. There was no knowing beforehand what he would do. "Now, Tom, you must not flare up or show any spunk; you must be humble and answer father's questions in a good kind of a way. You must not talk any, only answer his questions. I do not think he will be hard on you."

Father stood as I had left him. I can see him now after the lapse of so many years, with his back to the sun, leaning forward a little on the handle of his fork, looking down at the ground, one hand above the other and his chin on his hands and some forkfuls of hay scattered about him.

He did not seem to see us; he was lost in reverie. "Father," I ventured timidly. "Tom is here."

He looked up at us both quickly, then said, "Tom, do you remember these words in our Scripture lesson this morning. 'He was wounded for our transgressions. He was bruised for our iniquities, and by His stripes we are healed?'"

"Yes," answered Tom greatly surprised.

"What do you think these words mean?"

"That Christ suffered for us," replied Tom, his voice unsteady and his face blushing.

"Well, Joe offers to suffer for you."

Tom turned to me with a look on his face I shall never forget and exclaimed, "No, Joe, you shall not do that." Then flinging his arms around my neck, he kissed me and as quick as a flash, he stepped up to father and held out his hand, saying, "'The stripes belong to me. Father, I am ready.'"

Tears were falling down father's face and for a moment he could not speak. Then he said. "No, Tom, I cannot punish anyone now. I do not think you will ever forget this day. If you do, remember Joe's offer holds good. I love

my children and I want to do to them all the good I can. But I must be obeyed, and this is one way of doing them good; you may go now."

Tom did not stir. He was evidently waiting for me, and yet, for some reason I could not explain, I hesitated, then stepping closer I said, "Father, I want to kiss you." He caught me in his arms, saying: "Oh, my boy," and kissed me.

Then taking Tom, who was ready, he said, "God bless you, dear Tom," and kissed him with swimming eyes. Then with great awe upon us we went to the house. Tom never left the bars down again. —Selected

Parents Of True Love

Children of Christian parents may feel they are being abused when they are only being disciplined according to God's principles. From reading the Bible we understand that parents are responsible to train their children to know and obey the laws of God.

While children are young they must obey the rules of their Christian parents. If they don't obey them, the rod and reproof must be used. The Bible says in Proverbs 29:15 "The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame." When children become older, reproof, counseling and other methods are used to bring them under God's principles.

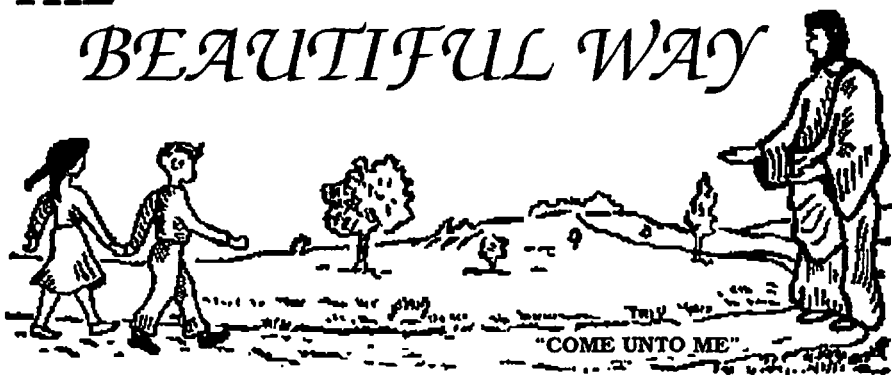
The next time the devil tempts you to think you are being abused, realize that your parents are trying to help you to become a better person.

—Charlotte Huskey

(1) Isaac. 2. One hundred years old. 3. Offer him for a burnt offering. 4. He arose early the next morning to obey. 5. "Where is the lamb for the burnt offering?" 6. "God will provide." 7. Bound him and laid him on the altar. 8. The angel of the Lord. 9. A ram.)

THE

BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 55, No. 2 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 13 June 27, 2004

A Cry For Help

My minister-father believed that God walked beside you day by day, lending you a hand whenever you needed it. He shared this faith with his four children.

I remember one summer night about nine o'clock when we were all returning from a day's outing in the family jalopy. Suddenly a car with glaring headlights swerved around the bend, sideswiping our car. My father, blinded by the headlights, veered off the road, crashed through a fence and came to a sudden stop. Our car was leaning precariously toward the right.

