

Bible Lessons for Juniors

July 6, 2014

Why Aaron Didn't Smoke

"No, thanks, I don't smoke," Aaron said, as Tom passed around a carton of cigarettes. Tom offered one to each of the seventh grade boys as they walked away from school.

"Why don't you smoke?" asked Derek.

"It isn't pleasing to God," Aaron answered.

"Ah, that's crazy," Tom said. "Besides, my Dad smokes and he's a Christian. He goes to church every Sunday, and I do too, when he makes me."

"Who is God?" Josh questioned.

"God is the supreme power that created the universe," Derek answered before Aaron had a chance to speak.

"Let's get out of here, I hate discussions about religion," Tom said. He walked away and the other boys followed. That left Aaron and Josh alone. Looking more puzzled, Josh asked, "How do you know that there is a God? And if there is one, how can a person know what he does is displeasing to such a power? Can people communicate with an invisible power?"

"We feel wind. We get shocked when we touch an electric wire. Isn't that communicating?" Aaron asked.

"Yes, it is. But how do you know what God likes

or dislikes? Josh questioned. "Does God talk to people? "God speaks in many ways," Aaron said. "Bible men such as Abraham, Moses, and Paul heard God's voice speaking to them. Angels visited Gideon, Lot, Mary and the parents of Samson. The angels appeared as a person and brought each one a message from God. God spoke to Daniel and Joseph by dreams, or visions."

"Did you learn all this by reading the Bible?" Josh asked.

"Well, yes, or someone taught it to me. You can read the stories of these people in the Bible. Another way God speaks is through special men called prophets, teachers and preachers. Today God is speaking to people through Jesus."

"Do you mean that Jesus talks to you like I am talking to you?"

"Well, no. He talks to me when I read His words in the New Testament part of the Bible. Sometimes I have a question and what I read gives me the answer. That is Jesus talking to me."

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Almost!

Matthew 25:1-13

- 1) Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom.
- 2) And five of them were wise, and five were foolish.
- 3) They that were foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them:
- 4) But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps.
- 5) While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept.
- 6) And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him.
- 7) Then all those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps.
- 8) And the foolish said unto the wise, Give us of your oil; for our lamps are gone out.
- 9) But the wise answered, saying, Not so; lest there be not enough for us and you: but go ye rather to them that sell, and buy for yourselves.
- 10) And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage: and the door was shut.
- 11) Afterward came also the other virgins, saying, Lord, Lord, open to us.
- 12) But he answered and said, Verily I say unto you, I know you not.
- 13) Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh

Hebrews 4:1

- 1) Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left us of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it.



Acts 26:28-29

- 28) Then Agrippa said unto Paul, Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian.
- 29) And Paul said, I would to God, that not only thou, but also all that hear me this day, were both almost, and altogether such as I am, except these

bonds.

The Message

To be "almost" saved is to be lost!

Questions

1. How many virgins were there?
2. What did they take with them to meet the bridegroom?
3. How many virgins were wise?
4. What did they take along with their lamps?
5. What did they all do when the bridegroom didn't come right away?
6. When were they called to go out to meet the bridegroom?
7. What had happened to the lamps of the foolish?
8. What happened while they went to buy?

Memory Verse

Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh.

Matthew 25:13



Jesus told the story about ten virgins saying that five of them were wise and five were foolish. These virgins represent Christians, or those who profess to know and follow the Lord. All ten were waiting for the bridegroom, all ten had lamps that were burning and all were at the right place where the bridegroom was expected to appear at any minute. Then, as they waited, they all slumbered and slept.

The difference between the wise and the foolish became apparent when they were all jolted out of sleep at midnight. They heard the cry, "Behold, the bridegroom is coming! Go out to meet him." Immediately they grabbed their lamps. The wise added more oil and trimmed their lamps to keep them shining brightly. The lamps of the foolish virgins had gone out. Then they realized they had forgotten to bring any oil to replenish their lamps!

From this we see that the foolish virgins were almost prepared to meet the Lord. But when He actually came they were not ready. When they returned it was too late—the door had been shut. What an awful tragedy! Jesus told this parable and it was written in our Bible so we can see the importance of always following the ways He has set for us. If we turn to our own ways because they seem better or more reasonable we will not be ready to meet Him when He comes.

You may hear people say that you don't have to be so strict and careful in the way you live. They may say, "I don't believe the Lord really requires that," or "Unless you can show me right in the Bible that it says I have to do that I'm not

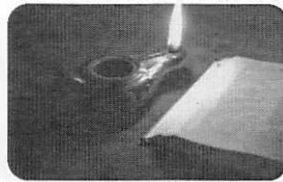
going to do it!"

Is it worth it to take a chance or to figure you can somehow go an easier way?

Do you remember that in *The Pilgrim's Progress* the road Christian and Hopeful were walking got so rough they wished for an easier way? It wasn't long before they saw a road running right along side the one they were traveling. It looked so inviting that when they found a way they quickly crossed over.

But before long they realized the path had led them away from the right way. It looked like they would die in Doubting Castle but God had mercy and rescued them. The path was so close to the right one but it led them far away from the straight path into deep trouble. It looked almost the same but the end of it was far from right.

Don't try to find ways where you hope to almost make it. There are people who don't go to church but say they have lived a good life. They are quick to tell you that they have as good a chance of getting to heaven as those who go to church. God wants us to love Him enough to go all the way with Him. Hebrews 4:1 says "Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left us of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it."



Heaven is worth more than any sacrifice we must make!

Serve the Lord and keep your lives clean while you are young. Then you will not have to go back and make wrongs right and try to straighten up your past life. Start in now and live for God all your life. You will never regret such a life. This is the secret of salvation and a life of peace and happiness!

—Uncle Dale

Why Aaron Didn't Smoke *Continued*

"I hoped you would say that you hear His voice."

"My heart hears His voice by the way I feel, and I know that is my answer. Sometimes I hope Jesus will say 'Yes' and He says 'No,' but I have learned to do what He says and not what I want to do."

"I think it would be easier to know God's messages if someone told them to us."

"Jesus is telling us God's messages every time we hear the Bible read. Sometimes we may not understand what Jesus is saying in one verse. However, if we read other verses about the same subject we will know the meaning."

"Then did Jesus say not to smoke? I didn't think they had cigarettes when the Bible was written."

"They may not have had cigarettes in those times but they had other things that were harmful to a person's body. Jesus said to take good care of our body for it is His temple. You know when a person smokes the tar from the cigarettes gets into the lungs. I know that is true because one in my family died from lung problems because of smoking. Another died with throat cancer. I want Jesus to live in me so I will not 'defile His temple'. (Defile means to pollute, corrupt, or dirty something or someone.)"

"That is easy to understand, and I think it is a good reason to not smoke."

"Jesus usually said things easy to understand. Often, if a person says they cannot understand Jesus' words, it is because they do not want to do what He says," Aaron explained. "If people would

believe that God is love and that all He tells us to do is for our good, then it won't seem hard.

"That's great! I wish I believed as you do. You're the nicest guy I know," Josh answered. Then he slapped Aaron on the back.

Josh ran to catch his bus and Aaron waited for his mom to pick him up.

—Charlotte Huskey

Matching

Match the following verses about being persuaded to their reference.

And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform. Acts 26:28

Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind. 2 Tim. 1:12

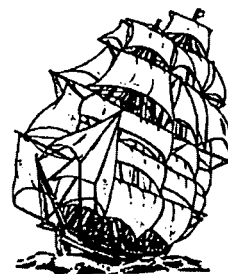
Then Agrippa said unto Paul, almost thou persuadest me to become a Christian. Romans 4:12

For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day. Romans 14:5

Answers:

1. Ten. 2. Their lamps. 3. Five. 4. Oil. 5. Slumbered and slept. 6. At midnight. 7. They had gone out. 8. The bridegroom came. The five wise went in to the marriage and the door was shut. 9. Because we do not know when Jesus will come.

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Tim Saves Leah

The Huskey family lived in a house on the hill in La Mission, B.C. Mexico. From the windows of their home, they could see two ponds in the valley below. The ponds were filled with water by an underground river that wound its way through the earth and emptied into the Pacific Ocean about a half-mile west of their home.

"It is very warm today. May we go fishing?" asked Tim.

"Well, it is a very warm day for February; however, the water is very cold. You must not get into the water. Tim, I know how you love to swim."

"I promise, I will not jump in," Tim said with a smile.

"And can I go too, and take Leah? I'll watch her all the time," promised Rosi.

"You know Leah also loves to get into the water. She is used to playing in the shallow ocean waves as they wash up on the shore. She doesn't know the danger of deep water. You will have to keep her away from the pond all the time."

"Oh, I will. We will play in our fort in the bushes," Rosi assured Mother.

"I'll watch her too," promised Tim, "and bring back some fish for supper."

"I'm just a little afraid that you both will forget to watch her. If she gets near the pond she will get

into it, I know."

"Angelica and Edema are going along too, and you know they won't leave her alone a minute."

After much persuading, Mother consented. She stood on the edge of the cliff and watched the children descend the trail among the cacti. They crossed the valley and were soon hidden in the trees and bushes that grew around the pond.

"They are usually obedient, so I'm sure they will obey," she said to herself as she went back to her work. Tim baited his fishing hooks and dropped them into the water. Rosi and her friends busied themselves in the fort, making sure that Leah didn't get near the pond.

As the hours passed, the girls got busy gathering logs and sticks to make furniture for the fort. Tim was intent on getting fish for supper.

Leah wandered away to the pond's edge. She sat down across from Tim where the water was deepest. However, Tim didn't notice. Rosi didn't notice. Angelica and Edema didn't notice.

Just as Tim was pulling in a catch, he heard a big splash. "What was that?" he thought. Quickly he looked around for one of the girls who might have thrown something heavy into the water. Then he remembered. Leah! "Was it her?" Leah must have gone to the bottom and come back up. Tim saw her long hair disappear under the deep water.

—Continued on page 4

Obedience

Ephesians 6:1, 3

1) Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right.
3) That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.

Genesis 37:13-29; 39:2, 21-22; 41:39

13) And Israel said unto Joseph, Do not thy brethren feed the flock in Shechem? come, and I will send thee unto them. And he said to him, Here am I.

17) . . . And Joseph went after his brethren, and found them in Dothan.

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

21) And Reuben heard it, and he delivered him out of their hands; and said, Let us not kill him.

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

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

2) And the LORD was with Joseph, and he was a prosperous man; and he was in the house of his master the Egyptian.

21) But the LORD was with Joseph, and shewed him mercy, and gave him favour in the sight of the keeper of the prison.

22) And the keeper of the prison committed to Joseph's hand all the prisoners that were in the prison; and whatsoever they did there, he was the

22 And the keeper of the prison committed to Joseph's hand all the prisoners that were in the prison; and whatsoever they did there, he was the doer of it.

39 And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, Forasmuch as God hath shewed thee all this, there is none so discreet and wise as thou art:

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

The Message

Our happiness and safety depend on our obedience to our parents, to authorities, and to God.

Questions

1. Who must children obey?
2. What does God promise those who obey?
3. When his father wanted to send him to his brothers, what was Joseph's answer?
4. Where did Joseph find his brothers?
5. What did his brothers conspire to do?
6. Who delivered him out of their hands?
7. What did they do with Joseph?
8. Who was with Joseph?
9. What good did God work for Joseph?

Memory Verse

**Children, obey your parents in all things:
for this is well pleasing unto the Lord.**

Colossians 3:20



God loves children. Because of His great, loving concern, He gave a commandment specifically to them: "Children obey your parents." To this He adds a special promise of long life and well being. Obedience, then, is a child's most important lesson. Learning to be immediately obedient to parents and those in authority is the necessary foundation of a truly happy and successful life. The younger this lesson is mastered, the better.

Joseph was an obedient son. He was sorry when he saw his older brothers doing evil and told his father about it. His brothers were not willing to change their wicked ways, and they did not appreciate Joseph's reports to their father.

Jacob, Joseph's father, loved Joseph very much and he made the mistake of showing that he preferred Joseph above his brothers. This made his brothers even more angry. They hated Joseph!

One day Jacob told Joseph to go see about his brothers. They had taken the flocks to find good pasture for them. Joseph willingly set off to find his brothers so he could report back to his father as Jacob asked him.

Jacob could not know that it would be many years before he saw Joseph again. But God watches over those who are obedient to a father and mother. He regards a falling sparrow (Matthew 10:29); He will surely be mindful of an obedient child. He even numbers the hairs of our head (Matthew 10:30); so He will certainly see and bless the child that honors Him by obeying their father and mother.



His brothers saw Joseph coming a long way off. It was easy to recognize him in his coat of many colors. They began to plan how they could kill Joseph. Reuben was not willing to kill him. He suggested they put him in a pit instead. Later, he planned to rescue Joseph and take him back home to their father.

While Reuben was away, merchantmen taking spices to sell in Egypt came by. Judah suggested that they sell Joseph instead of killing him. All the others agreed. Joseph was sold for twenty pieces of silver and carried off to Egypt to be sold again as a slave!

But the Lord didn't forget Joseph. The Bible tells us that when he was a slave in Potiphar's house the Lord was with him. When he was wrongfully accused and thrown into prison it says, "The Lord was with Joseph." Then, when Pharaoh told his dreams, God showed Joseph their meaning.

God gave Joseph wisdom to store food during the plentiful years. Because of this, many people, including his own family, were saved from starvation. Joseph saw God's hand in it all and did not blame his brothers or hate them for their wickedness.

Colossians 4:5 teaches us to "redeem the time." This means we are to make the most of every opportunity. When Paul wrote to the young minister, Timothy, he instructed him how to be "prepared unto every good work." (II Timothy 2:21.) Now is the time to prepare yourself to be your very best for God and His service. Use your young mind for praying, reading and memorizing God's Word, and listening as the Gospel is preached. By this you will develop enduring faith, strength and wisdom. God will keep you from the snares of the devil. Then your life will be an honor to your parents and to God, as well as a great blessing to others.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

Tim Saves Leah *Continued*

He jumped up running as fast he could and keeping an eye on the place, he had last seen her. He yelled, "Leah fell in! Rosi come quick! Come quick!"

Rosi came running! Tim didn't try to reach Leah from the bank. He jumped in just as he'd told his mother he wouldn't. Quickly he grabbed Leah by the back of her shirt just as he had seen other rescuers get people out of water. He swam to the shore and hoisted her up on his shoulder. Rosi and Angelica pulled her to safety. Rosi laid her over her lap and patted her back. "Are you all right? You all right?" she asked again and again.

Leah spit and sputtered awhile and then cried, "Mamma, Mamma."

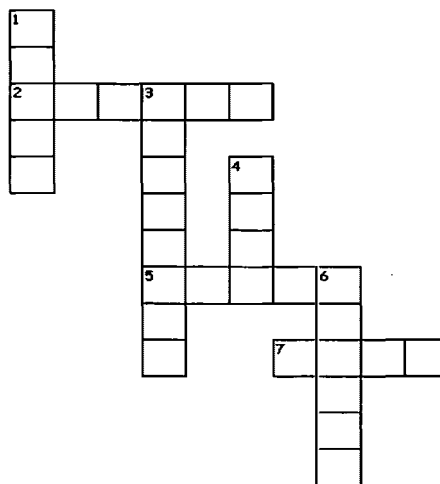
Tim had taken off his shirt earlier so he wrapped it around her.

From time to time Mother had looked out over the valley to see if the children were coming. The last time she looked out she saw Tim in his t-shirt carrying Leah with his shirt wrapped around her.

She dashed down the steep cliff as fast as she could and met them. "No explaining needed," she said as Tim and Rosi began at the same time to tell what had happened. "I'm just thankful that Leah is safe. I try to trust you children. This one time I think I have trusted a little too much."

—Charlotte Huskey

Joseph Is Blessed: Crossword Puzzle



Across

2. ____ said, "Let us not kill him."
5. Joseph was sent to ____.
7. "...let us ____ him to the Ishmaelite's.

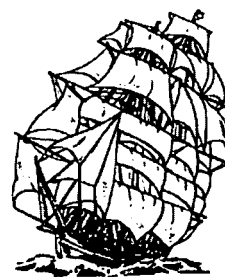
Down

1. The Lord was with Joseph and shewed him ____.
3. Joseph's father sent him to find his ____.
4. ...They conspired to ____ Joseph.
6. They sold Joseph for ____ pieces of silver .

Answers:

1. Their parents. 2. That it will be well with them and they may live long. 3. "Here am I" 4. In Dothan. 5. Kill him. 6. Reuben. 7. Sold him into Egypt. 8. The Lord. 9. Many lives were saved from the famine.

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This Could Happen to You

Sunday school was over. It was time to take up the missionary offering. Rosi was standing with the other juniors in her class. Her heart was racing as she was deciding whether to obey what God was saying or to do what she wanted to do.

Rosi had three dollars in her hand. All three were hers. It was seldom that she had so much money and why she had brought it to Sunday school was a puzzle to her. Anyway, she had it and thought she would be very good and give a whole dollar. That would be much more than a tithe. A tithe of three dollars would only be 30 cents.

However, in her heart, Rosi thought God was saying, "You should give me more than you keep for yourself. That would be two dollars." If Rosi gave two dollars she would have only one to buy what she wanted. She had been dreaming of different things she could buy with \$3.00. To her it was a fortune to have \$3.00 to spend. She crumpled the dollars tightly in her hand as if she was afraid someone would see them and ask why she hadn't given them to God. She felt hot. Her legs trembled.

Would she obey God or keep the money for herself? No one would know if she obeyed God. No one would know if she disobeyed Him. All the other children were putting in their offerings and returning to their seats. *Their parents had given them*

money for the offering. They didn't have to give their only treasure, she reasoned. The song was almost finished. She clung to the dollars and to the back of the bench in front of her. Just as the last note of the song died in the air, Rosi dashed to the offering box and crammed in some money.

A few weeks later, on a Saturday morning, her mother said, "Let's go over and help Uncle Bill in the garden today. He has offered to let us have a garden with him, so we must help him get the ground ready to plant." "I don't want to go," mumbled Tim. "I want to work where I can make some money." "Oh, come on," begged Mother "Having vegetables will keep us from having to buy so much food at the store. It is kind of like making money. We should help Uncle Bill anyway, even if he doesn't plan on giving us some of his garden products. God always blesses those who help others."

"But I want to make some money to buy a bike," grumbled Tim.

"Yes, come on," Rosi pleaded. "God will help you to get a bike. You know Mr. Taylor promised you could work for him. He'll probably come for you any day."

"Yea, maybe today, and I will be gone."

"Not today. I saw him drive away in his truck loaded with plants to sell. He won't be back until they are sold," Mother said.

—Continued on page 4

How Are You Building?

1 Timothy 6:9-19

9) But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition.

10) For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

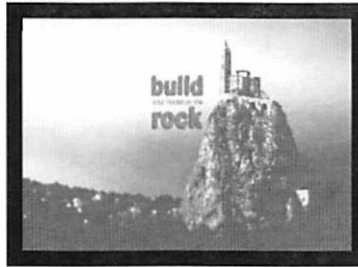
11) But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness.

12) Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.

17) Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy;

18) That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate;

19) Laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.



the earth; against which the stream did beat vehemently, and immediately it fell; and the ruin of that house was great.

Psalms 127:1

1) Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the LORD keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain.

The Message

Be very careful to build upon a good foundation!

Questions

1. What happens to those who are determined to be rich?
2. What is the root of all evil?
3. What six things did Paul say we should follow after?
4. What are we fighting to lay hold on?
5. In whom should the rich trust?
6. Who gives us richly all things to enjoy?
7. Those who hear and do Jesus' sayings are like the man who laid his foundation on what?
8. Those who do not hear are like the man who built without what?
9. If the Lord does not build the house they labor in ____ that build it.

Memory Verse

But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness.
1 Timothy 6:11

Luke 6:47-49

47) Whosoever cometh to me, and heareth my sayings, and doeth them, I will shew you to whom he is like:

48) He is like a man which built an house, and digged deep, and laid the foundation on a rock: and when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently upon that house, and could not shake it: for it was founded upon a rock.

49) But he that heareth, and doeth not, is like a man that without a foundation built an house upon

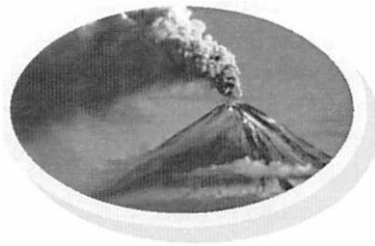


Harry was just an ordinary man most of his life. It was in the last few months of his life that he became famous. As a young man, Harry enlisted in the Army. He was an airplane mechanic and learned to fly. He was fortunate to have no crashes. After the war he married.

It was illegal to make or sell whiskey, but Harry lived out in the hills where it was easy to hide his operation. He began making his own whiskey and was soon making lots of money. But then he got in trouble with outlaws like himself and he had to leave that place to save his life. He and his young family went into hiding at Spirit Lake in Washington State. Here he bought land on a mountain side. This was beautiful country. Harry decided to build a big lodge and rent rooms to the many tourists who came to enjoy the scenery. Now it seemed he had achieved his life's dreams. He was making lots of money, and after marrying three times he had finally found a wife he loved.

Then one day there was an earthquake. That gave him a scare, but he soon forgot it. When there was another earthquake, the scientists discovered that the quakes were caused by an active volcano. The more they checked the more alarmed they became!

They roped off the area around the mountain to keep tourists out of danger and told the residents to get out because the mountain was going to explode. But Harry refused, saying, "No, it has never erupted. I'll be all right." After doing all they could to get him to safety, they gave up and left him behind.