"Don't anyone move," Dad warned. "We don't know what's below us. Just sit still until someone comes to help. God is with us."

We scarcely dared breathe. We were even afraid to call for help. Dad said the noise might make the car lean still further.

My baby sister slept in mother's lap. Time dragged on. Cars whizzed by us on the highway. Nobody stopped even though our headlights were on.

When my little brother began to whimper, Dad said quietly, "Just hang on. Help will come. All of you pray."

Soon the baby woke up and started to scream. Mother couldn't quiet her.

We heard a car drive by slowly, slam on its brakes and stop. Our ears strained as a car door opened and then footsteps approached.

"Great guns," a man exclaimed when he saw all of us in the car. "I'll go get help. There's a garage nearby." The tone of his voice frightened me as he added, "Don't anyone move!"

He disappeared but soon returned with another man and a tow truck. In no time at all we were safely back on the road.

"You're lucky to be alive. There's a river about thirty feet below that fence you crashed through," the garage man explained. "One little move in the wrong direction and you all would have been pitched right into it."

"If your windows hadn't been open," said our benefactor, "I never would have heard that baby and figured something was wrong."

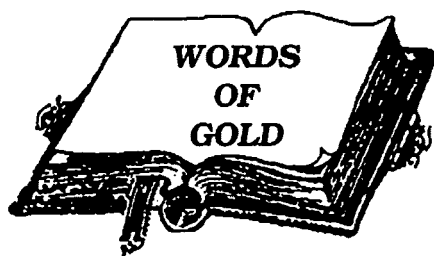
"The Lord was with us," said my father.

That night, and for many nights, our family prayers were words of gratitude to God for watching over us.

—Karin Asbrand from *His Mysterious Ways*

The Widow's Son And His Bible

There was a pious widow living in the north of England, who had a large



A True Heart

Luke 6:43-45

43 For a good tree bringeth not forth corrupt [soiled] fruit; neither doth a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit.

44 For every tree is known by his own fruit. For of thorns men do not gather figs, nor of a bramble bush gather they grapes.

45 A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil...of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh.

Philippians 4:8-9

8 Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

9 Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you.

1 John 3:18-21

18 My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed [actions] and in truth.

19 And hereby we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before him.

20 For if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things.

21 Beloved, if our heart condemn us

not, then have we confidence toward God.

The Message: Honest, true actions come from an honest, true heart. Evil actions come from an evil heart.

Questions:

1. What kind of fruit does a good tree produce?
2. What kind of fruit does an evil tree produce?
3. What comes out of the good man's heart?
4. What comes out of an evil man's heart?
5. From what does the mouth speak?
6. Name four kinds of things a Christian should think on.
7. Will our hearts condemn us if we have done evil?
8. Does God condemn us if our heart doesn't?
9. Will God forgive the condemnation if we do His commandments?

George Fox said, "I knew Jesus, and He was very precious to my soul, but I found something in me that would not keep sweet and patient and kind. I did what I could to keep it down, but it was there. I besought Jesus to do something for me, and, when I gave Him my will, He came to my heart, and took out all that would not be sweet, all that would not be kind, all that would not be patient, and then HE shut the door."

—Streams In The Desert

Verse to Memorize

...For of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh.

Luke 6:45.

Let's



Talk . . .

Keeping a clean heart is an insurance to protect us from doing wrong.

Jesus used trees for examples to explain that whatever is in our hearts will control what we will do and say. He asked if figs grow on thorn bushes or if grapes grow on bramble bushes. Grapes always come from grapevines, and figs only grow on fig trees. Pine trees do not produce oranges, nor do bananas grow from an oak tree. Pine trees have pine cones. Oak trees have acorns. These are scientific truths we know.

Man is very much like a tree. What he is in his heart will be produced in his words and actions. Laban's actions were covetous. After Jacob had worked seven years without earning wages, Laban tricked Jacob into working another seven years by giving him Leah for a wife instead of Rachel whom he loved. After those fourteen years had passed, Laban cheated Jacob ten more times. He even kept money that rightfully belonged to his daughters and their children. Because his heart was covetous so were his actions. Laban produced fruit like himself.

Solomon had a lustful heart. He lusted after women so he married many, many wives. Many of these were horrible wives who worshiped evil idols by sacrificing babies to them. What was in his heart showed in his actions.