One day there was a small eruption which did little damage. Harry was convinced that was all of it. He still would not leave. A day or so later at 8:32 in the morning there was another earthquake much like the ones before. But this one opened the side of the mountain causing a gigantic explosion of superheated water and molten rock. A black, inky waterfall consisting of the boiling mass of rock raced down the mountainside burying Harry beneath hundreds of feet of molten rock and lava! He had waited too long. Probably he figured that he would be able to see lava start to ooze down the mountainside. Then a news helicopter would surely come in and scoop him up at the last minute. Instead, there was a

searing blast which propelled the boiling rock at 300 mph! One scientist speculated that Harry had only enough time to turn his head after he heard the explosion before he was buried beneath tons of lava!

Each of us is facing the end of our life. When our life ends, it may not be as dramatic as Harry's but, like him, we don't know the exact day or time.

What preparation are you making to be ready to face eternity?

The scientists could predict disaster through their observations and tests and gauges. We have God's own word, the Bible, to warn and instruct us. Too many people believe the devil when he tells them that the life of a Christian is dull and just for old folks. In reality, living according to God's plan for us is the most fulfilling and exciting life possible! Then, after a healthy, happy, and contented life He will take us to heaven to live with Him throughout all eternity!

—Uncle Dale

This Could Happen to You *Continued*

"That will take a long time."

Mother Tim, Rosi, and their little sister, Leah, went to help in the garden. First, they removed limbs that had blown from the neighbor's trees during the winter storms. Then they gathered rocks and piled them in piles near the fence. They raked the dead corn and okra stalks from last year's garden so the ground could be cultivated.

They had worked about two or three hours when Rosi called out, "Look what I found!"

Every one came to see. Rosi was on her knees removing a rock that almost covered a twenty-dollar bill. When the rock was gone Mother could see the bill was almost rotten. "Careful how you pick it up." She cautioned. "It may tear into pieces."

Sure enough when Rosi picked it up, it tore into two large pieces and many tiny ones. The center was rotten but both ends were good. "Whose could it be?" someone asked. "It not ours," Uncle Bill answered. "I think God sent it especially for Rosi."

"There is no way we could find the owner of that \$20.00," Mother said. It has surely lain there several years. Money is made to last. It doesn't rot easily." Monday after school, Mother took Rosi to BancFirst and they exchanged the bill for a better one.

Rosi told her mother how she almost didn't give her \$2.00 to the Lord. "However, I think God helped me find this money because I obeyed him. Now I have ten times more to spend," Rosi told Mother.

—Charlotte Huskey

Bible Drill!

The student who finds and writes down all of the following verses first is the winner!

Proverbs 11:28 _____

Hebrews 11:10 _____

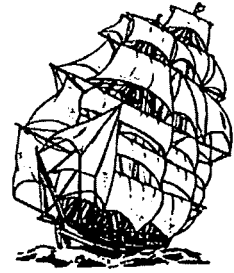
2 Timothy 2:19 _____

Ephesians 2: 19-21 _____

Answers:

Answers: 1. They fall into temptation. 2. The love of money. 3. Righteousness, Godliness, faith, love, patience, and meekness. 4. Eternal life. 5. The living God. 6. God. 7. A rock. 8. A foundation. 9. Vain.

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Following God's Voice

We were living in La Mission, Baja California, Mexico. During the last summer break, our oldest son, Bob, had stayed a few weeks with the Richard Watkins family in Salem, Oregon. He had worked on nearby farms and earned enough money to buy new school clothes. So when school dismissed again for the summer, the whole Huskey family went to Oregon to "earn money." We looked for short term jobs, but only found strawberries to pick.

We crawled around on our knees picking for about a week, but earned only a few dollars. Since God wasn't blessing our efforts earning money, we began thinking maybe God had something else in mind for us to be doing during the summer.

Then a phone call came from the Church of God in San Diego, California, asking my husband, James, to come and administer the funeral of Sis. Ruby Lot. While James was away, I asked God to direct us in what we should be doing. I thought God said, "Go to Monark;" however, I said nothing to James about what I thought. The night after James returned, we were discussing God's will and he said, "I believe we should take the children to Monark Springs Camp Meeting. However, our tires will never make the trip. "Maybe God will send money for new tires," one of the children suggested. "We really want to go."

"Well, let's pray about it," James answered.

We were 1,000 miles apart when God impressed each of us to go to Monark so our assurance of that being God's will was strong. We had enough money for gasoline, so we waited a few days, hoping to get work to earn money for the tires. However, we found no work nor did money come in. So we loaded the car and started out by faith.

I don't remember how far we went before the tire went flat. Seems it was somewhere in Idaho. There we were beside the road without a spare. The children jumped out and began running down the moderately sloping embankment. In a few minutes one called, "Come look. Here is a tire." James raced down, and I followed, holding Leah's hand. The tire was the right size, of course. God would not have sent one that didn't fit. We patched up the old tube, put it on, pumped it up, and were soon on the road again.

We went on a few hundred miles and another tire blew out. This time a man in a pick-up from a tire shop in the nearby town stopped to help us. He was returning from repairing a farmer's tractor tire out in a field. What do you suppose he had in his pick-up bed? All sizes of old tires! One was the perfect size we needed. He gave it to us and used his tools to help James put it on.

—Continued on page 4

Taken Up in a Cloud

John 20:30

30) And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples. . .

Acts 1:2-12

2) Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen:

3) To whom also he showed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God:

4) And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me.

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

6) When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?

7) And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power.

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

9) And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight.

10) And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel;



11) which said, .. why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.

12) Then returned they unto Jerusalem from the mount

called Olivet.....

The Message

Jesus wanted His disciples to witness His return to heaven. While they watched, He began to rise until He disappeared into the clouds.

Questions

1. What did Jesus do in front of His disciples?
2. What did he give to the apostles he had chosen?
3. How many days did the disciples see Jesus after he was resurrected?
4. The disciples were not to depart from what city?
5. What were they to wait for?
6. What did John baptize with?
7. What were they to be baptized with?
8. What received Jesus out of their sight?

Memory Verse

Who is gone into heaven, and is on the right hand of God; angels and authorities and powers being made subject unto him.

1 Peter 3:22



The disciples got used to having Jesus suddenly appear among them. When they gathered to worship God, they almost expected Him to join them. For forty days after His resurrection Jesus met with His disciples often. He still had many things to teach them. They seemed to think that He would set up a kingdom and always be with them right here on the earth.

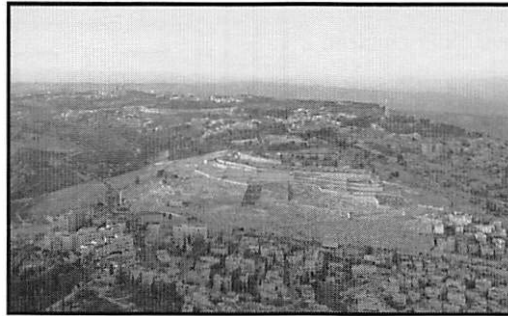
So Jesus spent those forty days trying to teach the disciples that the kingdom of God is not an earthly kingdom; it is a spiritual kingdom. He showed them many miraculous signs so they would have no doubt that He was truly the Son of God. He knew they would need strong faith and belief in Him after He was no longer with them.

"All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth," He declared to His disciples. "Now you are to go and teach all nations the truths that I have taught you. You will baptize them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost and teach them to keep all the commandments I have given you." Then He assured them, "I will always be with you even unto the end of the world."

Jesus knew each disciple well. He knew how weak they were. Peter had denied he even knew Him when questioned by a girl! Thomas refused to believe that Jesus was resurrected from the grave even

He explained that John had baptized the people with water after they confessed their sins. But they would be baptized with the Holy Spirit, God's gift to them. The Holy Spirit would give them power to do good and always please the Father just as Jesus had. He told them again that, after they had received the Holy Spirit, they were to go throughout the entire world and tell the people about the kingdom of God and the wonderful plan of salvation.

Then one day Jesus led His disciples out as far as to Bethany to a mountain called Olivet. While He talked with them there, He suddenly began to rise off the ground! They watched Him as He went higher and higher. Finally he was so high a cloud covered Him. They could no longer see Jesus.



Mount of Olives

The disciples continued to look in amazement in the direction Jesus had disappeared. As they stood gazing at the cloud, two angels dressed in white came to them. They asked, "You men of Galilee, why are you gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who is taken up from you, shall come again in the same way as you have seen Him go into heaven!"

The words of the angels gave the disciples great hope. Joyfully they left the mountain and turned toward Jerusalem. There they assembled with other believers in an upper room to wait there as Jesus had told them. There in an upstairs room the eleven disciples and many more of Jesus' followers met to pray, worship, and praise God as they waited for the great gift God had promised—the Holy Spirit.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

Following God's Voice *Continued*

On we went. I can't remember how God supplied the next two tires. (*Seems like the man from the tire shop gave us an extra old tire he thought he could not sell.*) What I remember clearly is we drove into the Monark Camp Ground with four different tires than when we started in Oregon.

The congregation was singing. It sounded like heaven to us weary travelers. (*We had no motel money so we had driven day and night with four long breaks finding and changing tires.*) That evening, I got up in the pulpit and testified how God brought us there. During that meeting, God impressed James and me to keep our children, ages 6 though 16, near the saints for a few years. We did not return to Mexico; instead, we went straight from Monark Camp Meeting to Guthrie, Oklahoma.

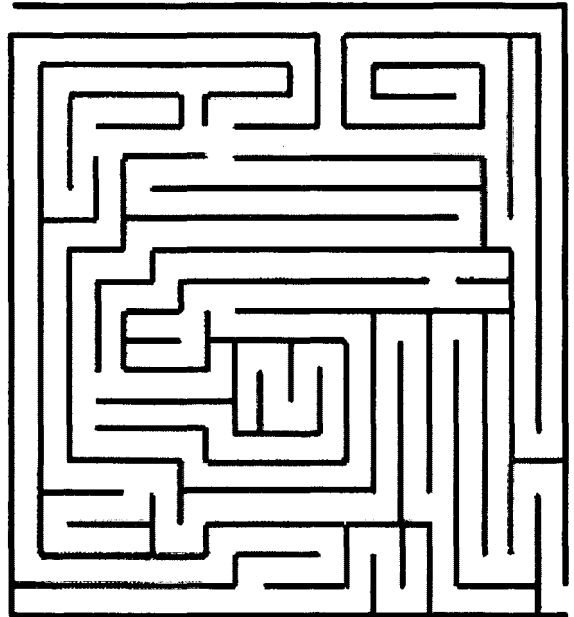
We lived in Guthrie until our five older children had married wonderful spouses among the saints. As I reflect on the past, I wonder what great differences would be in our family today had we not followed God's leading and started out that day from Oregon without tires on our car? I will be forever thankful to God for Him leading us.

(Next week read what we escaped by this move.)

—Sis. Charlotte Huskey

Taken Up in a Cloud

Follow the maze up to the clouds.

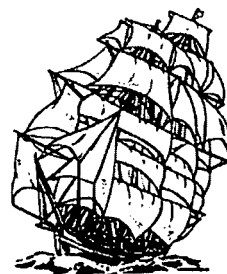


Start

Answers:

1. Many signs. 2. Commandments. 3. Forty days 4. Jerusalem. 5. The promise of the Father. 6. Water. 7. The Holy Ghost. 8. A cloud. 9. Two men in white clothes.

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Bible Lessons for Juniors

August 3, 2014

The Gift Giver

The following is a story about a man I will call the *Gift Giver*. This man was about fifty years old when we moved to Guthrie, OK. He made no special impression on us. He was thin, had gray hair and bright blue eyes. He attended church on Sunday morning but had nothing to say. We thought he was a Christian but he did not appear to have any special gift from God.

We had lived in Mexico for ten years. Those were hard years. Because of the poverty there, we chose to give away everything but cooking pans and a few clothes. Besides being penniless, the change was a culture shock. Schools were so different, the children were so disrespectful, and the weather so severely cold that winter. The children longed for the warmth of sunny Baja California. They wished for their little home on the hill, the nearby beach, old friends and general respect of that community. Joe Taylor had given us a three room house in which to live, with first month's rent paid and utilities in our name without a deposit.

Bro. Willie Murphey, with the saint's help, had furnished it with necessities and some groceries. However, every month we struggled to pay the rent as my husband, James, was making trips back and forth to Mexico and did not have steady work. One time while James was away our son, Tim, said, "Why don't we fast and pray that God will give us

a home so we won't have to pay rent?" We omitted one meal a day for a few days and prayed during that time. Then the *Gift Giver* called. (At that time, he was just a casual acquaintance.)

"Please come and visit me," he said, "I have something important to tell you." We had heard that the *Gift Giver* had only a short time to live, so soon after James came back from Mexico, we went to visit him. After we got seated in his living room, he said. "A few days ago, I passed out in the kitchen and Eldora found me in a pool of blood. I was diagnosed by a medical doctor who said I could live only a few months. Before this, I had been praying for God to supply your family with a home. Now I think God is telling me to give you one of my rent houses. I think the one on Division Street is large enough for your family. Would you like to go see it?"

He and Eldora got in with us and we drove to 523 North Division. I was breathless when I saw the large house. It sat on the corner of Logan and Division. Two stories faced Division Street and three stories on Logan Ave. It was only five blocks from the grocery store, the post office, and downtown. *Everything we needed was within walking distance.* "There it is," he said. "I've already advised the renters to vacate. I'm giving it to you. I'll have Gene Porter prepare the deed."

Continued on page 4

God's Great Gift

Acts 2:1-8

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Acts 2: 11-14

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

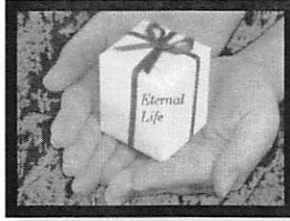
12) And they were all amazed, and were in doubt, saying one to another, What meaneth this?

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

14) But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you...

Acts 2: 16-18

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



17) . . . I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:

18) And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall

prophesy....

The Message

The disciples received power to witness and work for Jesus after they received the Holy Spirit.

Questions

1. On what day did the disciples receive the Holy Ghost?
2. What kind of noise did they hear?
3. What sat upon each of them?
4. What did they do as soon as they were filled with the Holy Ghost?
5. Why were the people amazed?
6. What did they hear them speak about in their own tongues?
7. Who stood up and preached?
8. What prophet told of the coming of the Holy Ghost?
9. What did he say people would do?

Memory Verse

But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you . . . Acts 1:8



The Greatest Treasure

GOD'S GIFT FROM HEAVEN, THE HOLY SPIRIT, IS THE GREATEST TREASURE MAN CAN POSSESS!

Jesus told His disciples that it was necessary for Him to leave and return to heaven. Only then could God send this great gift to them. The disciples could not think of anything more wonderful than having Jesus with them every day. While He was with them they felt safe and happy.

When Jesus began telling them that He was going back to His Father, He saw sadness come over them. Jesus told the disciples why He must die.

Though they could not understand now, He tried to explain that the power of sin and the devil over their hearts could only be broken by the shedding of His own righteous blood.

Then, with their hearts cleansed from sin, the Holy Spirit would actually come into their hearts to live there forever! His great power would destroy the seed of sin that was planted in every heart when Adam disobeyed God. Instead He would make the clean heart His home! The devil would have no claim to their heart. The Holy Spirit would give them power to say, "NO!" when the devil tempted them to sin.

Jesus told them that the Holy Spirit would guide them into all truth. He would be an excellent Guide because He knew the safest route to heaven and how weak and dependent they were. Following His directions they could escape the traps and snares the devil had set up to destroy them. He would make

When you read the book of Acts you will see how

them stronger than all of their enemies!

When you read the book of Acts you will see how the disciples were transformed after they received the Holy Spirit. Peter was changed from a coward who denied that he even knew Jesus to a man who was not afraid to tell about Him even when he was threatened and thrown in prison. All of the disciples except John bravely faced death rather than deny Jesus or stop preaching the good news of salvation.

God's great gift of the Holy Spirit is just as necessary for each of us. Through the blood of Jesus Christ our sins are forgiven. But we must have the Holy Spirit to keep us saved and free from sin. Our lives will also be transformed when we

invite the Holy Spirit to come into our hearts and possess us completely. He alone can safely guide us to heaven. He has fought many battles against the devil and never lost one.

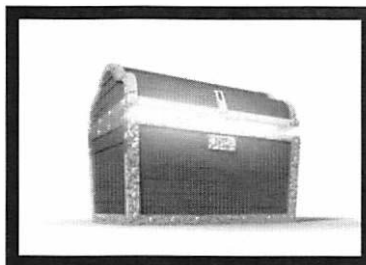
Of course, it is most important to talk with our Guide. We must be able to

understand His instructions in order to follow them. The Word of God is the language of the Holy Spirit. In fact, He was the one who told those who wrote the Bible what to say!

God's Word, the Bible, is also a powerful weapon against the enemy. By memorizing it we store it in our hearts. Then it is there so our faithful Guide can bring it to our mind just when we need to use it against the devil.

Through prayer the Holy Spirit uses our lips to talk with God. Romans 8:26 tells us that we don't know what we should pray for as we should. Prayer is like a foreign language to us. But the Holy Spirit understands God's will and how to pray. It is His native language and He will actually pray for us!

— Sis. Nelda Sorrell



The Gift Giver Continued

We never thought our visit would be getting a home of our own! It was a house much better than I had expected. I thought God might give us a little house that we could add on to. This one was wonderful: four bedrooms, a kitchen, dining and living rooms, laundry room and bath!

A couple weeks after we moved in, the *Gift Giver* brought a sack of groceries for us. He would come every week or so. I got accustomed to hearing a soft tap on the front door, and by the time I got to the door and opened it, he would already be back in his car. He'd wave and drive off. There might be a sack, a box or maybe a houseplant. They were always surprises—toys, material he thought I could sew up, canned food, fresh vegetables or fruit, or whatever he thought we could use.

I found out that many families were also getting surprises from the *Gift Giver*. I learned also that there are many gifts in the body of Christ. One is the *gift of giving*.

Roy Jennings had the gift of giving! Many residents of Guthrie received his gifts. As I became acquainted with others in Guthrie, I found out that many families were also getting surprises from the *Gift Giver*.

—Sis. Charlotte Huskey

Word Unscramble

Unscramble the following words.

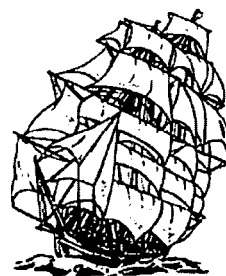
PENTECOST WIND TONGUES FIRE
LANGUAGES PETER PROPHECY HOLY
DEVOUT SPIRIT JERUSALEM

1. EFRI _ _ _ _
2. PRITSI _ _ _ _ _
3. IDNW _ _ _ _
4. RHYPPOEC _ _ _ _ _
5. EOVTUD _ _ _ _ _
6. OYLH _ _ _ _
7. EENOTTSP _ _ _ _ _
8. TPREE _ _ _ _
9. SAMLEEJUR _ _ _ _ _
10. ANGELUGSA _ _ _ _ _
11. GOSNEUT _ _ _ _ _

Answers:

1. Pentecost. 2. Like a mighty rushing wind. 3. Cloven tongues like fire. 4. They began to speak in other languages. 5. Because every man heard the message in his own language. 6. The wonderful works of God. 7. Peter. 8. Joel. 9. Prophecy.

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Teddy's Lifeguard

Come, come," Teddy called to Rover. "I brought you some dog biscuits."

Rover ran to Teddy and licked his hand. He smelled the food and barked, "Thank You."

Teddy put the biscuits in Rover's dish and patted his dog. Then Teddy ran to the garage and got his skateboard. Just then, Teddy's father came home. He parked his big truck in the driveway and went into the house. Teddy put his skateboard on the driveway and began skating. Teddy went round and round the big red truck. Then he went up and down beside it and behind it. Rover ran beside Teddy.

Soon Teddy was going very fast. While very close behind his daddy's big truck the skateboard slipped from under him. Teddy fell on his back. His head hit so hard that it knocked him unconscious.

Rover jumped on Teddy and licked his face. Teddy did not push him away. Rover barked but Teddy did not get up and play with him. Rover knew something was wrong. He went to the front door and barked to call Teddy's mother. She did not come. He went to the back door and barked. No one came to the door. Rover ran back to Teddy and nudged him with his nose, but Teddy did not move. Rover barked and barked at Teddy. He ran again to the front door and barked.

Soon Teddy's dad came out and got in the big

truck. Rover ran to the truck door and jumped on it barking all the while. He was just a little Fox Terrier, so Daddy did not notice him. Dad started the truck without seeing Teddy or Rover. Then Rover dashed to Teddy and stood over him, barking and growling all the while.

Through the rear-view mirror on the truck, Daddy saw Rover behind the truck. He rolled down his window and shouted, "Get out of the way. Get out of the way."

Rover did not move. He barked even louder. "Get out of the way!" Dad shouted again. The truck was rolling slowly backward while Daddy shouted.

Teddy's sister was upstairs. She heard all the barking and came to the window just in time to see Teddy lying flat on the driveway behind the truck.

"Oh, God," she prayed, "Please help Daddy to stop. I can't reach him in time. Please, God Please."

Daddy slammed on his brakes. "I'll show that dog a few things," he muttered as he jumped out of the truck.

Dad ran toward Rover to scare him away—that is when he saw Teddy lying very still behind the big truck.

By this time, Teddy's sister was running out the door. "Look, look! Teddy is..."

Continued on page 4

Our Guide

John 16:13

13) Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.



praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them.

26) And suddenly there was a great earthquake . . .

27) the keeper of the prison . . . would have killed himself . . .

28) .. Paul cried . . . Do thyself no harm: for we are all here.

Romans 8:14

14) For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

29) Then he . . . fell down before Paul and Silas,
30) And . . . said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved?

Acts 10:9, 10, 19, 20

9) . . . Peter went up upon the housetop to pray about the sixth hour:

10) And he became very hungry, and would have eaten: but while they made ready, he fell into a trance,

19) While Peter thought on the vision, the Spirit said unto him, Behold, three men seek thee.

20) Arise therefore, and get thee down, and go with them, doubting nothing: for I have sent them.

Acts 16:9, 10, 19, 20, 22, 23

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

10) And after he had seen the vision, immediately we endeavored to go into Macedonia . . .

19) . . . they caught Paul and Silas . . .

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

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:

Acts 25-30

25) .. at midnight Paul and Silas prayed and sang

The Message:

God has given us a wonderful Guide,
the Holy Spirit.

Questions

1. What will the Spirit of truth do?
2. Who are led by the Spirit of God?
3. Where did Peter go to pray?
4. Who told Peter that three men were looking for him?
5. Who had a vision in the night?
6. Where did the man ask them to come?
7. Where did they take Paul and Silas after they had beaten them?
8. What did Paul and Silas do at midnight?

Memory Verse:

I will instruct thee and teach thee in
the way which thou shalt go: I
will guide thee with mine eye.

Psalms 32:8



Our Guide

During the Civil War, the Union troops needed to get across a range of the Appalachian Mountains before the next day. The commander was unfamiliar with the mountains so he stopped in a village at the foot of the mountains and asked for a guide to lead his men over the high ridge.

News spread from house to house that a guide was needed. Few people were left in the village who had been across the mountains. The men who tackled the mountains were away in the war. Finally they found one boy who knew the mountains well. He was willing to risk his life to be their guide. Calling his troop together, the commander introduced the guide. The boy looked small and incapable to many of the strong soldiers but they were ordered to obey his every command.

"In some places the path is only wide enough for one horse," the boy told the men. "And slipping off the path could mean certain death. Please keep in single file and step to the right or to the left when I say. Pass the word on to the man behind you."

It was dark before the men reached the pass but they had to press on. "Two steps to the right," the little guide called out in the darkness. "Two steps to the right," every man called to his follower. "Three steps to the left," the guide called knowing that ahead the path curved to the left. "Slow and cautious," he called, "the cliff drops off very dangerously!" On through the dark rainy night the army filed along the treacherous path. When the sun shone the next morning they were safely on the



The Word of God and the Holy Spirit are our guides. If we obey their directions they will let us know where to step because they know the dangers that we can not see. We must trust our guides. Some people reason that the Bible doesn't apply to our modern age. They choose their own way and quickly are lost. The Bible is like a road map. We must study it to know the right way to live. The Holy Spirit is a wonderful teacher. He will bring scriptures to your mind which will make it clear which way we should go.

**Then the Spirit will give you
power to obey the
instructions from the
Word and resist doing
wrong.**

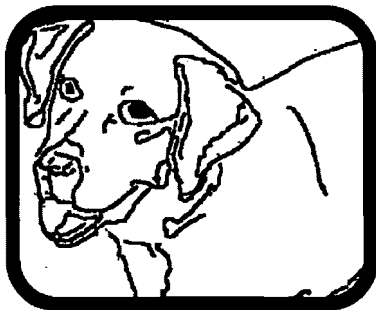
Some instructions in the Bible are very clear, such as, "Thou shalt not kill," or "Thou shalt not steal". However there are other things that are not mentioned specifically. The devil would like to confuse us. But we can turn

to the Holy Spirit at these times. Jesus said He would guide us into all truth.

One day an angel of the Lord told Philip to go to a specific road. There he met the man from Ethiopia. He was reading aloud the words of Isaiah's prophecy of the coming of Jesus. The Spirit told Philip to catch up with the chariot. When he heard what he was reading Philip asked if he understood it. "How can I understand if I have no one to teach me?" the Ethiopian answered. He asked Philip to get into the chariot and explain the scriptures to him. Philip was glad to teach him about Jesus. The man believed and asked to be baptized. When they came up out of the water the Spirit caught Philip away. The man never saw him again but he went on his way rejoicing that he had found Jesus!

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

Teddy's Lifeguard *Continued*



"Teddy, Teddy," Daddy cried as he picked up Teddy's limp body just inches away from the truck's big tires. "Oh, I almost killed you! Rover, you saved Teddy's life!"

Teddy opened his eyes and looked around. "Why are you carrying me?" he asked.

Dad carried Teddy into the house and laid him on the sofa. Then they told Teddy the whole story. After that, they knelt and thanked God for causing Rover to stay by Teddy so Dad didn't run over him with the big heavy truck.

Dad squatted down to pet Rover, but Rover darted away. "I guess Rover showed me a thing or two today instead of me showing him something," he said thankfully.

Animals have no souls yet they show loyalty and kindness to people they love. How much more should people who are created in the image of God do good for others?
—Charlotte Huskey

Our Guide: Word Search

S S S M X J P T N U
V A P A F X A O W A
P D L I N L U U Z G
S P J I R G L H N E
M R M A S I C J G B
S I X L A A T U N R
O S M U E Y I W S H
I O F T M D W D H K
U N P U E W M E J B
Q Y P R A Y Y V Q L
E A R T H Q U A K E
G F M S A M Z S D H
E Q O G U Z G L M P
Y N D L H T U R T T
S K Z K U W G Y D Y

SPIRIT

PRAY

SILAS

SAVED

GUIDE

SANG

EARTHQUAKE

SONS

TRUTH

PAUL

PRISON

TEACH

Answers:

1. Guide you into all truth.
2. The sons of God.
3. On the housetop.
4. The Spirit.
5. Paul.
6. Macedonia.
7. To prison.
8. Prayed and sang praises to God.

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Bible Lessons for Juniors

August 17, 2014

No More Stinky Feet!

“Where are you, Ryan?”

“I’m here, but how did you know Dad brought me home after we were through painting?” Ryan asked.

“It’s very simple,” she answered. “I could smell your feet. I knew you had your shoes off,” Mother chuckled.

“Oh, Mom, it’s not funny to have smelly feet.”

“I’m sorry. I know it’s terrible. Take your socks off. I’d like to take a look at them.”

Ryan sat down on a kitchen chair and yanked off his long white socks. The skin between some of his toes was cracked. Puss oozed from the nail of the big toe on his left foot, and underneath the middle toe hung a blister. Evidence of other blisters showed on his right foot, and the bottoms of both feet were red and the skin peeling.

“My, my, they look terrible, and smell like they are rotting. I didn’t know they were so terrible! We need to be doing all we can and praying for healing. You do believe Jesus heals, don’t you, Ryan?”

Ryan nodded his head “Yes.”

“I’m so sorry we let it get this bad. I have read that athlete’s foot is seldom permanently healed, especially if the toenails are infected. Powders and ointments help the skin to heal but they say it will show up again when conditions get right for it to

grow. Of course, we know God can heal completely.”

“I know He can, and I sure wish He would.” Ryan said as he put on his socks and shoes.

When they arrived at the Pacoima campground on Tuesday afternoon, the boys were playing football on the lawn between the Sunset Guest Home, where Grandma lived, and the Church of God chapel. “Stop, Dad, let me out,” Ryan called opening the door of our Nissan. Off he ran. By suppertime, all the boys were hungry, but not ready to stop. “I wish we could play another hour,” Ryan sighed.

After supper, Ryan hurried to take a shower and change his socks. He didn’t want the guy sitting near him during the worship service to smell his feet. Thursday of the camp meeting was a day of fasting and prayer for the sick. Ryan decided to fast for healing of his feet. After the sermon on God’s plan for healing, an invitation was given for all who wished to be healed to come for prayer. Ryan went forward and sat quietly on the altar bench.

Ashamed to mention his stinky feet, Ryan said only, “I need to be healed.” The ministers prayed for God to heal him.

After service was dismissed, Ryan found his mother working in the kitchen. “There’s nobody here to play with, so I’m going to take a nap,” he told her. “Okay,” she answered, “I’ll be right here.”

Continued on page 4

The Power of Praise

II Chronicles 20:1, 3, 4, 12, 14, 15, 17, 19, 20-22, 24

1) . . . the children of Moab, and the children of Ammon, and with them other beside the Ammonites, came against Jehoshaphat to battle.

3) And Jehoshaphat feared, and set himself to seek the LORD, and proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah.

4) And Judah gathered themselves together, to ask help of the LORD . . .

12) O our God . . . we have no might against this great company that cometh against us; neither know we what to do: but our eyes are upon thee.

14) Then upon Jahaziel . . . came the Spirit of the LORD in the midst of the congregation;

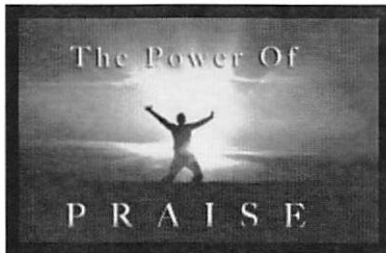
15) And he said . . . Thus saith the LORD unto you, Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God's.

17) Ye shall not need to fight in this battle: set yourselves, stand ye still, and see the salvation of the LORD with you, O Judah and Jerusalem: fear not, nor be dismayed; to morrow go out against them: for the LORD will be with you.

19) And the Levites . . . stood up to praise the LORD God of Israel with a loud voice on high.

20) And they rose early in the morning . . . and as they went forth, Jehoshaphat stood and said, Hear me, O Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem; Believe in the LORD your God, so shall ye be established; believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper.

21) And . . . he appointed singers unto the LORD, and that should praise the beauty of holiness, as they went out before the army, and to say, Praise the LORD; for his mercy endureth for ever.



22) And when they began to sing and to praise, the LORD set ambushments . . . and they were smitten.

24) And . . . they looked unto the multitude, and, behold, they were dead bodies fallen to the earth, and none escaped.

The Message

When the battle is the Lord's, praise and singing are the most powerful weapons!

Questions

1. Who came against Jehoshaphat to battle?
2. Who did Jehoshaphat seek?
3. What did he proclaim throughout all Judah?
4. Why did Judah gather together?
5. "The battle is not yours, but ____."
6. Who stood up to praise the Lord with a loud voice?
7. Who did Jehoshaphat appoint to go before the army?
8. What did the singers say?
9. How many of the enemy soldiers escaped?

Memory Verse

By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name. Hebrews 13:15



One day Jehoshaphat heard that not just one king and his army but three or four were massing their forces together to fight against him! In a matter of a few minutes his situation became desperate. He knew that his little army looked like children compared to all of the mighty warriors coming against them!

In looking at this story we can learn a lesson that teaches us how to get the victory whether we are in a great battle or just facing the problems in our everyday life. It is a wonderful example of the power of praising God and His great ability to save us. He is not limited to traditional methods and often delivers us in surprising ways when we trust Him fully!

Jehoshaphat's approach to his trouble is a good pattern to follow. He was greatly alarmed at the prospects of facing such a dreadful army. He could have gathered his army and weapons and begun intensive drilling on how to defeat the enemy or at least how to survive the attack. But he knew he had no chance against this great enemy.

Only God could help them!

No doubt his first thoughts were, "What do I do?" He made the right choice: he told God all about his great trouble. He had been faithfully serving the Lord, so he set himself to seek His advice as to what he should do. But he didn't stop there. He called all the people together and proclaimed a fast. They would not eat until they knew God had heard their prayer!



As they fasted and prayed, Jehoshaphat reminded the Lord how they had obeyed Him. He reminded Him of His promise to hear if they called to Him when they were in trouble. It is good for us to know the word of God and to be well acquainted with his promises. When we find a promise we can stand on it!

God was pleased that they chose to trust in Him. It wasn't very long before He spoke through a prophet, telling them, "Don't be afraid because of this great multitude. This battle is not yours. I will fight for you!" The Levites were so encouraged and certain of victory that they stood up and began praising the Lord with loud voices right then!

The next morning they got up early to head for the battle. Turning to the singers and those that were praising the Lord so boldly the day before, Jehoshaphat informed them that they would go on in front of the soldiers. They would be the first to face the formidable foe! "Go forward with your trumpets," he may have told them. "Don't worry, the soldiers will be backing you up!"

So the singers took their place in front of the army. Then, as they marched forward singing praise to God for His promise of victory, the enemy began to fight one another! When Jehoshaphat and his army got to the battlefield all they saw were dead bodies—none had escaped!

You, too, face battles daily that you are not strong enough to fight on your own. Like Jehoshaphat you can come to God with confidence when you have been obedient to Him. Then study God's promises. Nail down the one that assures victory in this trial. Now you can praise God, even before the battle, knowing He will not fail to give you a great victory!

—Uncle Dale

No More Stinky Feet! *Continued*

About an hour later Ryan came bursting into the kitchen, "Mother, Mother," he gasped, "Come to the cabin. Come quick I have something to show you."

By the way Ryan acted, Mother knew this was very important, so she followed him. As they walked to the cabin, he said, "When I awoke my feet felt different so I took off my socks, and—and—they're healed! Healed! Do you understand? My feet are well!"

"What?" Mother questioned. It seemed too good to be true.

"My feet, my feet," he gasped again. "There are no cracks, or blisters or peeling skin on my feet. And the stink is gone, too!" Ryan sat down quickly on the cabin bed and jerked off his socks. All signs of the disease were gone! And the smell in the cabin that night was fresh and pleasant.

The following day Ryan stood up and gave a testimony of how God had instantly healed his feet. After service an old brother came over to Ryan.

"Son," he said, "I felt I should give you a little advice on how to take care of athlete's foot."

Ryan scratched his head as he watched the old man hurrying away. "But I don't have athlete's foot, Sir," Ryan wanted to say. "Didn't you hear? God healed my feet! I was healed of athlete's foot, August 29!"

Bible Drill!

The first student to find and write down all of the following verses about the power of praise is the winner!

Psalms 63:3 _____

James 5:13 _____

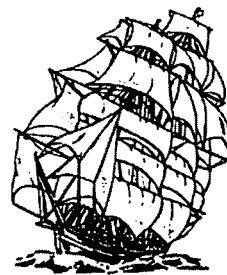
2 Samuel 22:4 _____

Ezra 3:11 _____

Answers:

1. The children of Moab and Ammon. 2. The Lord. 3. A fast. 4. To ask help from the Lord. 5. God's. 6. The Levites. 7. Singers.
8. "Praise the Lord for His mercy endures forever." 9. None.

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Let God Fight for You

"...It hath been said, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth. But I say unto you, that ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right check, turn to him the other also."

Matthew 5:38-39.

"Hallelujah," called Juan, as Rosi was walking home from school with her two friends, Angela and Marie.

"Praise the Lord," added his friend Frank.

Rosi was living in a small town called, La Mission, in Baja California, Mexico. She walked every day to a school across the valley from her home. The priest of the Roman Catholic Church had stirred up some of the people in the village against those he said were starting up another church.

Rosi lived in the same neighborhood as Juan, and she knew the boys were making fun of her because her family were Christians. Just then she remembered a Bible verse which says, "Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God," so she walked on as if she hadn't heard them.

"I wish those boys would leave us alone," said Marie.

"I do too," added Angela. "They have been doing this for a long time!"

"Don't pay attention to them," said Rosi. "They will stop sooner."

The boys didn't stop! They talked to other children and told many things that weren't true about Rosi and her family. Soon almost all of the children at school were making fun of them. Even Rosi's friends stopped walking home with her.

One day, as Rosi and her brother Tim were walking home from school, some children hid behind bushes along the trail where they had to pass. When they passed, the boys threw hard dirt clods and rocks at them. The rocks and clods hurt.

Tim picked up rocks to throw back at the boys, but Rosi whispered, "Don't fight, God will fight for us." Tim threw down the rocks, and they walked on as if they didn't feel the stones. When they were a little ways down the trail, Rosi said, "Remember the Bible people, Steven was stoned so much he died, and Apostle Paul was stoned until his enemies thought he was dead. After they left him, he got up, dusted himself off, and walked away."

"You suppose the stones didn't hurt them, like they do us?" questioned Tim.

"I think they hurt 'cause Paul said he thanked God that he was able to suffer for Jesus."

"I think it was Peter and John after they were thrown in prison who said they were happy to suffer for Jesus," Tim corrected Rosi.

Continued on page 4

How to Treat Our Enemies

Romans 12:9-21

9) Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good.

10) Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another;

11) Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord;

12) Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer;

13) Distributing to the necessity of saints; given to hospitality.

14) Bless them which persecute you: bless, and curse not.

15) Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep.

16) Be of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits.

17) Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men.

18) If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.

19) Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.

20) Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head.

21) Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.

Matthew 5:43-46

43) Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy.

JESUS SAID
LOVE YOUR ENEMIES.
Matthew 5:44

44) But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;

45) That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the

good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.

The Message

Jesus gives us power to return good for evil and make friends of our enemies!

Questions

1. Let ___be without dissimulation .
2. What are you to abhor (hate)?
3. What should you cleave to?
4. What should you do to those who persecute you?
5. Live _____with all men.
6. How can we heap coals on our enemy's head?
7. Be not overcome of _____ but overcome _____ with _____.
8. Love your _____.

Memory Verse

Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good. Romans 12:21



Love for our Enemies

Jesus' love is so strong it can give us a genuine love and concern for the person who has hurt us. It will make us willing to do anything we can to show them we forgive them and care about them. We can't do this on our own; our natural reaction would be to make them suffer. But Jesus can make us able to obey His commandment, "Love your enemies."

The love He gives us will melt all hatred and bring peace. Stephen showed this love by praying for his mur-



derers, "Lord, lay not this sin to their charge."

Saul was there, watching. He wasn't one of those throwing stones, but the Bible says he was "consenting unto his death."

Not long after Stephen was stoned, Saul was on his way to Damascus to arrest any believers that he could find. All of a sudden, just before he got to Damascus, Jesus appeared to him in a dazzling light from heaven. This was the turning point in Saul's life. He repented of his sins and the Lord forgave him. He

The next week Simeon put an ad in the paper that said, "Whoever stole a lot of hides on Friday night, the fifth of this month, is hereby informed that the owner has a sincere wish to be his friend. If he was tempted to do this because he was so poor, the owner will keep the whole thing a secret, and will gladly give him a chance to get money in a way that will be more likely to bring him peace of mind."

This strange advertisement caused a good deal of talk. People wondered if the thief would accept the friendly offer. Some said he would be a fool if he did, because it was plainly just a trap to catch him. But the thief knew who made the kind offer, and he knew Simeon Green was not a man to set traps to catch people.

A few nights later there was a timid knock at Simeon's door. He opened it, and there stood his neighbor, Joe Smith, with a load of

hides on his shoulders. Without looking up he said in a low, humble tone, "I have brought them back, Mr. Green. Where shall I put them?" Simeon said kindly, "Come in, Joe, and tell us how it happened. We will see what we can do to help you." Mary Green knew that Joe did not have enough to eat so she quickly fixed him something. When he and Simeon came back from the barn she said kindly, "I thought a little warm supper would do you good, Mr. Smith."

Joe turned his back to her and said nothing for a moment. Then he exclaimed in a choked voice, "It was the first time I ever stole anything, and I have felt very bad about it. I don't know what made me do it. I did not think at one time that I should ever become what I am. But I began to quarrel and then to drink, and since I began to go down hill everybody gives me a kick. You are the first friends I have found—the only ones who have tried to help me!

Adapted from Stories for the Children's Hour

Let God Fight for You *Continued*

"Maybe so or maybe both of them said the same thing."

They told their mother what had happen. "This has been going on for a long time," she said. "And it's getting worse for now you can hardly be outside in our own yard without someone throwing rocks."

"Yes and they are influencing the kids across the valley against us, and some boys from the orphanage are picking on us now," Tim said.

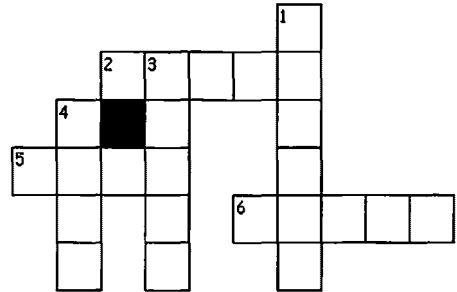
"And that makes no sense, 'cause they are also supposed to be Christians," Rosi added.

That night during family prayer, they prayed earnestly that God would take care of this problem. The following days they took their big dog to school. He would rest outside the school until they were ready to come home. The dog did not harm the mischievous boys at school nor on the way home. However, when the boys throw rocks the dog would chase the boys away by barking and growling at them.

God knew how to solve the problem. One of the flying rocks hit a girl who had been very mean. She told her Mother what the children had been doing. The girl's mother told other mothers that their children were throwing rocks at the nice American family. The rock throwing stopped. The girl who was hit, became one of Rosi's best friends.

—Charlotte Huskey

Love Your Enemies: Crossword Puzzle



Across

2. _____ that which is evil.
5. rejoice in _____.
6. Vengeance is mine, I will _____...

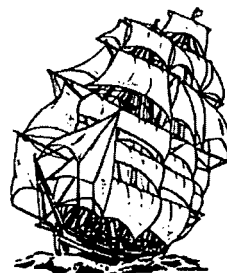
Down

1. ...in honor, _____ one another...
3. _____ them which persecute you.
4. _____ your enemies.

Answers:

1. Love. 2. That which is evil. 3. Good. 4. Bless them. 5. Peaceably. 6. By feeding him when he is hungry and giving him a drink when he is thirsty. 7. Evil, evil, good. 8. Enemies.