David had a loyal heart. King Saul, with a multitude of soldiers, was hunting David to kill him. On two occasions David could have easily killed King Saul, but his loyal, good heart

said, "I cannot sin by touching God's anointed." He did not kill King Saul. He produced good fruit because his heart was good.

How can we keep a good, clean heart? First we must ask Jesus to come into our heart and make it clean. After it has been cleaned, we can keep it clean by monitoring our thoughts carefully.

Our mind is like a computer into which information is constantly being fed. What we see, hear, read and experience is being recorded. The wonderful thing is that we do not have to save the garbage we hear or see. We need only to store thoughts that will make us a better person. Evil, vain, useless thoughts need to be put into the trash as soon as they enter our mind. In this way our heart will be kept clean. So when our heart is clean, we have assurance that our fruit will be good. As a good tree produces good fruit, so a good heart produces good words and actions.

—Charlotte Huskey

"It Won't Come Sweet"

A little girl sat at the table alternately stirring and sipping her drink. Presently, with tears of disappointment in her eyes, she exclaimed, "Mother, it won't come sweet!" Then the mother realized that she had forgotten to put in the sugar. This done, the sugar itself did the rest. No amount of stirring or trying can make our lives sweet; but when we let the Lord Jesus enter and take possession of our hearts, He makes them pure and lovely. Sweetness of life is only possible as He who is the sweetness dwells within.

—Selected

(Answers: 1. Good fruit. 2. Evil fruit. 3. Good things. 4. Evil things. 5. From the heart. 6. Things that are true, honest, just, pure, lovely or of good report. 7. Yes. 8. No. 9. Yes.)

family consisting of seven daughters and one son, whom she endeavored to bring up in the ways of religion.

Her efforts were crowned with success, so far as her daughters were concerned but alas! her boy proved ungrateful for her care and became her scourge and her cross and ultimately left her to go to sea.

When his mother took her leave of him she gave him a New Testament, inscribed with his name and her own, solemnly and tenderly entreating him to keep it and read it for her sake. Year after year elapsed without tidings of her boy. In whatever company she was cast, she made it a point to inquire for the ship in which her son sailed, if, perchance, she might hear any tidings of him.

On one occasion she met with a sea captain of whom she made her usual inquiries. He informed her that he knew the ship, and that it had been wrecked; that he also knew a youth by the name of Charles and added that he was such a wicked lad that "it would be a good thing if he and all like him were at the bottom of the sea." Pierced to her inmost soul this unhappy mother withdrew from the house saying, "I shall go down to the grave mourning for my son."

After the lapse of some years a half naked sailor knocked at her door to ask relief. The sight of a sailor was always interesting to her. She heard his tale. He had seen great perils in the deep, had been several times wrecked, but he said he had never been so dreadfully destitute as he was some years back, when himself and a fine young gentleman were the only individuals, of a whole ship's crew, that were saved.

"We were cast upon a desert island, where after seven days and nights I closed his eyes. Poor fellow, I shall never forget it." And here the

tears stole down his weather-beaten cheeks. "He read day and night in a little book which he said his mother gave him and which was the only thing he saved. It was his companion every moment; he wept for his sins, he prayed, he kissed the book; he talked of nothing but this book and his mother; and at last he gave it to me with many thanks for my poor services.

"There Jack' said he 'take this book, and keep it, and read it, and may it bless you—it's all I've got.' And then he clasped my hands and died in peace

"Is all this true?" said the trembling, astonished mother.

"Yes, madam, every word of it!"

And then drawing from his ragged jacket a little book, much battered and time-worn, he held it up, exclaiming, "And here's the very book, too."

She seized the Testament, recognized her own handwriting, and beheld the name of her son, coupled with her own, on the cover. She gazed, she read, she wept, she rejoiced. She seemed to hear a voice which said, "Behold thy son liveth."

Amidst her conflicting emotions, she was ready to exclaim, "Now, Lord, lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, for mine eyes have seen thy salvation."

"Will you part with that book, my brave fellow?" asked the mother, anxious to possess the precious relic.

"No, madam," was the answer, "not for any money, not for all the world. He gave it to me with his dying hand. I have more than once lost my all since I got it, without losing this treasure, the value of which, I hope, I have learned for myself; and I will never part with it, till I part with the breath out of my body." —Selected

(Look for "Answers" on page 3.)