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A Surprise Birthday

Wednesday, March 6, two weeks after we moved to Baja California, Mexico.

"Mommy," said Bobby, as he was dressing for bed. "I'll be six years old tomorrow. Are things ready for my party?"

All through the day I had been wondering how I would explain to Bobby that there was absolutely no money for a cake or present for his birthday.

"Honey, I am very sorry but we have not been able to get you a present—

"Is my birthday going to be worse than this last Christmas? Why can't things be as they used to be when we had fun birthdays, picnics at Stony Creek Park and Christmas with everybody? I don't like moving away from everyone—" He began sobbing.

I sat down on the bunk bed beside him. I put my arms around him, and he laid his head on my lap. I also remembered those good times in Orland, California.

Finally, Bobby stopped sobbing and looked up. "You will make me a cake won't you? And I can invite Lalo and Juan to eat with me?"

I prayed to myself- *Oh, Lord, how can I tell him, that I have no sugar, eggs or butter to make a cake?*

"Why don't you answer me?" Bob questioned.

"You are going to make me a cake, aren't you?"

I hurled our pillows to the other end of the pallet. "I'm sorry, Bob, but I have no sugar, butter nor eggs with which to make a cake. Lay down and I will tell you a story."

"I don't want to hear a story." He pushed me away.

I slipped out into the kitchen and put on my pajamas, then sat down cross-legged on the pallet. I couldn't talk for crying, so we sat in silence. The rain was falling in torrents outside. Cold wind blew into the little room through cracks around the door and windows. The fire in the round heating stove in the corner of the room had died down in order to save the scant wood supply. "Come on, get under the cover," I pleaded.

He did, then looked up at me and asked. "Are you sure God sent us here?"

"I think He did. Your dad fasted and prayed three days before he decided this was the place God wanted us. Things can't always be as we would like. We have food to eat and are free out of the cold rain. God will supply for us. Remember God sent a raven each day with food for Elijah. Elijah, too, may have wished for different food than what the raven brought. We may not always like what God does but remember, He knows best." Bobby wiped his eyes and said softly, "Okay."

Continued on page 4

Jesus, Son of the Living God

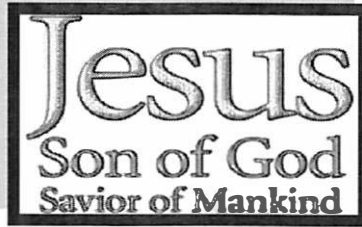
Matthew 16:13-16

13) ..Jesus .. asked his disciples, saying, Whom do men say that I the Son of man am?

14) And they said, Some say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets.

15) He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am?

16) And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.



my people.

Colossians 3:1, 3

1) If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.

3) For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.

The Message

True joy and power come from Jesus, the Son of the living God, living and ruling in our hearts.

John 6:66-69

66) From that time many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him.

67) Then said Jesus unto the twelve, Will ye also go away?

68) Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life.

69) And we believe and are sure that thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God.

Galatians 2:20

20) I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

Questions

1. What did Jesus ask His disciples?
2. Who did people think Jesus was?
3. Who did Peter say He was?
4. Who had revealed this to Peter?
5. When many people quit following Him, what did Jesus ask the twelve?
6. Peter told Jesus, "Thou hast the words of _____."
7. "Ye are the _____ of the _____ God."
8. Who said He would dwell in them and walk in them?
9. Your life is hid with _____ in God.

Memory Verse

... Christ liveth in me ... Galatians 2:20

1 John 4:15

15) Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God.

2 Corinthians 6:16

16) . . . for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my



Jesus Lives in Me

God made man in His own image. He desired him to be a habitation of His own Spirit. Man became a living soul when God breathed His breath of life into him.

When Jesus lived as a man on earth, God anointed Him with the Holy Spirit and gave Him power. Through this power He went about doing good, freeing people from the bondage of the devil and healing the sick. God was with Him. Even when the chief religious leaders turned against Him, Jesus was able to say, "The Father has not left me alone because I always do those things that please Him."

God's purpose for us is that we should be like Jesus in every way. He sent Jesus to first redeem us from the awful power of the devil and then to be an example for us to follow. This is the highest goal we can ever achieve in life.

But the most wonderful fact is that Jesus actually comes to live in our heart. He knows what is pleasing to God and will work that out in our life! So then, it is not by our own effort that we become like Jesus. When we abandon ourselves entirely to Him, He will come in and make our whole life brand new. He will give us His pure mind and thoughts. We will speak as He directs.

Paul described this life by saying "... I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I

God, who loved me, and gave himself for me." To know that Jesus actually lives in your heart gives you power to say "No!" to the devil when he tempts you to sin or be selfish. You can boldly tell him, "Jesus lives in me!"

A minister and his family moved to a new place. Their little boy came in after the first afternoon of play and told his mother, "Oh, Mother, I have found such a lovely, good little girl to play with here! I never want to move again."

"I am very glad," the mother replied happily. "What is the little girl's name?"

"Oh," the child answered, suddenly becoming very sober, "I think her name is Jesus!"

"Why, Frank!" the shocked mother replied,

"What do you mean?"

"Well, Mother," he answered matter-of-factly. "She was so lovely that I do not know what she could be called but Jesus!"

Is your life so Christ-like that others would think this of you? When Jesus lives

in your heart, His gentleness, sweetness, and loving submission to the will of God will be evident in the way you live every day!

Others saw Jesus as just another one of the great prophets. They soon left Jesus. But Peter knew that Jesus was Christ, the Son of the Living God. He was the only one who could lead them to eternal life. He would never leave him!

We can draw great strength and comfort from knowing that Jesus is with us no matter what situation we find ourselves in. Even in dangerous and threatening places we can be confident and calm. How wonderful to know "Christ lives in me!"

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell



The Surprise Birthday Continued

"Try to go to sleep now," I whispered and kissed him. "I hear the car so Daddy is here." I covered my head so Bobby couldn't see me crying. I could hear him sobbing until he went to sleep. James wrapped himself in a quilt and sat down on the pallet at my feet and began reading the Bible. I never moved but I could hear him reading.. He prayed awhile quietly, then got under the covers and was soon snoring. I turned from side to side until I finally fell into a restless sleep. Sometime later we awoke to loud knocking on the front door. "Jaime! Jaime!" someone was shouting.

"It must be Bro. Smith," I said.

"Ah, you're dreaming," James, answered. But he realized it was true when he heard the familiar voice of Harland Smith. He jumped up and jerked open the door and shouted, "Get in here out of that rain."

"I hated to come in on you so late, but I started as soon as I got off work. It rained hard all the way, so I couldn't drive very fast. How is everyone?" he asked, as he handed James some letters. "There are more boxes in the pick-up. Tomorrow I'll bring them in." The minute I heard Bro. Smith's voice I knew God had sent help. "Oh, God, please forgive my unbelief!" I cried. Before the children awoke, the men had unloaded the boxes. There were two gifts for Bobby, one from Rada, another from Mary Ellen. Another box was full of groceries. It contained cans of evaporated milk for Rosi, a box of cake mix, eggs,

and confection sugar for frosting. I lay the beautifully wrapped gifts on the bed beside Bobby. Then I bent over, kissed him and said. "Wake up, Bobby. It's your birthday! Go invite Lalo and Juan to share your cake."

—Charlotte Huskey

Matching: Match the following verses about our living Savior to their reference.

I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.

John 11:25

Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live

Galatians 2:20

I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me:

Colossians 3:4

When Christ, *who is* our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.

Revelation 1:8

Answers:

1. Who do men say that I am? 2. John the Baptist, Elias, Jeremias or one of the other prophets. 3. Christ, the Son of the living God. 4. God. 5. "Will ye also go away?" 6. Eternal, life. 7. Temple, living. 8. God. 9. Christ.

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The Best Gift

Jon shuddered every time he heard the students talking about the Harvest Festival. He was homeless. He slept in a widow's shed and shared her meager supply of food. She had persuaded the Christian school to accept Jon although she could not pay his tuition. She insisted that he went every day. Unlike the other children who dressed in fine clothes, Jon went barefoot and wore old clothes.

When Harvest Festival day arrived, Jon wanted to skip school, but he feared the widow might get angry and send him away. She always found out when he missed school, and always knew when he was pretending sick, so on Harvest Day he went although he had nothing to give. That morning, every student carried a sack Jon wondered what could be in the sacks. Jon snuck sadly into the schoolroom and pretended to be looking at a book while the other children chattered excitedly about the day.

When the bell rang, the students placed their sacks under their desks and scrambled into their seats. Mr. Groom, the teacher, started the class with prayer, as he did every day. As he prayed, he stressed how important it was to give a gift to God. Jon squeezed back a tear. In the afternoon, the bell rang announcing the Harvest Festival. Students from all the rooms filed into the church sanctuary and sat in groups according to their class. Jon lingered behind hoping he could sneak outside.

When he went in, he was happy to see that his class was sitting close to the front. He could better see what was happening. Large baskets of flowers stood at each end of a low wooden bench. On the bench was a shiny silver plate. Jon gazed in wonder; he had never seen the church so beautiful. The pastor led the children singing "The Harvest Song". Then he announced, "We have brought gifts for God to show we love Him and are thankful. The older students will present their gifts first."

The older students' teacher stood up and called a name. Jon slid to the front of his seat and watched. A student walked forward and placed a sack of pears in the large shiny plate on the altar. All the other students clapped. Then the pastor took the pears from the plate and placed them behind the bench. The student returned to his seat and the teacher called another name.

Jon's heart grew heavier and heavier as each student went forward and laid a gift in the large silver plate. Now Mr. Groom was calling names from his class. Sarah went up carrying a large orange pumpkin, "I grew it myself," she proudly told Mr. Groom. Jon's heart raced. He slipped way down in his seat.

Then Rachel went forward carrying a striped watermelon. M-m-m, it looked so good! Jon began to cry. He just couldn't help it.

Continued on page 4

The Gifts of God

John 4:10

10) Jesus answered and said unto her, If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water.



Psalms 103:2-5

- 2) Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:
- 3) Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases;
- 4) Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender

mercies;

Acts 2:38

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

Romans 6:23

23) For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

James 1:17

17) Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

Psalms 127:2

2) It is vain for you to rise up early, to sit up late, to eat the bread of sorrows: for so he giveth his beloved sleep.

Psalms 136:25

25) Who giveth food to all flesh: for his mercy endureth for ever.

Ecclesiastes 2:26

26) For God giveth to a man that is good in his sight wisdom, and knowledge, and joy . . .

The Message

David said he would get up at midnight to thank the Lord—there just wasn't enough time in the day to thank Him!

Questions

1. What kind of water does God give?
2. Peter told the people to repent and be baptized that they could receive what gift?
3. The gift of God is _____ life.
4. Every good and perfect gift cometh from _____.
5. He giveth His beloved _____.
6. What three things does God give to a man that is good in His sight?
7. We should bless the Lord and not forget all His _____.
8. Who _____ thine iniquities;
9. Who healeth thy _____.

Memory Verse

Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with benefits, even the God of our salvation. Psalm 68:19



God expresses His great love for us through the many blessings and gifts He gives us every day. Every breath we breathe, every moment we live is a gift from Him. As David said, He loads us with benefits daily! When God gives a gift it is perfect and good; it will always enrich our lives and draw us closer to Him.

Sleep is a precious gift God gives to those He loves. He made us and knows our bodies need sleep. It is easy to take these blessings for granted until we suffer the loss of them.

Wisdom, the ability to learn and obtain knowledge how to conduct our lives safely and successfully, comes from God. It is His mercy when we realize that we need His wisdom. Then He tells us to just ask and He will give us all we need; He won't even scold us for being so foolish!

Joy and peace come when our heart is in tune with God; when He is living in us and directing our life. We face life confidently knowing He is our Guide and Protector. When the devil comes like a roaring lion he has to back off when he sees we are in God's care. We may lose courage sometime because there is trouble everywhere we look. But God promises to give power to the faint!

Jesus calmly told Peter to put up his sword when he tried to keep Jesus from being taken by the soldiers in the Garden. We must learn, like Peter, to rely on God's strength instead of our own. The Bible says that those who wait on the Lord will renew their strength. Then they can soar over trouble

like an eagle. We draw our strength from God; He will never lose His power.

God gave the dearest, most priceless gift He had when He sent Jesus to earth to save us from our sins.

He knew the suffering and agony it would cost His only Son whom He loved. Yet this was what it would cost to break the power of the devil and release us from his control. God loved us so much He gave His Son to save us!

Jesus' one purpose was to show us the love and good will of God, our Father. He went about doing good, healing the sick and helping the poor, yet this was not His ultimate goal. He wanted us to have eternal life; He wanted us to live in heaven with Him forever. Our eternal life cost Him His natural life; we could live only if He died!



Jesus sat on the side of a well one day while the disciples went into a city to buy food for lunch. Soon a woman came to draw water. She was surprised when Jesus spoke to her. Obviously He was a Jew. She knew that Jews hated her people, the Samaritans. When she questioned why

He asked her for a drink He told her about the wonderful gift God wanted to give her—living water. At first she thought He meant literal water. She was ready to accept the gift at once. It would be wonderful to never have to come draw water out of this well again!

But Jesus spoke of something much more wonderful—eternal life. She and many others in her city accepted this gift. When they repented and accepted Jesus as their Savior He was like an artesian well that never runs dry. He flooded their hearts with joy, peace, and power to live above sin. Their lives were wonderfully changed by this great gift from God!

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

The Best Gift *Continued*

"Oh, God," he prayed. "I have no gift to take up. Could you make Mr. Groom not call me? But I love you, Jesus, it's just . . ."

Then God seemed to whisper in his ear, "My son, just give yourself. That is the gift I want from you today."

"What? I have a gift? Yes, I will," he mumbled.

When Mr. Groom called his name, Jon slipped out of his seat and walked down the aisle to the altar. He reached for the shiny silver plate and placed it on the floor. Then he stepped into the silver plate with his bare feet. The other students snickered. Some covered their mouths to keep from laughing aloud. However, Jon looked seriously into the eyes of the pastor for a moment. Then he stepped out of the plate, placed it back on the altar, and returned to his seat. No one clapped until the pastor began clapping.

After the service, the pastor asked Jon why he had done such a strange thing.

"I also wanted to give a gift to show Jesus that I am thankful, but I had nothing, so I gave Him myself. Don't you think that is a good gift?"

"Of course it is. It is the best gift of all."

—Charlotte Huskey

The Best Gift: Fill in the Blank

Hast thou not _____? hast thou not _____, *that* the _____ God, the LORD, the _____ of the _____ of the earth, _____ not, neither is _____? *there is* no searching of his _____.

He giveth _____ to the _____; and to *them that have* no _____ he _____ strength.

Even the _____ shall faint and be _____, and the _____ men shall utterly _____:

But they that _____ upon the LORD shall _____ *their* _____; they shall mount up with _____ as _____; they shall _____, and not be weary; *and* they shall _____, and not _____. Clue: Isaiah 40:28-31

Answers:

1. Living water. 2. The Holy Ghost. 3. Eternal.
4. From God. 5. Sleep. 6. Wisdom, knowledge and joy. 7. Benefits. 8. Forgiveness. 9. Diseases.

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Bible Lessons for Juniors

September 14, 2014

Free at Last!

Every evening before going to bed, my family gathered in the living room to worship God. After singing several hymns, Daddy read a portion from the Bible and explained it so we children could understand it.

Mamma and Daddy's consistent Christian life made the presence of God felt in every room of our home. I felt God's convicting spirit when I did wrong. I felt His blessings when I acted right. They often cautioned us to clean our conscience daily.

"Let not the sun go down on your wrath," (Ephesians 4:26) they quoted. Therefore, almost every evening someone would apologize for misbehavior. I often apologized for sassing Mamma. Sometimes I would ask Lois to forgive me for teasing her until I made her angry. Once in awhile Jim would apologize for making me angry.

Sometimes, after I had apologized and prayed, I would feel afraid when I went upstairs into the darkness that if I died in the night I would go to hell. It usually happened on stormy nights when the tree outside the windows cast ugly shadows over my bed and made clawing noises on the windowpane. I imagined Satan trying to get in and carry me away from our holy peaceful home.

If I lay awake in this fearful mood for a long time, I would often sneak out of bed, go downstairs, and kneel beside Mamma's bed. When she awoke, I'd have her pray for me to be saved. After

some tears, I would return to the eerie sounds and creepy shadows and go right to sleep. However, in a month or so, the same thing would happen again. After at least a year of being awakened every month or so to pray with me, Mamma began to confront me with scripture.

"If we confess our sins he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness," (1 John 1:9). Mamma quoted. "He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy." (Proverbs 28:13). Dink, (my nickname) I think you are hiding some sin. Therefore, you are still guilty and feel afraid. God will forgive and set you free from fear of going to hell when you confess all your sins."

I burst into uncontrollable sobbing. I was shaking like a leaf in a storm. I opened my mouth but not a squeak came out. I just kept crying.

Daddy was awake now and said, "Get control of yourself and speak up." Daddy disciplined himself and expected the same from his children.

I wanted to obey him, but how could I confess a sin I had denied for two years? I just grunted.

"Just give her time, Alvin," Mamma said. "Go on back to sleep. You have a hard day of work tomorrow."

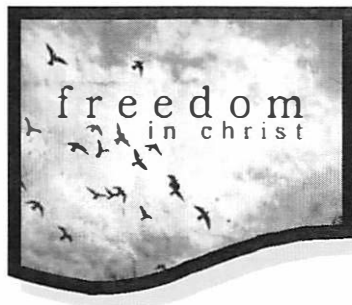
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Freedom!

John 3:16-17

16) For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

17) For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.



James 1:25

25) But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.

John 8:32, 36

32) And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

36) If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.

Romans 6:16-18, 22; 8:1, 2

16) Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

17) But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you.

18) Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.

22) But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.

1) There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

2) For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.

Galatians 5:1

1) Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.

The Message

We cannot be truly free until we are free from sin. Only Jesus can give you such freedom.

Questions

1. Who gave His only begotten Son?
2. Who will have everlasting life?
3. Why did God send His Son into the world?
4. "Ye shall know the _____ and the _____ shall make you free."
5. Who can make you free indeed?
6. How do we become servants of God?
7. What will we have in the end?
8. What law did Jesus free us from?
9. _____ in the liberty where-with Christ hath made us free.

Memory Verse

If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed. John 8:36



Our nation celebrates July 4th as its Independence Day because on that day in 1776 the Declaration of Independence was signed in Philadelphia. This announced to the rest of the world that the colonies were now free and independent from Great Britain. They were free to set up their own government. The founding fathers called this new nation the United States of America. Since they had won their freedom from Great Britain they no longer had to obey British laws. Great Britain no longer had the power to tax and oppress the new nation.

It is wonderful to be free! Freedom allows us to make the decisions that are best for our situation. It gives us the power to reach our full potential. In other words, being free means we choose instead of having others dictate what we can or cannot do.

Residents of the United States tend to take freedom for granted. They have never lived under the tyranny of dictators who completely control their lives and choices. Those who come to the free world after living in such bondage have a true appreciation of their newfound liberty and the many advantages it gives them. Many are willing to even risk their lives to escape to a free country such as ours. When a man becomes a slave he loses the power to govern himself; he can't make his own choices but must do as his master tells him. Freedom is the deepest need of man's nature. The Bible explains that freedom from sin, is one of the greatest privileges of the child of God. Only after we are free from sin can we become all that

God intended for us to be.

God created man in His own image—free from sin. But when Adam and Eve disobeyed God, their sin separated them from God and Satan took control. Because of their disobedience, man's very nature became sinful.

Adam and Eve were driven out of the beautiful Garden of Eden. God could no longer come to talk with them in the cool of the evening. Now Adam had to work hard just to feed his family. Eve had sorrow and pain that she would never have known if she had not sinned. Cain, her oldest son, killed his brother Abel because he was jealous of him. There was a dreadful change in their lives. They soon found out how awful it was to be a slave to Satan!

Sin is an evil power. It rules over man and takes away his power to obey God's commandments. It makes him a slave of the devil.

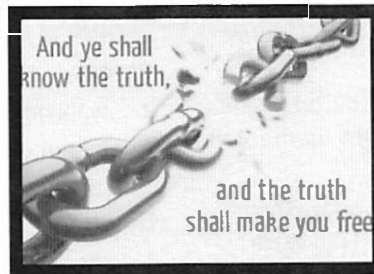
It grieved God when sin came into man's heart. He was not willing to leave men in such bondage. John 3:16 tells us that He loved the world so much He gave His only begotten Son so that anyone who believed on

Him would be made free; he would have everlasting life.

So, by the death of Christ, we, as believers, are made entirely free from the devil's control. He has no more power over us! We might say then that the gospel is our Declaration of Independence! Through the good news of the gospel we are free to do what we, as God's children, would gladly do--serve God. Understanding this freedom reveals the power of the life that the grace of God has prepared for us.

Jesus brought us the good news that we can be free from the slavery of sin. Because of Him we can choose to live pure, holy lives.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell



Free At Last! *Continued*

I waited until I thought Daddy was asleep then I said, "Mamma, you remember when Mr—Mr. — down at the corner store —. Remember when he told Jim that I had stolen a sack of candy?"

"Yes."

"Well, I—I—I—did steal it."

"You did? I'm really surprised you fooled your Daddy. No one fools him."

"I did that time. I never did before nor haven't since."

"I can hardly imagine you have carried that guilt for two years. I know now that is why you have been so afraid. However, you have admitted it. Now ask God to forgive you and then we'll make things right with Mr.—Mr.—I can't remember his name but I think your Daddy can. Tomorrow we'll write him a letter and send him the money. Let's pray now."

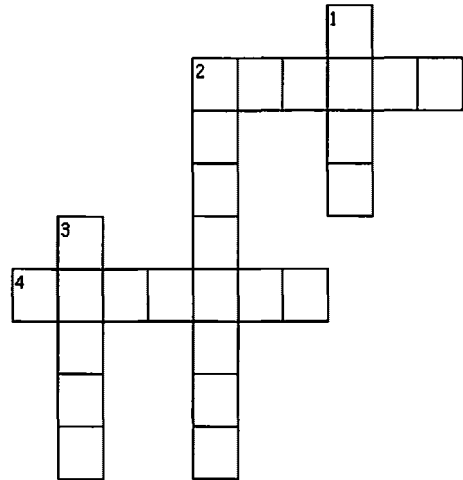
After I confessed my hidden sin to God, the fearful feeling was gone. I was free! I flew up the stairs into the darkness without fear.

The following day we sent the money. Then Mamma put me to work earning it. I did extra housework for a whole week. I was so happy to be free that the work didn't seem hard.

I was eight years old when I found that personal relationship with Jesus, and it is still good today.

—Charlotte Huskey

Freedom in Christ: Crossword Puzzle



Across

2. ...walk not after the flesh, but after the _____.
4. ...be not entangled again with the yoke of _____.

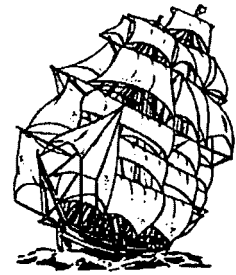
Down

1. ...the truth shall make you _____.
2. ...ye became ____ of righteousness.
3. For God so loved the _____.

Answers:

1. God 2. Those who believe on Jesus (the Son). 3. To save the world.
4. Truth, truth. 5. The Son (Jesus). 6. By being made free from sin. 7.
Everlasting life. 8. The law of sin and death. 9. Stand fast.

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Bible Lessons for Juniors

September 21, 2014

She'll Be All Right!

"What a cute little red-head," Dr. Rollins said, as he examined our six-week old baby girl. He peeked into her ears and eyes; he looked carefully over her chest, legs, arms and back. Then placing his stethoscope over her heart, he listened to her heart beat.

I noticed a puzzling frown come over his face. He raised up and looked around the room with a far away questioning look. Then, bending over again, he moved the stethoscope over her chest, listening carefully after each move. "This is odd," he mumbled. Then turning the baby over he listened to her heart beat from her back.

I held my anxiety as long as I could, "What is wrong with my baby?" I questioned.

"She has a severe heart murmur," he explained. "I can't believe I missed recognizing this when she was born. How has she acted?"

"She cries when I lay her down," I answered. "At first I thought she just felt insecure. She sleeps well while being held. After several sleepless nights, I found that propping her crib at a 45 degree angle, she slept very well."

"Keep doing what you have been doing," he said. "I'll want to check her again Monday. Be sure and bring your husband along. I'll need to talk with both of you."

condition life-threatening? Dr. Rollins had been so mysteriously quiet, and I, too fearful to ask questions. Had God given me a baby which He planned to shortly take away? Would she be sickly and unable to run and play with her sister and two brothers? The appointment the following Monday answered some of my questions. After another lengthy examination, Dr. Rollins told us, "A valve in your baby's heart is not closing when it should. She will need surgery. However, performing heart surgery is very difficult for such a tiny baby. It is much better to wait, if possible, until a baby is at least two years old.

The surgery is also very expensive, but it will not cost you. I have arranged to have it done at the Crippled Children's Hospital in San Francisco. There is an excellent heart specialist in Chico who will examine your baby and advise as to whether she can wait two years, or will need something done sooner. He can see you on Wednesday morning at ten o'clock."

The nurse handed me little Rosi. I clutched her tightly as my husband, James, and the doctor talked. We drove home in silence. I was having a conversation with God.

"Will you trust me to do the best in your life?" God questioned.

"But Lord, you know how much I love my baby," I answered.

Continued on page 4

Serving the Living God!

Daniel 6:16-27

16) Then the king commanded, and they brought Daniel, and cast him into the den of lions. Now the king spake and said unto Daniel, Thy God whom thou servest continually, he will deliver thee.

17) And a stone was brought and laid upon the mouth of the den . . .

18) Then the king went to his palace, and passed the night fasting . . .

19) Then the king arose very early in the morning, and went in haste unto the den of lions.

20) And when he came to the den, he cried with a lamentable voice unto Daniel: and the king spake and said to Daniel, O Daniel, servant of the living God, is thy God, whom thou servest continually, able to deliver thee from the lions?

21) Then said Daniel unto the king, O king, live for ever.

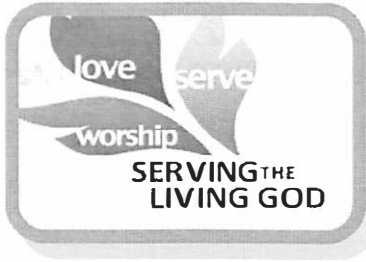
22) My God hath sent his angel, and hath shut the lions' mouths, that they have not hurt me . . .

23) Then was the king exceeding glad for him, and commanded that they should take Daniel up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no manner of hurt was found upon him, because he believed in his God.

24) And the king commanded, and they brought those men which had accused Daniel, and they cast them into the den of lions . . . and the lions . . . brake all their bones in pieces or ever they came at the bottom of the den.

25) Then king Darius wrote . . .

26) I make a decree, That in every dominion of my kingdom men tremble and fear before the God of Daniel: for he is the living God, and stedfast for ever, and his kingdom that which shall not be de-



stroyed, and his dominion shall be even unto the end.

27) He delivereth and rescueth, and he worketh signs and wonders in heaven and in earth, who hath delivered Daniel from the power of the lions.

The Message

Our highest honor is to serve the living God!

Questions

1. Where did they put Daniel?
2. Who said God would deliver him?
3. What did they put over the mouth of the den?
4. How did the king pass the night?
5. What did the king do the next morning?
6. What did he ask Daniel?
7. Why didn't the lions hurt Daniel?
8. What did they do with the men who accused Daniel?
9. Who said that the God of Daniel is the living God?

Memory Verse

**... Thy God whom thou servest continually, he will deliver thee.
Daniel 6:16**



King Darius could see a great difference between Daniel and his other chief men. He could depend on Daniel to carry out his orders and have his work done in good time. Naturally when he needed someone to fill a more responsible position he thought of Daniel and promoted him. Soon Daniel was first of all the presidents and princes of the kingdom. The other chief men became jealous. They watched Daniel closely to find some fault that they could report to the king. But the closer they watched the more they saw how perfectly he served the king. These men knew that Daniel prayed to his God three times every day without fail. They devised a plan that would surely destroy Daniel. Going to the king they told him that all the presidents, governors, princes, counselors and the captains had met and decided that a new law should be made. This law would state that whoever asked a petition of any God or man for thirty days, except of the king, would be thrown into the den of lions and destroyed. King Darius must have been caught off guard; he foolishly signed the new law.

Soon Daniel heard about the new law. But this did not change his service to God. Faithfully, three times a day, Daniel opened his window toward Jerusalem, kneeled down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to God as he always had. The other chief men were watching. As soon as they saw Daniel on his knees they rushed to inform King Darius. As soon as he heard how Daniel had been trapped, the king

realized it had been foolish to sign the law. He worked feverishly, trying every way he knew how to deliver Daniel from his awful fate. But he could find no way. At sundown the chief men came reminding him that the law could not be changed—it must be executed.

Sorrowfully the king called for Daniel. As Daniel was about to be thrown down into the den of lions the king told him, "Thy God whom you serve continually, He will deliver you!" A stone was put over the mouth of the den and the king put his seal on it.

King Darius couldn't sleep that night. He refused to eat or listen to music to soothe him. All night he thought of Daniel down there among the hungry lions. Very early the next morning he hurried to the den of lions and called out pitifully, "O

Daniel, servant of the living God, is your God, whom you serve continually, able to deliver you from the lions?"

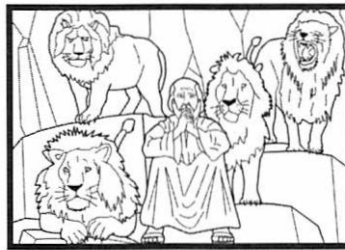
Then, to the king's joy and amazement he heard Daniel's voice! Quickly he commanded men to pull Daniel up from the den. They were astonished—Daniel had not been hurt at all!

"My God sent His angel and shut the lions' mouths," Daniel explained.

Then King Darius made another law. It said that everyone in his kingdom should fear and tremble before the God of Daniel. "For He is the living God!" he declared.

Paul was writing to you and me when he said, "You are the temple of the living God!" (2 Corinthians 6:16) It is important that we know and always remember this. Because He is the living God He will never die; He is the same now as He was in Daniel's time. You can be certain that if you give your life to God as Daniel did and serve Him faithfully He will never fail you!

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell



She'll Be All Right! *Continued*

"And you know that I love her too, and that I know the future," He answered. All the way home God and I talked. Finally, I said, "Yes, Lord. She is yours. I will trust your way and wisdom."

That night after the other children were asleep, we decided to call the saints to have a day of fasting and prayer for her healing. We telephoned my parents, James' father, Bro. Stover, pastor of the Guthrie congregation, and many other saints. We asked them to fast and pray with us on Tuesday about this problem.

Wednesday, we took Rosi to the heart specialist. He examined her thoroughly and tested her using different equipment. When he finished, he said, "I don't think you have anything to worry about. This child has a very, very slight heart murmur."

"How shall I care for her?" I asked.

"Care for her like you would any other baby. We want her to be normal. Just watch for anything unusual, like fingernails or lips turning blue, that is, unless she is cold. After she is older, any blueness after running would be a reason to have her checked again. Otherwise, just take her home and enjoy her! She'll be all right."

We walked out of his office very conscious that God had performed another miracle, just as He did when He lived on the earth.

—Charlotte Huskey

Serving the Living God: Word Search

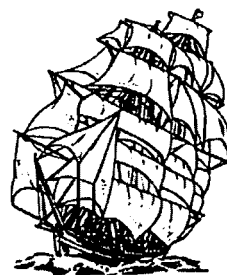
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B E X S H S D J E I A Z Y Q C
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L A W J M W W O D L M B S O S
R I P I D D A N I E L H W E R
N C I C B D E S U K E H A H C

DANIEL	LIONS	KING
MORNING	PRAY	THREE
DELIVER	POWER	HEAVEN
EARTH	LAW	DEN

Answers:

1. Into the den of lions. 2. The king. 3. A stone. 4. In fasting. 5. Hurried to the den of lions. 6. "Is thy God able to deliver thee from the lions?" 7. God sent an angel that shut their mouths. 8. Threw them into the den of lions. 9. King Darius.

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Bible Lessons for Juniors

September 28, 2014

Saved by a Dream

James and I had moved into the old Huskey home on Chapman Street in Orland, California. The Huskey family was living there when their mother died in a head-on car accident with a drunk driver. About two years later, after the children were gone from home, Grandpa Patrick Huskey sold the house.

Those who bought the old home place had failed to pay the payments, so the bank owned the house. The banker knew James and the reason the family had sold their home. He got in touch with James and offered us the house if we could pay the delinquent payments. We had saved every extra penny, so we had the money. We paid the payments, signed the papers, and the home was ours. It was a little two-bedroom house but we were very happy to have our own home.

Grandpa Huskey stayed with us sometimes. Later James' sister, Esther, came to live with us just before we moved out of the little house. At this time, Bobby was our only child. Every evening before going to bed we had family worship. Esther hadn't come yet but Grandpa was with us. On this particular evening, he read a scripture and explained it, then each of us prayed. We always asked God to protect us through the night.

After prayer, we went to bed as usual. During the night, the Lord gave me a dream. I dreamed that Bobby, James, Grandpa, and I were going up a very pretty road that led to heaven.

I knew we were going to heaven, but I never thought that we would have to die before we could enter. We came so near to heaven that we could hear music from inside the city. I love to sing, so I began singing with those inside heaven. I woke myself up singing.

When I became fully awake, I smelled a strong odor. I lay there a moment thinking of the beautiful dream and wondering about the strange odor. I soon realized it was the same odor I smelled when lighting the oven of our little cook stove. "The oven must have been left on and not lit," I thought.

I rushed quickly into the kitchen and found, not the oven, but a stove burner that was not lit but was open all the way. Quickly I turned it off and threw open the back door. Then I rushed to open the front door. Next, I checked the room where Grandpa and Bobby were asleep. It was also filled with gas. By now, everyone was awake. We opened windows also and breathed the fresh air. Then we all got down on our knees and thanked God for protecting us. We thanked him for giving me the dream and waking me up before we had suffocated. Some may think I overreacted but several years later, when we were missionaries in Mexico, a family died in their sleep by gas fumes suffocation. Only one younger boy and a family friend did not die. (The family went to sleep and never awoke.) I'm sure God spared our lives because He had work for us to do.

— Charlotte Huskey

Remember

Ecclesiastes 12:1

- 1) Remember now thy Creator
in the days of thy youth,
while the evil days come
not, nor the years draw
nigh, when thou shalt say, I
have no pleasure in them;



I Corinthians 4:17

17 For this cause have I sent
unto you Timotheus, who is my
beloved son, and faithful in the
Lord, who shall bring you into
remembrance of my ways
which be in Christ, as I teach
every where in every church.

Psalms 20: 7; 63:4-7; 103:17-18

- 7) Some trust in chariots, and some in horses: but
we will remember the name of the LORD our God.
4) Thus will I bless thee while I live: I will lift up my
hands in thy name.
5) My soul shall be satisfied as with marrow and
fatness; and my mouth shall praise thee with joyful
lips:
6) When I remember thee upon my bed, and medi-
tate on thee in the night watches.
7) Because thou hast been my help, therefore in the
shadow of thy wings will I rejoice.
17) But the mercy of the LORD is from everlasting
to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his
righteousness unto children's children;
18) To such as keep his covenant, and to those that
remember his commandments to do them.

Nehemiah 4:14

14) And I looked, and rose up, and said unto the
nobles, and to the rulers, and to the rest of the peo-
ple, Be not ye afraid of them: remember the Lord,
which is great and terrible, and fight for your breth-
ren, your sons, and your daughters, your wives, and
your houses.

Jonah 2:7

7) When my soul fainted within me I remembered
the LORD: and my prayer came in unto thee, into
thine holy temple.

The Message

**Remember God NOW while you are
young. This will protect you from
evil and assure
you a blessed and prosperous life.**

Questions

1. Who should we remember?
2. When should we remember Him?
3. Whose name should we remember?
4. How long does the mercy of the Lord extend?
5. This mercy is upon them that ____ Him.
6. What did Jonah do when his soul faint-
ed?
7. Who should not keep silence?
8. Who did Paul send to bring the church
into remembrance?

Memory Verse

**Remember now thy Creator
in the days of thy youth . . .
Ecclesiastes 12:1**



Solomon, who wrote "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth," was the wisest man who ever lived, so we should consider what he says. When Solomon was young he loved the Lord and worshiped Him. Out of all David's sons, God chose Solomon to be king when David died.

One night after Solomon had first become king, the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Ask what I shall give thee." Young Solomon answered humbly, "I am but a little child. I don't know how to govern this great people. Give me an understanding heart to judge your people so that I may discern between good and bad."

God was so pleased, he told Solomon, "Because you asked for wisdom instead of long life, riches, or power over your enemies I will give you your desire and all the others also. I will make you wiser than any man who ever lived or who ever will live. In addition I will give you riches and honor. If you always obey me, I will also give you a long life."

Like Solomon, young children should ask God to give them wisdom and understanding so they can always please Him. You are not too young to listen carefully to what each preacher has to say. This is God giving instructions on how to be blessed and lead a happy life. Keep your Bible with you and read the scriptures as the preacher gives them out. The Lord will be greatly pleased and will help you understand what is said. It is good to take notes as you listen. You can look at them later and it will help

you remember what God said through the message. When I was young I was like many of you: I would wait until the last minute to find a memory verse, then I would try to learn it well enough to recite. Thankfully not every one is like I was. Some of you have several verses well memorized and can tell where they are found in the Bible.

Memory verses are very valuable. In Psalms 119:9-12 David wrote, "How will a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word. I have followed after You with my whole heart. Don't let me disobey your commandments." Then he added, "I have hid your word in my heart so that I will not sin against You." David knew the power of having God's Word stored in his heart by memorizing verses of Scripture. Solomon stresses that NOW is the time

to remember your Creator. Young minds are active and strong. If they are trained to memorize the Word of God, they will have a great treasure stored up in their memory bank. When they are old or in trouble they can draw from this source of strength and power. Jesus said that the Holy Ghost would bring His words back to our memory. He can only do that if we first have them in our

memory! Daniel and his three friends were captured and taken to a strange land with strange customs. The king wanted to make them great leaders in his kingdom. He changed their names and tried to change their customs and make them serve his gods. But they remembered God.

They had learned very young that He was the one true God and they were never to bow down to any other. They dared to defy the king in order to obey their God. God did not forget them. God delivered them so miraculously that even the king exclaimed, "No other God can deliver like this!"

—Uncle Dale



Saving a Fawn

Early one morning as a man was out for a walk, he heard hunting dogs barking. He knew they were in hot pursuit of some animal. Soon he saw a young fawn just ahead of the hounds. Obviously it could not run much further. When it reached the fence surrounding the place where he stood the fawn leaped over it and crouched within ten feet of him.

A moment later two hounds leaped the fence. Instantly the fawn ran to the man and pushed its head between his legs for protection. He lifted the little thing up and, swinging round and round fought off the dogs. He said, "I felt, just then, that all the dogs in the West could not, and should not, capture that fawn after its weakness had appealed to my strength."

So is it when human helplessness appeals to Almighty God. When we run into His arms nothing can harm us!

—Selected

Books of the Bible: Review

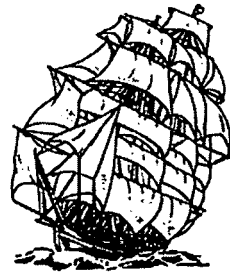
Write the missing books in the New Testament.

Matthew, _____, Luke,
_____, Acts, _____,
1st Corinthians, 2nd Corinthians,
_____, Ephesians,
Philippians, _____, 1st
Thessalonians, 2nd Thessalonians,
_____, 2nd Timothy,
_____, _____,
_____, James,
1st Peter, 2nd Peter,
_____, _____,
_____, Jude,
_____.

Answers:

1. God.
2. While we are young.
3. The name of the Lord our God.
4. From everlasting to everlasting.
5. Fear.
6. He remembered the Lord.
7. Those who make mention of the Lord.
8. Timotheus.

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Bible Lessons for Juniors

October 5, 2014

GOD RESCUES AHN

Ahn trembled every time she heard a jailer coming toward her cell. She was sure they were going to torture her for refusing to work on Sunday. Although her body was resting, fear tormented her. All night she worried.

At dawn, she fell asleep and dreamed that Suma wrestlers were lined up in a playground. She appeared with a two-edged sword and killed each wrestler. Ahn awoke praising God. She was worshiping God when the wicked chief jailer unlocked her cell and shouted, "Number 57, come out!"

Fearlessly, Ahn followed the jailer who swayed her body as she walked proudly along. Ahn looked back and saw the fearful look on the faces of other prisoners. But Ahn knew God would use His two-edged sword (His Word) to kill her enemies.

Ahn was led into the office of the chief commandant. "This is a time of emergency," he shouted angrily. "The entire nation is trying to win this holy war and you—you are just being stubborn. I understand you are educated. Why don't you act like you are? How long have you acted like a crazy woman, Ahn Ei Sook?"

For many weeks now Ahn had been feeling that something very good was going to happen to her. She was hoping that perhaps her time to be executed was nearing. Then she could see Jesus, for whom she was suffering, and her friends and be forever happy in heaven. "Maybe he doesn't know

why I am here," she thought, so she asked, "Commandant, do you know I am being held and have committed no crime?"

"No crime?" He laughed. Then turning to the others in the room, he said, "She thinks she's in prison without committing a crime." They all laughed.

"I am here because I would not bow to the Japanese god."

They all laughed again. "That has nothing to do with this. You are here and you must obey the rules."

"I have obeyed all prison rules. I am here for being obedient to God, and that is more important to me than anything else."

He jumped to his feet and slammed his big fist down upon his beautiful desk. "As the servant of the emperor of great Japan, I command you to work seven days a week."

Ahn rushed to his desk and slammed her tiny fist down beside his large, strong one. Looking straight into his angry eyes, she said, "As the servant of the living God, who rules the whole earth, I cannot obey rules that cause me to break the rules of God."

Suddenly the laughter turned to anger. Ahn thought each one in the room was hoping the commandant would torture her—"the rebel."

Continued on back page

THE RICH MAN PERISHED

Luke 16:19-28

19)There was a certain rich man, which was clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared sumptuously every day:

20)And there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, which was laid at his gate, full of sores,

21)And desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table: moreover the dogs came and licked his sores.

22)And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried;

23)And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom.

24)And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.

25)But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented.

26)And beside all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed: so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot; neither can they pass to us, that would come from thence.

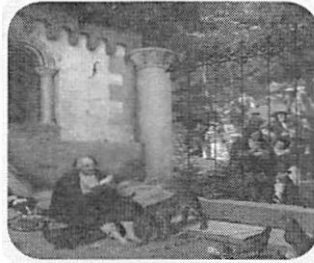
27)Then he said, I pray thee therefore, father, that thou wouldest send him to my father's house:

28)For I have five brethren; that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place

of torment.

Luke 13:3

3)I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.



The Message

We must share the gospel with our family, friends, neighbors and strangers so they will not perish.

Questions

1. Did both the rich man and Lazarus die?
2. Where was the rich man after he died?
3. Where was Lazarus after he died?
4. What did the rich man want Lazarus to do?
5. Could Abraham or Lazarus help the rich man?

Memory Verse

...Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. Mark 16:15-16



"Please, Father Abraham, send Lazarus to bring me one drop of water to cool my tongue," said the rich man. He was in hell and he thought just one drop would feel so good.

Abraham answered sadly, "He cannot come to help you. There is a great gulf between you and us. No one from here can go where you are; neither can anyone from you come here."

"I am so tormented in this flame!" the rich man moaned.

"Remember," Abraham said, "you had a beautiful home, plenty to eat and fine clothing to wear. Lazarus lay in the dirt by your gate. He was so hungry he would have appreciated even your crumbs. You ignored him, but the dogs had compassion and cleaned his sores. Now he has comfort and you . . ."

"I know. I know, but please send him back to my father's house to warn my five brothers so they won't do as I have done."

"Your brothers have God's commandments which Moses wrote. They have all the warnings of the prophets. They can be saved if they obey what the prophets and Moses said. "That's not enough, Father Abraham, but if someone came back from the dead and told them how awful this torment is, they would change their ways."

"It isn't true," Abraham said. "Those who will not obey God's commandments that they know will not listen to someone who has died and is alive again." The rich man had his chance to do right and be at peace after death. He had God's Word and could

have obeyed it. He did not; so his soul perished.

There are many other souls about to perish just as the rich man. There are also many others who have not had an opportunity to know God and obey His commandments. We must do all we can to help souls be at peace with God. Then they will be at peace after death as Lazarus is.

Some do not have God's Word. There are thousands of languages in which the Bible has not been printed. Maybe the Lord wants you to be a Bible translator. Thousands of others do not have a Bible, although there are Bibles printed in their language. What are you doing to help others have a Bible?

There are thousands of people who have a Bible but are not reading or obeying it. What are you doing to encourage your friends and neighbors to read and obey God's Word?

There are still others who have been misguided and are sinning and thinking they are fine. What are you doing to help these people see the dangers in how they are living?

Every saved person should be helping someone else to know Jesus as their personal Savior. You

may begin helping others by praying for someone who is not saved. You may tell your friends about how Jesus is blessing you. (Perhaps you lost something and He helped you to find it. Maybe you asked Jesus to help you make a good grade.)

Being kind and helpful will help them see how Jesus is working in you. If you love Jesus with all your heart, it will show and others will realize you have something they need. Do every day what Jesus would do and you will be helping others to not perish.

—Sis. Charlotte Huskey



God Rescues Ahn Continued

The only noise in the room was the heavy breathing of the guards, the jailers, and the commandant. *You are one of those men that was killed by the two-edged sword in my dream*, Ahn thought. She never moved her eyes from the eyes of the commandant. Even she was surprised at her courage.

The commandant's eyes fell. After a long pause, he said in a low voice, "Sit down."

Ahn sat down and looked calmly around the room. Every face showed they were angry and shocked by her rebellion against the most powerful man in the prison. Even the chief commandant was so nervous he couldn't speak. The female chief jailer was trembling. After a long silence, the chief commandant said, "Your God has saved you this time."

"I am alive today only because of His love for me," Ahn answered.

"Every instruction for this young lady will come from the court," he said to the chief jailer, "Do you understand? Don't pick on her."

"Yes, commandant," the chief jailer answered, trying hard to be submissive.

Ahn walked out into the court yard and looked up into the clear blue sky. "The Lord lives!" she exclaimed. Then she fell on her knees and worshiped God. Any other time the chief jailer would have lashed Ahn with her cruel whip. Today she only groaned.

The Rich Man and Lazarus

J	Z	K	O	S	K	M	L	C	A
N	E	A	I	R	T	Z	R	R	D
Y	E	C	Q	L	Y	L	K	G	D
P	K	V	K	N	A	R	D	N	C
E	C	T	A	Z	L	K	G	U	Q
C	V	W	A	E	W	J	A	K	B
A	V	R	P	I	H	H	T	E	R
B	U	T	S	O	C	D	E	Q	O
S	T	X	I	I	O	A	E	E	T
G	L	Q	R	R	S	R	F	N	H
M	A	H	A	R	B	A	S	X	E
M	B	E	O	T	M	Q	Q	R	R
H	E	L	L	W	U	E	S	V	S
X	Z	T	S	M	R	W	O	C	D
S	W	V	E	C	C	H	C	U	F

LAZARUS
HEAVEN
GATE

RICH
ABRAHAM
SICK

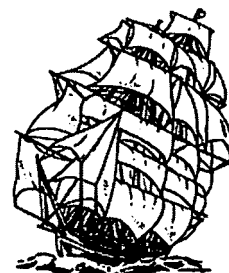
BROTHERS
POOR

HELL
CRUMBS

Answers:

1. Yes. 2. He was in hell. 3. In Abraham's bosom. 4. To bring a drop of water to cool his tongue. 5. No.

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Bible Lessons for Juniors

October 12, 2014

THE MISSING PLANE

Christians all over Japan and Korea were afraid and praying. A new command had just come that on the eighth day of every month at 9:00 o'clock in the morning, every person in Korea and Japan must bow in worship to Amaterasu Omikami the Shinto god. This included children and adults, the sick and prisoners. In the prison where Ahn had been for six years, the worship was to be at the same time the governor would be worshipping.

When Ahn heard the news she prayed silently, "Oh Lord, they will torture me again." Drops of cold sweat fell from her face. She felt it trickling down her back. She could hardly breathe. When Jailer Kuriyama came on duty, she told Ahn that the chief jailer had called all the jailers together and told them about the new law. "The chief told us to watch the prisoners closely, for some will try to escape. This is very serious for you," Kuriyama whispered to Ahn. "I have orders to remove all prisoners from your cell." Ahn felt faint. She knew that prisoners were moved from the cells of those to be tortured.

As the prisoners were being removed, some looked sadly at Ahn. Others whispered, "Good-bye Miss Stubborn." When they were all gone, Ahn bowed on the floor and prayed. "Oh, Lord, I am too weak. This rushing fear makes me want to give in. But I don't want to disobey you; also I've already told the judge I would never bow to another god."

Ahn was trembling so hard that she had to clench her teeth to keep from biting her tongue.

In her mind she repeated part of Psalm 91: "...He is my refuge and my fortress: ...Thou shalt not be afraid..." "But I am afraid," Ahn sobbed. She cried for a long time. When she finally gained control of herself, she again quoted God's promises. "There shall no evil befall thee...he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways." The words seemed empty and without meaning. How could God keep this evil from befalling her?

When the bedtime bugle sounded loudly on the seventh day it seemed to Ahn that all hell was laughing at her. When the rising bugle sounded on the eighth day, kind Madame Higashi was the jailer on duty that day. Ahn could tell Madame Higashi was worried about her. Ahn washed her face and hands. "At least I can meet God with clean hands and face, but I am still too weak," she told Him. "Take me under Your control and make me do right. God, I'm ashamed that I am so afraid after all the miracles You have done."

On her next round checking the prisoners, Madame Higashi whispered. "It is five minutes till nine."

"I'm ready," Ahn answered, trembling like a leaf in a storm. Madame Higashi stood at attention in front of Ahn's cell. She placed her watch so Ahn could read it.

At one minute till nine Ahn's heart was pounding so hard she feared she would not hear the siren.

Continued on back page

ARMIES OF THE LIVING GOD

1 Samuel 17:23, 24, 26, 28, 29, 31-34, 36, 37

23) . . . behold, there came up the champion . . . Goliath by name, out of the armies of the Philistines . . .

24) And all the men of Israel, when they saw the man, fled from him, and were sore afraid.

26) And David spake to the men that stood by him, saying, What shall be done to the man that killeth this Philistine, and taketh away the reproach from Israel? for who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?

28) And Eliab his eldest brother heard when he spake unto the men; and Eliab's anger was kindled against David, and he said, Why camest thou down hither? and with whom hast thou left those few sheep in the wilderness? I know thy pride, and the naughtiness of thine heart; for thou art come down that thou mightest see the battle.

29) And David said, What have I now done? Is there not a cause?

31) And when the words were heard which David spake, they rehearsed them before Saul: and he sent for him.

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

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

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

36) Thy servant slew both the lion and the bear: and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be as one of them, seeing he hath defied the armies of the living God.



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

The Message

David knew even Goliath was no match against the armies of the living God!

Questions

1. What was the champion's name?
2. What army did he fight for?
3. What did the men of Israel do when they saw him?
4. Who was Eliab?
5. What did Saul do when he heard David's words?
6. What did David tell Saul he would do?
7. Why did Saul think David was no match for Goliath?
8. Who had Goliath defied?

Memory Verse

And all this assembly shall know that the Lord saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle is the Lord's, and he will give you into our hands. 1 Samuel 17:47



The Philistines gathered their great armies and marched into Israel to fight against King Saul and his soldiers. Every morning and evening they sent their champion, a giant named Goliath, to challenge an Israelite to fight him.

Now David was the youngest of Jesse's eight sons, so he was the one who cared for the sheep. He spent many hours alone out in the pastures. This gave him much time to think of the greatness and goodness of God. As he became more acquainted with God, he praised Him for His mercies.

One day a lion suddenly snatched one of the lambs and ran. David chased and caught the lion. He rescued the lamb and killed the lion. At another time a bear tried to kill one of David's sheep. God blessed him to kill it also.

One day David's father told him to carry some food to his brothers who were fighting with King Saul's army. David was talking to his brothers when suddenly he heard the TERRIFYING voice of Goliath call out for one soldier to fight against him. David was surprised to see how frightened King Saul and his soldiers were at the sight of this giant.

Although David was still young, he knew by experience that God was greater than any enemy. "Who is he that he should defy the armies of the living God?" David asked indignantly.

The soldiers were amazed at David's courage. This giant had been terrorizing them for forty days and no one had dared accept his challenge and fight with him! Soon word reached King Saul that David was

willing to face Goliath. Quickly the king sent for him.

King Saul was probably surprised to see such a young man dressed only in shepherd's clothes. But David spoke boldly, "I will go and fight with this Philistine!"

When Saul doubted his ability to fight against such an experienced man of war David told him how God had helped him kill both a lion and a bear. "He will deliver me out of the hand of this Philistine," David assured Saul, "because he has defied the armies of the living God!"

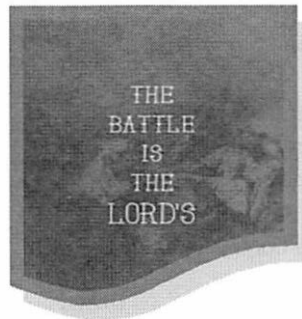
Goliath laughed at David when he saw him coming toward him with only a sling in his hand for a weapon. He cursed David by his gods and threatened to feed him to the birds and beasts of the field. David was not frightened. "You come with a sword, shield and spear," he called boldly, "but I come in the name of the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied!" Then, running toward Goliath, David put a stone in his sling and let it fly. God guided that stone to the right spot. Goliath fell flat on his face!

Because David talked with God often he knew that indeed He was

the Living God, well able to avenge His armies of this enemy who dared to defy Him. This prepared him to face the giant confidently. Goliath was no match for the God he knew and served!

Will you accept the challenge to be courageous for God? Be obedient to God and conquer the little things of life. Never try to fight your own battles. Go to God in prayer and let Him fight for you. Read your Bible daily. This will tell you what a mighty God you serve and give you strength and courage. Then when the big test comes you will, like David, face it with courage and let God prove that He lives in you and fights your battles.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell



The Missing Plane *Continued*

"Anyway, Lord, I don't plan to bow, but God I am so frightened, I just might if You don't hold me up-right."

The next time Ahn looked at the watch it was 9:05. 'The governor must be a little late,' Madame Higashi remarked. "He's to lead in the worship." At 9:08 Ahn whispered, "Is your watch correct?"

"I think so," she answered.

"Then why the silence?"

"I'll go see. Maybe they are checking out the siren."

When Madame Higashi returned an hour later, she told Ahn, "The whole town was gathered at the square waiting for the governor. The ceremony had just begun when the commander was called away to answer the telephone. He never returned until 9:30, when he dismissed the crowd."

"Madame Higashi can you please find out what happened?" Ahn begged.

"I'll phone my husband," she said and hurried away. About 10:30 she returned. "He says the plane in which the governor was riding is missing."

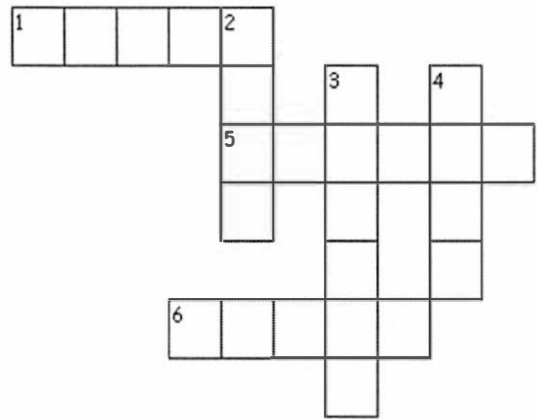
Ahn knelt in prayer, "Oh, heavenly Father, You are my Savior. You have again shut the lion's mouths. I adore You! I praise You!"

Later Madame Higashi told Ahn that the plane carrying the Korean governors was shot down over the Sea of Japan.

Adapted from *If I Perish* by Esther Ahn Kim

— Sis. Charlotte Huskey

Armies of the Living God Crossword Puzzle



Across

1. What was one of David's brother's names?
5. The men of Israel fled because they were sore ____.
6. What did David watch for his father?

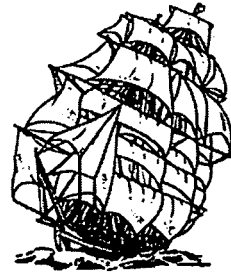
Down

2. David killed a lion and a ____.
3. Goliath defied the ____ of the living God.
4. Saul said, "Go and the Lord be ____ thee.

Answers:

1. Goliath. 2. Philistine. 3. They ran away. 4. David's oldest brother. 5. Sent for David. 6. Fight Goliath. 7. David was young while Goliath was an experienced man of war. 8. The armies of the living God.

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A SURPRISE HEALING

"James," I cried excitedly, "I can see the asparagus plants coming up out in the garden."

"What?" he asked as he moved the blind away from the kitchen window and looked out. "I don't see anything,"

"But I can, right here from my seat at the breakfast table," I almost shouted, "God has healed my eyes!"

My eyesight has been failing many years. Four years ago, I went to an optometrist in Guthrie where I lived. He told me a film was growing on both eyes. "It is called a cataract, and it can be removed by a simple surgery. Yours aren't very bad yet, but someday they will need to be taken off," he said. I thought about a friend who had a cataract removed from his eye and he could never again see plainly from that eye.

About a year later, even with the new glasses, I could hardly see to read my Bible, which I like to read daily. One day while shopping at the mall in Edmond, I became very frustrated because I could not read the tags on things I wanted to purchase. So I walked into an optometry store and got my eyes checked. The optometrist told me the cataracts needed to be removed; he also gave me stronger lenses for my glasses. So for a short while, I did better at reading my Bible. Soon, however, I again could not read it, so I bought a huge print Bible.

Through this time, I was also struggling to see the words in the *Evening Light Songs*, and we usually sang songs during family worship each night. So off I go to get new glasses. This time I got some from LensCrafters. I had bought from LensCrafters years ago and those glasses lasted me eight years. I was expecting these to last; however, in a few months I was not seeing well with the new glasses. James was still trying to see the asparagus in the garden when I said, "I have gone to four different doctors. Each of them said I needed surgery on my eyes. Dr. Cook said I would not be able to drive in a few months without having the cataracts removed. He even wrote a letter telling me what to expect as the cataracts grew. But the cataracts didn't grow. I can see clearly again."

"You can see better than I can," he said.

"Remember that Wednesday evening prayer meeting when Brother Jim Wall testified how God had touched his eyes and he could again read small print books?" I asked James.

"Yes, I remember that," he said.

"After hearing his testimony, I felt inspired that God could heal my eyes," I said, "and He's doing it!" I looked again at the garden and could see the asparagus plants like many green pencils shooting up out of the brown earth.

Again I could see the words in the *Evening Light Songs*. I laid aside my huge print Bible, and I am reading again from my old Bible.

Continued on back page

OUR GOOD SHEPHERD

Psalm 23:1-6

- 1) The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.
- 2) He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.
- 3) He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
- 4) Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.
- 5) Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.
- 6) Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

Isaiah 40:10, 11

- 10) Behold, the Lord GOD will come with strong hand, and his arm shall rule for him: behold . . .
- 11) He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young.

John 10:11-12, 14-15

- 11) I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.
- 12) But he that is an hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth: and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep.
- 14) I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine.
- 15) As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep.

Ezekiel 34:12

- 12) As a shepherd seeketh out his flock in the day that he is among his sheep that are scattered; so will I seek out my sheep, and will deliver them . . .



The Message

We are as helpless as lambs.
Our eternal safety depends on having the
Lord as our Shepherd!

Questions

1. Who did David say his shepherd was?
2. In what kind of pastures did he lie down?
3. He leadeth me in paths of _____.
4. David said he would fear no evil though he walked where?
5. What was prepared for him in the presence of his enemies?
6. Surely _____ and _____ will follow me.
7. In whose house would he dwell forever?
8. Jesus said he was the good _____.

Memory Verse

And when the chief Shepherd shall
appear, ye shall receive a
crown of glory that fadeth not away.
I Peter 5:4



David, who wrote several of the verses in our lesson, was a shepherd boy. He led his father's sheep over the hillsides finding the greenest pastures for them. He loved every sheep and watched over them carefully.

One day, a hungry lion roared into the flock of sheep and seized a lamb in his giant jaws. David was on the lion in a flash, striking it with all his might. The lion dropped the lamb but turned on David snarling fiercely. David grabbed the lion by his beard with one hand while knocking it senseless with the other. Finally the beast lay dead at his feet. David carefully scooped the lamb up and carried it back to safety where he nursed it back to health.

While he watched the sheep, David realized that people are like the simple defenseless sheep. The devil is like a roaring lion looking for anyone he can devour. (1 Peter 5:8) We are no more a match for the devil than that little lamb that David rescued. We must have a good Shepherd to protect us.

David's sheep would become so intent looking for the most enticing and tender grass that they would be in great danger without knowing it was near. David was watching and would quickly herd the wanderer back to safety. This is a good illustration of the way the Lord watches over us. We are not able to see the dangers all around us. God sees every trap and will keep us out of harm if we keep our eyes on Him and follow Him carefully.

Have you ever watched an insect hurrying along? You can see what it's headed for; and when it comes

to an obstacle, you can easily see the best way for it to take because you have a good view of the whole situation.

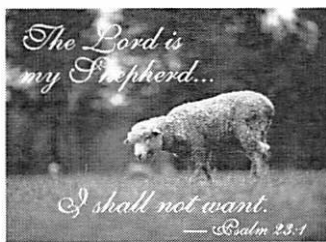
Several years ago I watched a butterfly in a high window in the tabernacle at Green Bank, WV. During one morning service my attention was drawn to it because it was quickly darting from one edge of the window to the other and from top to bottom. That evening when I came back to service, I checked and saw the butterfly was still there, still flitting about over the window. But its movements were much slower. Even the next morning in prayer meeting, after watching awhile, I saw that it was still there. It was scarcely able to move, but it was still struggling to fly through the glass to freedom. By the next service there was no more movement.

This beautiful butterfly could have easily escaped. It was an open tabernacle; the butterfly could have soared out of the building with ease. But it could see only one way out—an impossible way. It died in a futile attempt to fly through a pane of glass. None of us know how to safely make it to heaven. We are on enemy territory and the devil

is always watching for ways to destroy us. The way he wants to lead us often looks so inviting and logical but it always leads us away from God's favor and protection. His one goal is to destroy us at last.

It is important to learn to follow the Lord while you are young. As soon as you realize that you have done wrong, this is the time for you to come to Jesus asking forgiveness and accepting Him as your Savior and Shepherd. Jesus came to save us. He lived on earth to show us how to please God and overcome every trouble we meet. Now He offers to be our Shepherd and Guide throughout our life until He safely brings us to live with Him. He knows the way!

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell



A Surprise Healing *Continued*

The last surprise I had was when I had to hem my granddaughter's dress. I gathered up my thread, scissors, needle, and needle-threader. As was my usual habit, I put the needle-threader through the needle eye and threaded the needle. That is the way I had been threading needles for several years. When I needed to rethread the needle, I decided to try to thread it by myself. To my surprise I could see the small needle's eye and threaded the needle without any trouble. Also, I threaded the sewing machine needle without difficulty.

Isn't God great! Now can I boldly say, "The Lord has healed my eyes."

—Sis. Charlotte Huskey



Sis. Charlotte Huskey

Our Good Shepherd

Make a slash through the J's, Q's, and Z's. Write the remaining letters on the lines below to find out what our Good Shepherd will do for His sheep.

Clue: Eze. 34: 11

QZFOJJRZQJTHQZUZSJSJQZJITHQZTHJJEZLJOZRQ
DZZGOJZDQZBEQHZOJLQDIJZQJEZVQEJQZJNZIQWJ
IQZLQZILQBJOTQQHSQZJEAJRZCQHQQZJZJMQYSQH
QZJJEQEPJZJANQDZSEJJEKQTQZJHZEMJQOZUQTJJ

-----;

-----,

Answers:

1. The LORD
2. Green.
3. Righteousness.
4. Through the valley of the shadow of death.
5. A table.
6. Goodness,
7. Mercy.
8. The house of the LORD.
9. Shepherd.

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Bible Lessons for Juniors

October 26, 2014

10 HAMBURGERS FOR \$1.00

"Wake-up," I called to our four sleeping children. "Help me pack; we are going to the Pacoima camp meeting today. Your daddy is already getting the car motor tuned up."

Bobby wrinkled his face and opened one eye. "I thought I heard Dad say we didn't have enough money to buy gas to go to Pacoima."

"We have decided to trust God to get us there," I answered.

"What shall I do to help get ready?" asked seven-year-old Tricia.

"You can help scrub Leah's diapers," I answered. "We can wash our clothes in the washing machine at the campground. However, each of you will need to scrub the dirt out of your socks. You boys scrub your jeans before putting them in the machine. Bobby, put water into two tubs so two of you can wash at the same time."

"I scrub too," said four-year-old Rosi.

"Tricia, hurry over and borrow Sis. Esquires rub board if she isn't using it."

While I was getting breakfast, the children were each cleaning the worst of the dirt from their clothes. We put the white clothes into two five-gallon buckets and the dark jeans in a round tub. The wet clothes were ready to go by the time breakfast was ready. While Tricia and Rosi washed and put away the breakfast dishes, Bobby and Tim cleaned our white Chevy van and I gathered up

clothes. There were no decisions as to which clothes we were taking. We had only three changes of presentable clothes. I put our clean clothes, bibles, notebooks, and a few toys into our two new suitcases, (gifts from Bro. Ed Sorrell). The dry clothes for washing went into laundry bags.

We all worked like little ants and were packed and ready to go by lunch time. I knew we had no money to eat at a restaurant (which the children would have loved), so I made a pan of rice. We ate that with beans just before leaving. During the 20 some years that James and I lived in Mexico, we usually attended the California State Camp Meetings twice a year, one in September and another in December. This year we were broke when we left Mexico going to meeting in Pacoima.

As we pulled into a gas station in Chula Vista, California, James said, "I sure wish I had more money. This may buy enough gasoline to get there."

"We will have to trust God to make it get us there," I answered. He put the amount of gas in the tank that the money would cover.

"Maybe if I adjust the timing we can get a few more miles out of each gallon," he said as he drove our Chevy van away from the pumps and parked it a distance away. While he was working under the hood of the van I let our four children play around outside.

Continued on back page

THE PRISONER OF THE LORD

Acts 23:10-21

10) And . . . the chief captain . . . commanded the soldiers to go down . . . and to bring him into the castle.

11) And the night following the Lord stood by him, and said, Be of good cheer, Paul: for as thou hast testified of me in Jerusalem, so must thou bear witness also at Rome.

12) And . . . certain of the Jews . . . bound themselves under a curse, saying that they would neither eat nor drink till they had killed Paul.

13) And they were more than forty which had made this conspiracy.

14) And they came to the chief priests and elders, and said. . .

15) Now therefore ye with the council signify to the chief captain that he bring him down unto you tomorrow, as though ye would inquire something more perfectly concerning him: and we, or ever he come near, are ready to kill him.

16) And when Paul's sister's son heard of their lying in wait, he . . . told Paul.

17) Then Paul called one of the centurions unto him, and said, Bring this young man unto the chief captain. . .

18) So he took him, and brought him to the chief captain, and said, Paul the prisoner called me unto him, and prayed me to bring this young man unto thee, who hath something to say unto thee.

19) Then the chief captain . . . asked him, What is that thou hast to tell me?

20) And he said, The Jews have agreed to desire thee that thou wouldest bring down Paul tomorrow into the council, as though they would inquire somewhat of him more perfectly.



21) But do not thou yield unto them: for there lie in wait for him of them more than forty men, which have bound themselves with an oath, that they will neither eat nor drink till they have killed him: and now are they ready, looking for a promise from thee.

The Message

Paul knew his life was in God's hands.
He was in prison because God willed it so.

Questions

1. What did the chief captain command the soldiers to do?
2. Who stood by Paul the next night?
3. Where else must he bear witness for the Lord?
4. What did some of the Jews do?
5. What were they determined to do?
6. How many were part of the conspiracy?
7. Who heard about their intentions?
8. Who did he tell?
9. Who did the centurion take the young man to?

Memory Verse

I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord,
beseech you that ye walk worthy
of the vocation wherewith ye are called,
Ephesians 4:1



Paul was arrested because he preached the good news of salvation. He had committed no crime yet he spent years in prison. Even in prison, Paul's heart was joyful and free. Wherever God sent him, he would be content and happy.

Paul desired to be in Jerusalem to keep the feast of the Passover. Along the way, he visited as many of the churches as possible to encourage the believers. He did not have time to go to Ephesus, so the leaders from that congregation came to the seacoast to meet him.

"You know," Paul told them, "how I have worked and lived among you. I have taught you publicly and in your homes. I have testified to both the Jews and the Greeks. I feel that I must go to Jerusalem now. I do not know what will happen, but the Holy Spirit has witnessed that bonds and afflictions await me.

"But I am not afraid. It does not matter how long I live. The thing that is important is that I finish the work God has given me with joy. I must fulfill the ministry that the Lord Jesus has given me and testify of the gospel of the grace of God.

"This is the last time that I will see you but I will pray for you. Take good care of the church of God over which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers."

They all knelt in the sand and Paul prayed with them. They threw their arms around Paul and wept. They accompanied him to the ship with heavy hearts because he had said he would never see them again.

Paul and those with him also stopped at Caesarea. Here they stayed at Philip's house. While

he was there a prophet named Agabus came from Jerusalem. He took off Paul's belt and tied it around his own hands and feet. Then he said, "The Holy Ghost says, 'So shall the Jews at Jerusalem bind the man that owns this belt. They will deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles.'"

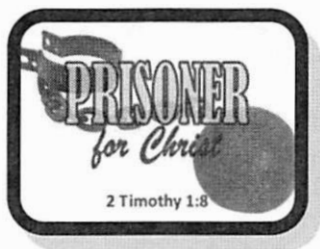
When they heard these words all Paul's friends begged him to not go to Jerusalem. But Paul said boldly, "Why do you weep and break my heart? I am ready, not only to be bound but to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus!"

They saw he was sure God wanted him to go to Jerusalem; they could not change his mind. "May the Lord's will be done," they said. Paul was arrested in Jerusalem. The Jews who hated him for teaching that Jesus came to save all people, Gentiles as well as Jews, caused a great stir among the people. The mob seized Paul and beat him. His life was spared because the Roman captain rescued him. He was taken to prison until they could find what crime he had committed.

The Lord appeared to Paul the next night saying, "Be of good cheer, Paul. As you have testified of me in Jerusalem, so you must bear witness also at Rome." Paul was strengthened and greatly encouraged. God was with him, even in prison.

In prison Paul wrote many letters instructing and encouraging the believers. They are a large part of our New Testament, and their words are just as powerful and helpful today. As a prisoner, Paul testified to kings and men in authority. Many heard the truth of the gospel while he testified in his own defense. His enemies hoped that the spread of the gospel would be stopped because Paul was in prison. Instead Paul was protected from them. In prison he continued to preach and wrote the letters which instruct and encourage even today.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell



Ten Hamburgers for \$1.00 *Continued*

I was sitting inside holding baby Leah watching what they were doing, when I saw Tim go into the public telephone booth and pretend he was talking on the phone. I nodded to Bobby to go get him. When Tim saw Bob coming, he slammed the speaker down on the hook and turned to run.

The hard slam on the receiver caused a great deal of change to come tumbling out. Bob caught it in his hand and shouted, "Mom come here, quick. God has sent the money we needed!"

Jumping out of the van, I hurried over. Quarters, dimes and nickels filled Bob's hand. It never occurred to any of us that the money belonged to someone else. We just thought God put it there for us.

James backed up to the pump again and put more gas in. When he told the attendant what had happened, the attendant said, "Probably someone hurried away and didn't wait for their change."

We pulled out on Interstate 5 and headed north toward Pacoima without fear of running out of gas. About an hour later, somewhere near the Santa Anna area, James said, "Look! Hamburgers on sale. The sign read "10 HAMBURGERS for \$1.00." He whipped off the Interstate and bought 10 hamburgers with the four quarters he had saved from the money we found. I'm sure James saved the money to buy icecream for the children. However, God had a better surprise!

—Sis. Charlotte Huskey

Prisoner for God

Draw a line to match the Bible characters who were prisoners to the verses that tell about their stories.

Peter	Luke 3:20
Paul and Silas	Acts 12:5
Joseph	Genesis 39:20
John	Acts 16:25

Matthew 25:36 tells us what we can do for those in prison. Fill in the missing vowels to finish the verse.

N__k__d, __nd y__ cl__th__d m__:

__ w__s s__ck, __nd y__

v__s__t__d m__: __ w__s __n

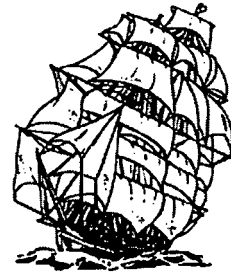
pr__s__n, __nd y__ c__m__

__nt__ m__.

Answers:

1. Bring Paul into the castle.
2. The Lord.
3. In Rome.
4. Bound themselves under a curse.
5. Kill Paul.
6. More than forty.
7. Paul's sister's son.
8. Paul.
9. The chief captain.

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Bible Lessons for Juniors

November 2, 2014

MEET WALTER AND MARILI

Walter and Marili live in the city of Motozientla, Chiapas, Mexico. Walter grew up in Chimolapa. A beautiful river flows into this mountain village. Two years ago the river flooded and washed tons of rock, sand and debris over the houses in the lower part of Chimolapa. Walter's mother's home and her storage house next to it were almost covered. Only one wall and the roof could be seen. The government provided money so they built a small provisional house on the roadside right-of-way.

Walter grew up in the house that is buried; however, when he was 17, he went with others from the village to the United States to earn money. Many young people in Mexico grew up with the dream of working in the U.S. and getting rich. Walter followed his dream and he was wiser than many. He sent a great deal of his money back to Mexico and with it, bought his home in Motozientla and a good dependable truck.

When Walter was 23, he went back to Chiapas and married Marili, a beautiful Indian girl. A year later, they had a baby girl.

Although Walter had made many wise decisions, such as saving his money and using it wisely, he was foolish in that he did not choose to live for God. He drank and ran around with his drinking friends. One night they were drinking and having a great time, when their fun turned into an argument. One of the drunken guys pulled out his

shot it. The bullet landed in Walter's lower back.

Although it was sort of an accident and his friend was sorry, Walter never walked again. He will be paying for that night of "fun" the rest of his life.

Weeks later, when Marili was only seventeen and expecting their second daughter, Walter was brought home from the hospital. He was paralyzed from his neck down. Marili would now have to care for a paralyzed husband, a new baby, a one-year-old daughter, and earn money. She had no education for good employment, and there was no hope that she might get help through the Mexico Social Services because it had very little money.

In their dreadful condition, Walter and Marili went to God for help. This led them to repent and stop doing many things they had been doing. Walter quit drinking. They both began studying the Bible and trying to obey what it said. They were very thankful that Walter had bought a home and they did not have to earn money to pay rent; also, they had a good truck.

Walter continued to exercise until he was able to use the upper part of his body. He learned to take care of himself and help much with the two small children. He did many things around the house, and he did the record keeping for the business God opened up for them.

Continued on back page

EVEN UNTO DEATH

Acts 6:8-15

8) And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and miracles among the people.

9) Then there arose certain of the synagogue. . . . disputing with Stephen.

10) And they were not able to resist the wisdom and the spirit by which he spake.

11) Then they suborned men, which said, We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses, and against God.

12) And they stirred up the people, and the elders, and the scribes, and came upon him, and caught him, and brought him to the council,

13) And set up false witnesses, which said, This man ceaseth not to speak blasphemous words against this holy place, and the law:

14) For we have heard him say, that this Jesus of Nazareth shall destroy this place, and shall change the customs which Moses delivered us.

15) And all that sat in the council, looking stedfastly on him, saw his face as it had been the face of an angel.

Acts 7:1-2, 54-57, 59-60

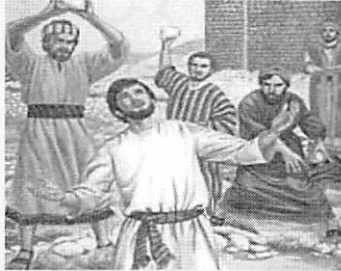
1) Then said the high priest, Are these things so?

2) And he said, Men, brethren, and fathers, hearken . . .

54) When they heard these things, they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed on him with their teeth.

55) But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up stedfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God,

56) And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God.



57) Then they cried out with a loud voice, and stopped their ears, and ran upon him with one accord,

59) And they stoned Stephen, calling upon God, and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.

60) And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

The Message

The love of God and his faith in the gospel sustained Stephen even unto death.

Questions

1. Stephen was full of _____ and _____.
2. What did he do among the people?
3. His enemies said he had spoken _____ against Moses and God.
4. What kind of witnesses did they set up?
5. What did Stephen's face look like?
6. Stephen was full of the _____.
7. What did he see when he looked up to heaven?
8. What did they do to Stephen?
9. What was his last prayer?

Memory Verse

For this God is our God for ever and ever:
he will be our guide even unto death.
Psalm 48:14



Stephen loved God intensely. His entire life was devoted to His service. When he accepted the Holy Spirit into his life he was filled with faith and power so that the Lord worked many miracles through him. The people wondered at such great power as he worked among them doing good to everyone he met.

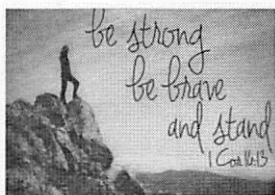
As the people gathered to see the marvelous works God did through him, Stephen preached to them about Jesus. He told them they too could have power over sin; power to do good instead of evil. This angered the religious leaders. They argued with Stephen and tried to prove that Jesus was not the Christ. But God gave Stephen such wisdom in explaining about Jesus that the leaders were proved wrong. This convinced more of the people who then became believers.

The leaders could not refute the truth of Stephen's words. Seeing that more and more believed in Jesus through his preaching they determined to stop him another way. They hired men to go among the people and accuse Stephen. Wherever these men went, they lied, "We have heard Stephen speak against Moses and against God."

This upset some of the people. With this encouragement the leaders seized Stephen and brought him before the council. Here the men who had been hired witnessed more lies against him. But Stephen spoke even more convincingly, proving that Jesus was Christ and that they had killed the Son of God.

The men were so furious they stopped their ears then rushed at him, grabbed him and dragged him outside the city gate. There they stoned Stephen as he prayed that God would forgive them for their awful sin.

In China young students were murdered because they would not deny Jesus. The love and power of God kept them strong. They met death to receive eternal life rather than deny their Savior and be lost eternally. Satan is just as determined today to get us to deny the Lord. But he has changed his tactics. When people choose death in order to stay true to God it demonstrates the power of such faith and God's faithfulness to keep them strong and true. Many have been convinced of the truth because they saw the power of evil overcome by good, even at the cost of the believer's life.



Now the devil is using more subtle means of destroying faith and belief in Jesus' power to save. He doesn't mind if everyone has a Bible—just so they don't read it. He isn't trying to shut down churches and make it illegal to worship God—he has invented ways to entertain the people so they have no time nor interest for

church. He doesn't use the media to denounce God, he just fills it with things that appeal to the flesh. Sports, film stars, wealth and amusements all become far more important to the people than God.

A missionary from England spent many years spreading the gospel in China. She was surprised when a new convert was burdened to pray for England until she read the newspapers. Every item of news from England, every picture, was concerned with a film star, a sportsman, or a horse race. Not one mention of God! Doesn't this describe our news, too? England had forgotten what was all-important—the realization that God mattered in the life of a nation no less than in that of an individual.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

Even Unto Death

Crossword Puzzle

MEET WALTER AND MARILI *Continued*

Many villages are scattered throughout the mountains of Chiapas. Every village has a store, some have two stores. Marili learned to drive their small truck and they began hauling goods to these small stores for them to sell.

When we were in Chiapas staying at Walter's mother's place, Walter and Marili came by every evening to load their truck for the next day's deliveries. They had a storage room built on to his mother's house. She lived far up the mountain from their home in the city, so it was much less hauling from her place to the other villages on up the mountain.

The day we left Chiapas, they were there with a load of goods. These they placed in the storage room and loaded what they needed for the day into their truck.

Walter and Marili are now sweet mature Christians. Although he is paralyzed from his waist down, she drives and they earn money by delivering to the many stores throughout the mountains. God has taught them how to cope with problems that most of us never face. Walter and Marili said, "God has never forsaken us."

—Sis. Charlotte Huskey

L	N	I	M	R	P	V	D	Y	U
C	I	O	G	K	O	D	M	U	S
B	M	C	K	F	W	S	C	Z	S
L	H	U	N	B	E	D	S	H	E
R	E	E	M	U	R	O	L	T	N
U	T	A	B	X	O	I	L	I	T
V	X	H	P	W	D	C	O	A	I
N	E	H	P	E	T	S	H	H	W
F	Y	S	N	H	T	A	E	D	B
Z	A	O	U	Z	U	C	K	H	G
S	T	I	I	S	I	C	A	L	F
S	J	G	T	B	E	V	Y	A	J
I	P	G	D	H	I	J	L	V	D
H	E	A	V	E	N	S	X	A	E
B	M	Q	N	S	E	Q	S	V	L

STEPHEN

COUNCIL

STONED

FAITH

FALSE

DEATH

HEAVEN

POWER

WITNESS

JESUS

Answers:

1. Faith and power. 2. Great wonders and miracles. 3. Blasphemy.
4. False. 5. An angel's. 6. Holy Ghost. 7. The glory of God and Jesus.
8. Stoned him. 9. "Lord, lay not this sin to their charge."

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ARRESTED IN MEXICO

My mind was in a whirl as I watched the police car speed away from our mission home in Rosarita Beach, Mexico. They were taking my husband, James, to jail.

"He's not a criminal," I wanted to shout. "He's a missionary teaching people how to live better." I thought about the happenings of the last few days.

Tomas Mendoza, a beginning preacher, was asked to stay on the Indian reservation in Santa Catarina while the resident missionary, Edith Cole, went away for the summer. Having no vehicle in which to move the things he and his family were leaving behind, he asked his brother, Pedro, and James to get the boxes that he left in his house. Harland Smith had picked up Tomas and his family around 4:00 a.m. About 6:00 a.m. Pedro and James had gotten Tomas' things and stored them. How could doing a good deed land a guy in jail?

By the time I was over the shock, my four children, Señora Esquires and her girls, and Señor and Señora Torres had come in to comfort me. The women were crying. I was trembling inside but smiling. I clenched my jaws to keep them from quivering. "He'll be alright. I'm going down right now and get him out." I said.

"Sister, you can't get him out. You must understand that sometimes good people who are falsely accused stay in jail for years. "God can do anything," I said, still smiling, but trembling inwardly.

"Could you please watch the children?" I asked Señor Esquires. They did all they could to convince me that there was no hope.

On the way to the jail, the Lord began forming thoughts in my mind of what I should or should not do. I should not speak Spanish. There would be less danger of being misunderstood because of my inability to use the language properly. Another reason for this would be that if they thought I couldn't understand them, they would be free to talk among themselves in my presence, thus permitting me to get more information. I felt confident that God would supply money for his bail, although I had only a few coins in my purse. I had heard that Mexican policemen could be paid off easily.

I parked in front of the police station, prayed again, and went into the office with assurance that everything would be okay. Walking up to the reception desk, I asked, "May I speak to the Chief of Police?" Promptly an interpreter came in. He was a short fat, beady-eyed man; the chief came in behind him.

"I'm the wife of this American you have locked up here," I said. "Why is he here?"

Every policeman in the station gathered around. The ones who knew the case explained it to the others. Then carefully the chief told the interpreter what to tell me. Little did he know that I understood what they'd said in Spanish!

Continued on back page

THE GIFTS OF GOD

John 4:10

10) Jesus answered and said unto her, If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water.



Acts 2:38

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

Romans 6:23

23) For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

James 1:17

17) Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

Psalm 127:2

2) It is vain for you to rise up early, to sit up late, to eat the bread of sorrows: for so he giveth his beloved sleep.

Psalm 136:25

25) Who giveth food to all flesh: for his mercy endureth for ever.

Ecclesiastes 2:26

26) For God giveth to a man that is good in his sight wisdom, and knowledge, and joy . . .

Psalms 103: 2-5

2) Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:

3) Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases;

4) Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies;

5) Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's.

The Message

God has given us so many wonderful gifts, we should thank Him all the time.

Questions

1. What kind of water does God give?
2. Peter told the people to repent and be baptized and they could receive what gift?
3. The gift of God is _____ life.
4. Where does every good and perfect gift come from?
5. He giveth His beloved _____.
6. What three things does God give to a man that is good in His sight?
7. What should we not forget?
8. "Who crowneth the with _____ and tender _____."

Memory Verse

Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with benefits, even the God of our salvation. Psalm 68:19



God expresses His great love for us through the many blessings and gifts He gives us every day. Every breath we breathe, every moment we live is a gift from Him. Sleep is a precious gift God gives to those He loves. He made us and knows our bodies need sleep. When you wake up refreshed each morning you should lift your heart to God in thanksgiving for such a wonderful gift. It is easy to take these blessings for granted until we suffer the loss of them. Then we realize how dependent we are for each of God's gifts.

Wisdom, the ability to learn and obtain knowledge how to conduct our lives safely and efficiently, comes from God. It is His mercy when we realize that we need His wisdom. Then He tells us to just ask and He will give us all we need; and He won't even scold us for being so foolish!

Joy and peace come when our heart is in tune with God, when He is living in us and directing our life. We face life confidently knowing He is our Guide and Protector. When the devil comes like a roaring lion he has to back off when he sees we are in God's care. We may lose courage sometime because there is trouble everywhere we look. God promises to give power to the faint!

Peter drew his sword and sprang into action when the soldiers came to arrest Jesus. But Jesus calmly told him to put up his sword, and then He healed the injured soldier. We must learn, like Peter, to rely on God's strength instead of our own. The Bible says that those who wait on the Lord will renew their strength. Then they can soar over trouble

like an eagle. We draw our strength from God; He will never lose His power.

God gave the dearest, most priceless gift He had when He sent Jesus to earth to save us from our sins. He knew the suffering and agony it would cost His only Son whom He loved. Yet this was what it would cost to break the power of the devil and release us from his power. God loved us so much He gave His Son to save us!

Jesus' one purpose was to show us the love and good will of God, our Father. He went about doing good, healing the sick and helping the poor. He made people's lives better and happier, yet this was not His ultimate goal. He wanted us to have eternal life; He wanted us to live in heaven with Him forever. Our eternal life cost Him His natural life; we could live only if He died!



While the disciples went into a city to buy food for lunch, Jesus sat on the side of a well. Soon a woman came to draw water. She was surprised when Jesus spoke to her. Obviously He was a Jew. She knew that Jews hated her people, the Samaritans.

When she questioned why He asked her for a drink He told her

about the wonderful gift God wanted to give her—living water. At first she thought He meant literal water. She was ready to accept the gift at once. It would be wonderful to never have to come draw water out of this well again!

But Jesus spoke of something much more wonderful—eternal life. She and many others in her town accepted this gift. When they repented and accepted Jesus as their Savior, He was like an artesian well that never runs dry. He flooded their hearts with joy, peace, and power to live above sin. Their lives were wonderfully changed by this great gift from God!

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

Arrested in Mexico *Continued*

When he had finished, I asked, "Now sir, can you please tell me how to get him out?"

"Yes, Madam," he answered, "You must prove him innocent."

"That may take a long time," I said. "Can't I post bond now?" I pleaded.

"No!" he stormed.

"But you could keep the bond money if he didn't return," I replied. "Just tell me how much you want."

"I said 'NO'!" This time he roared. "No amount of money will get him out of here!" Then he whirled himself around and walked away.

Thoughtfully I descended the steps and got into the car. I hadn't even seen James and I had told the brethren that I would bring him home with me! I could have felt defeated, but I didn't. God had placed confidence within my heart and it was still there. (*Continued next week*)

—Sis. Charlotte Huskey

The Gifts of God

Bible Drill! The student that finds and writes down the following verses about God's gifts first is the winner!

Ephesians 2:8 _____

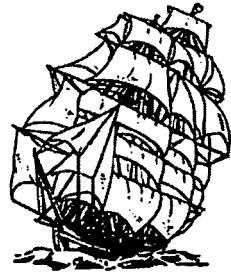
2 Corinthians 9:15 _____

Luke 11:13 _____

Answers:

1. Living water. 2. The Holy Ghost. 3. Eternal. 4. From God. 5. Sleep. 6. Wisdom, knowledge and joy. 7. His benefits. 8. Lovingkindness/mercies.

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Bible Lessons for Juniors

November 16, 2014

SINGING IN JAIL

When I arrived home from visiting James in the Rosarita jail, Pedro's nephew was waiting for me. "Aunt Beatrice sent me to ask if you would take some blankets for Bro. James and Uncle Pedro," he said. "She's taking supper to them now, but she has only enough blankets to keep herself warm."

No! I thought to myself. *I will not take blankets. I believe they will be home tonight.* "I'll help whatever way I can," I said. "But tell her not to worry. They will be alright."

The boy left and I went into the house to see about my children. After everyone left and I was alone with our four children (the oldest was 7 years old), a sudden FEAR gripped me! What if they couldn't come home tonight? What if they couldn't get out for a week? Or a month? Or a year? What would I do?

The younger children, Rosi and Tim were asleep. Bob, Tricia and I knelt beside the bed and prayed. My prayer was much like King David's prayer in Psalms 56:1-2: *"Be merciful upon me, O God; for man would swallow me up; he fighting daily oppresses me. Mine enemies would daily swallow me up: for they be many that fight against me, O thou Most High. What time I am afraid I will trust in thee."* The words, **What time I am afraid, I will trust in thee,** stood out in bold letters.

A new determination filled my being! How

foolish it was to be afraid, I thought. I would go and take the blankets to James and Pedro in jail and maybe I could talk again to the chief. I hurried over to get the girls to watch the children again.

Walking up to the reception desk again I said, "I've brought these blankets for my husband."

The policeman on duty, smiling, answered, "That's fine."

As I turned to go into the hallway that led to the jail section, he grabbed me with one hand and the blankets with the other. "Wait!" he shouted, blocking the passageway.

Taking a step backward, he searched me from head to foot with his eyes. In the presence of everyone in the reception room, he violently shook the blankets, one at a time, as if there were a hidden weapon in some secret pocket.

I wanted to say, "I'm not a criminal. Why can't you be a little more polite?" But I didn't. I just stood there smiling.

The policeman threw the blankets over my shoulder and motioned where to go.

I found James and Pedro sitting cross-legged on the cement floor, reading the Bible together. The cell was a square room, eight by eight feet. Cement block walls were on three sides. The other side was iron bars and a door of iron bars. There was nothing in the room, no bed, no chair, not even drinking water.

Continued on back page

A BRASS SERPENT

Numbers 21:4-9

4 And they journeyed from mount Hor by the way of the Red sea, to compass the land of Edom: and the soul of the people was much discouraged because of the way.

5 And the people spake against God, and against Moses, Wherefore have ye brought us out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? for there is no bread, neither is there any water and our soul loatheth this light bread.

6 And the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people; and much people of Israel died.

7 Therefore the people came to Moses, and said, We have sinned for we have spoken against the LORD, and against thee; pray unto the LORD, that he take away the serpents from us. And Moses prayed for the people.

8 And the LORD said unto Moses, Make thee a fiery serpent, and set it upon a pole: and it shall come to pass, that every one that is bitten, when he looketh upon it, shall live.

9 And Moses made a serpent of brass, and put it upon a pole, and it came to pass, that if a serpent had bitten any man, when he beheld the serpent of brass, he lived.



those days the children of Israel did burn incense to it: and he called it Nehushtan.

The Message

As the Israelites looked up at the brass serpent to be healed, so we look up to Jesus who is our Savior and Healer.

Questions

1. Why were the people discouraged?
2. Who did they speak against?
3. Why did they think they would die in the wilderness?
4. What did God send among the people?
5. Who prayed for the people?
6. What did the Lord tell Moses to make?
7. What was he to do with what he made?
8. If someone was sick, how could he be healed?
9. Why was the serpent broken in pieces?

2 Kings 18:1, 3-4

1 Now it came to pass in the third year of Hoshea son of Elah king of Israel, that Hezekiah the son of Ahaz king of Judah began to reign.

3 And he did that which was right in the sight of the LORD, according to all that David his father did.

4 He removed the high places, and brake the images, and cut down the groves, and brake in pieces the brasen serpent that Moses had made: for unto

Memory Verse

And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life. John 3:14-15



The children of Israel were on their way to Canaan, the land God had promised them. When they came near the kingdom of Arad, he came out and fought against Israel and took some of the people prisoners.

The people prayed and vowed to God that if He would deliver these enemies into their hands they would utterly destroy all the cities of king Arad. God heard their prayer and delivered their enemies into their hand. The Israelites destroyed all the cities of king Arad, as they had vowed.

This great victory and God's mercy to them should have still been fresh in their minds. But soon the people became discouraged because the way they had to go was rough. They began to speak against God and Moses, showing no gratitude for God's many mercies to them.

The people complained that they had no bread or water and accused Moses of bringing them into the wilderness to die. "We hate this light bread," they said, referring to the manna God daily provided for them.

While they were complaining, snakes crawled into the camp and bit many people. These snakes looked like fire, and the poison from their bite felt like fire. Those who were bitten died. The wilderness through which they had passed was, no doubt, infested with these fiery serpents all along. Up to this time God had wonderfully preserved His people from receiving hurt by them. But to punish them for their murmuring, the snakes, which before had stayed out of

the camp, now invaded it.

At once the people realized they were being punished for complain-ing against God and Moses. They knew they had done wrong, and they were sorry. Quickly they came to Moses and said. "We have sinned, for we have spoken against the Lord and against you. Pray to the Lord and ask Him to take these snakes away."

Instead of taking the snakes away, God provided a means by which those who were bitten could be healed if they obeyed His command. God told Moses, "Make a fiery serpent and put it on a pole. Then whenever anyone is bitten, he can look at the serpent on the pole and he will be healed."

So Moses made a serpent of brass and put it on a tall pole in the middle of the camp. From then on whenever anyone was bitten by a snake, the person looked up at this and the snake bite was made well.

The serpent of brass had no power to heal. The people were healed by faith when they believed God and obeyed by looking up to the brass serpent. If they refused to look up they would die

from the snake's bite.

John 3:14 says, "And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up." The snake was lifted high up on a pole. Jesus was lifted up on a cruel cross. As looking at the brass serpent with faith healed the Israelites, so we must look up to Jesus to be healed from sin and all its evil effects.

Sinners who despise Christ's righteousness and refuse to accept Him as their Savior will perish in their sins. But God wants everyone to be saved. One of our favorite verses tells us: "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16-17

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell



Singing in Jail *Continued*

James and Pedro looked so happy that I couldn't resist asking if they were enjoying their stay.

"Things could be a lot worse," James answered.

I crammed the blankets one at a time through the bars. "I'm sure glad you brought these," Pedro said. "It's getting cold." He wrapped one around himself. James folded the other into a cushion and sat on it.

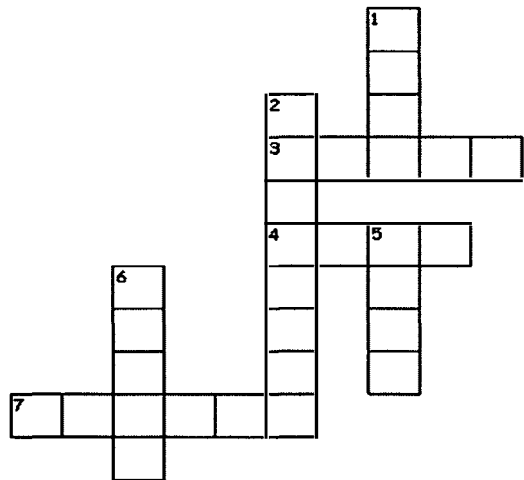
We visited for awhile and then James said, "See if Sis. Esquires will let Ramona stay with you to help with the children. Here's all the money I have. Buy the children some milk. I don't know what God has in mind by putting me here, but maybe He wants me to preach to the prisoners. It would be an opportunity. Tell the children to pray that I'll do whatever God wants me to do. Goodbye now, and don't cry."

Through blinding tears, I made my way back up the hall. *"He is so resigned to stay in here, so happy, so satisfied with whatever comes his way,"* I said to myself. *"But to me this looks like a bad testimony. People who don't know him will never believe it's a false accusation. The rumor will be, 'The Church of God missionary is in jail for stealing.' That will never do!! Besides, God has already given me the assurance that he will not stay in here."*

(Continued next week)

—Sis. Charlotte Huskey

The Brass Serpent Crossword Puzzle



Across

3. "Why have you brought us out of ____ to die in the wilderness?"
4. The Lord told Moses to put the serpent on a ____.
7. Hezekiah had the serpent broken into ____ because some people were worshipping it.

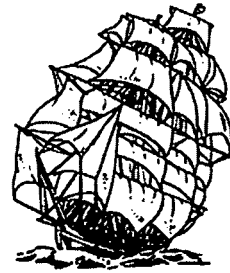
Down

1. ____ to the Lord, that he take away the serpents.
2. The Lord sent fiery ____ among the people.
5. Everyone who had been bitten that looked on the serpent would ____.
6. The people spoke against God and ____.

Answers:

1. Because of the difficult way they travelled. 2. God & Moses. 3. There was no bread or water. 4. Fiery serpents. 5. Moses. 6. A fiery serpent of brass. 7. Put it on a pole. 8. By looking at the serpent of brass. 9. The people were worshipping it.

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Bible Lessons for Juniors

November 23, 2014

A GREAT SURPRISE

I bolted forward to the reception desk at the police station in Rosarita Beach, Mexico. "Just want to know if you came up with anything about how to get the American and his friend out of this jail? They haven't broken a law or done anything bad." I had forgotten that I was speaking Spanish!

The gruff-faced chief relaxed and then smiled. "So you speak Spanish?" he said. "Yes, there is something you can do. Bring the owner of the stolen goods into this office. If he will testify that your husband had permission to take the articles, then we will release him."

"Thank you," I said and walked out into the twilight.

The owner was at the Indian reservation, over a hundred miles away. The road to the reservation was over treacherous mountains and through desert trails. All the car trails through the loose desert sand looked the same to me. We had been lost for two days and a night in that same desert and did without water for about 20 hours. I feared trying to find the reservation, and I knew of no one who knew the way. Still I was determined to go. I checked the gas gauge. It was almost on empty. I counted the money James had just given me. It was just enough to get milk for the children. *"I'll borrow some money and get gas. I'll ask Pedro's brother and sister to go with me and we'll get the owner. God will lead us..."* I said to myself as I drove

away from the police station.

The first thing I did was to get permission from Senor Esquires for his two older girls to stay overnight with my children. I then had worship with the children. I read Bible portions that would help them not fear. I told them their daddy was content to stay in jail if God had something for him to do there and that he had asked them to pray for him to do God's will. We all bowed and prayed.

I tucked each one in bed. Then I sat down in the floor beside their bunk beds to make my plans while they drifted off to sleep.

I knew I had to borrow money and that would be hard, as very seldom did our friends have extra money. *"I'll drop by and get Pedro's brother, Lalo, and sister, Anita while I'm out hunting money. I'm sure they will do anything I ask. I could never find the reservation by myself. Lalo had also been there, surely God will help us."*

When I thought the children were asleep, I told my plans to the Esquire girls. While I was giving them advice on caring for the children, a pickup stopped in front of the mission house. James met me at the door! Behind him were Pedro and his two brothers, Lalo and Jorge.

"I didn't think they could keep a good man like you in Jail," I said as I hugged him. "Tell us how this all happened. How did you get released?"

Continued on back page

ALWAYS CALL ON GOD

Psalms 34:1-19, 22

1) I will bless the LORD at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

2) My soul shall make her boast in the LORD: the humble shall hear thereof, and be glad.

3) O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together.

4) I sought the LORD, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears.

5) They looked unto him, and were lightened: and their faces were not ashamed.

6) This poor man cried, and the LORD heard him, and saved him out of all his troubles.

7) The angel of the LORD encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them.

8) O taste and see that the LORD is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him.

9) O fear the LORD, ye his saints: for there is no want to them that fear him.

10) The young lions do lack, and suffer hunger: but they that seek the LORD shall not want any good thing.

11) Come, ye children, hearken unto me: I will teach you the fear of the LORD.

12) What man is he that desireth life, and loveth many days, that he may see good?

13) Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile.

14) Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it.

15) The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous, and his ears are open unto their cry.

16) The face of the LORD is against them that do evil, to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth.

17) The righteous cry, and the LORD heareth, and

and delivereth them out of all their troubles.

18) The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit.

19) Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the LORD delivereth him out of them all.

22) The LORD redeemeth the soul of his servants: and none of

them that trust in him shall be desolate.



The Message

My great Physician is always on call!

Questions

1. Who should we bless at all times?
2. What should be continually in our mouth?
3. Who will be glad when we boast in God?
4. What happened when the Psalmist sought the Lord?
5. Who did the Lord save out of his troubles?
6. Who encampeth round those who fear the Lord?
7. O _____ and see that the Lord is good.
8. What do the young lions suffer?
9. Who is near the broken-hearted?

Memory Verse

This poor man cried, and the LORD heard him, and saved him out of all his troubles.

Psalms 34:6



I remember reading about the Pilgrims. They landed at Plymouth, Massachusetts on December 26, 1620. They tried to build rough shelters to protect themselves but the bitter winter cold and illness took their toll. By the end of winter half the colonists had died.

Then the Pilgrims met Squanto, who had learned to speak English from the English traders. He acted as guide and interpreter, and with his help, the colonists learned to plant corn, catch fish and hunt. He helped them identify edible plants and gather fruit and nuts from the forests.

The Pilgrims realized the Indians had saved their lives. They were so thankful that they invited the Indians to celebrate their first harvest in 1621, an event now celebrated as Thanksgiving Day.

We live in a land of plenty. It's easy to take our many blessings for granted and forget just how thankful we should be.

I want to tell you something that I am thankful for: I was reading a paper telling about two doctors who wanted to try a different plan. They advertised, "For \$20,000 we will make house calls and be on call night or day. For this price we promise to stay as long as the patient needs us." They were sure their plan would appeal to people because for only \$20,000. they could have the security of knowing that their doctor was available any time they called him.

Well, first of all, I don't have the money for such

service. But most importantly, I have something much better than that! Since I took God as my great Physician, I have 24-hour service because He is with me all the time! Another good thing, this Physician made my body and He knows exactly what it needs.

Besides being my Physician, God performs many other services. He is the best lawyer there ever was. Not only can He defend me from my enemies, but He can turn them into friends where they will be at peace with me.

Since He always knows everything, God is also a wonderful teacher. He tells me that if I need wisdom, He will give it to me liberally and won't scold me for being so ignorant.

Since God is by my side all the time, there are

many fringe benefits. Just a few mornings ago I got ambitious and decided to mow the grass across the street. Since I can't walk, I put my wheelchair next to the mower, slid onto the mower seat and got started.

I did real well for awhile. But I forgot about a hole in the yard until the front wheel hit it. I was able to bounce back out of it but the rear wheel went in, killing the mower. So, there I sat, tilted

sideways, realizing how unwise I had been.

Different cars came by but I didn't know the people and didn't know how to wave them down.

Next came our mailman. I knew him but he just waved and kept on going. God knew I needed help and He sent him back. After he had gone a little ways I saw his brake lights and reverse lights come on. He came back and asked, "Dale, are you having trouble?" Pretty soon he had me going again. These are just a few of the great benefits I enjoy because I love and serve God. But the greatest blessing is that after a happy life here I will someday have a home in heaven!

—Bro. Dale Doolittle



Bro. Dale Doolittle

A Great Surprise *Continued*

"Well, it's this way," James said. "After you left, God put quietness over the jail and the police station. The only thing that could be heard was Pedro and me studying the Bible and singing hymns. Everyone in the building heard some of the Word of God, even if they never go to church. I don't know which they couldn't stand, the Word of God or our singing. At any rate, the chief sent a man to unlock the door.

As we walked by to the reception desk, the chief said, 'We've decided this is no place for you two. You have been here long enough. We are dismissing all of the charges.' We took our blankets and walked out. About two blocks from the jail, Lalo picked us up. He had borrowed a pickup and was coming by to see if you would go with him to the reservation to get Tomas."

"And I was just leaving to pick up Lalo to go with me to the reservation."

We bowed and thanked the Lord for his deliverance from jail. A few weeks later Señora Mendoza, the accuser, became very ill. She called James and apologized to him and asked him to pray for her. For many weeks she suffered intensely, but during this time she made peace with God and men.

In August, about six weeks later while we were at the Pacoima camp meeting, the family called James to come and preach her funeral. The whole situation made a great impression on the community.

—Sis. Charlotte Huskey

Always Call on God Word Search

E	J	U	I	M	E	K	R	D	C
Z	E	A	E	W	Q	N	E	R	S
I	R	T	S	V	T	L	I	P	E
T	H	U	A	I	I	E	B	F	L
G	O	T	V	V	D	N	M	U	B
S	U	O	E	T	H	G	I	R	U
H	Q	R	T	M	M	D	H	N	O
M	E	S	H	H	E	T	N	F	R
D	P	S	H	V	E	E	W	S	T
G	S	I	J	R	E	Z	D	A	E
P	L	O	A	X	U	C	K	E	X
N	C	E	U	T	S	U	R	T	R
A	H	M	A	G	N	I	F	Y	N
N	V	U	L	O	H	N	O	Z	L
H	C	B	M	W	Q	T	A	F	D

SOUGHT	CRIED	DELIVERED	TROUBLES
TRUST	RIGHTEOUS	SAVETH	REDEEMETH
HEARETH	MAGNIFY		

Answers:

1. The Lord. 2. His praise. 3. The humble. 4. The Lord heard him and delivered him from all his fears. 5. This poor man. 6. The angel of the Lord. 7. Taste. 8. Hunger. 9. The Lord.

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Bible Lessons for Juniors

November 30, 2014

SHOES FOR TIM

From the window above the kitchen sink I saw the yellow school bus stop at the bottom of the hill. I could see plainly the writing on its side, San Diego Unified School District. Three of our five children, Bobby, Tricia, Timmy and 2 neighbor children got off. Tricia was dangling a letter in her hand as she raced with Bobby up the hill. "Here is a letter from teacher," she said. "Mrs. Kerr gave it to me."

I laid down the potato I was peeling and read the letter.

"Dear parent,

May the 19th will be the May Day Celebration at the El Cajon Grade School for students kindergarten through second grade. All students must wear "dress-up" clothes such as is worn for church on Sunday. Girls must wear dress shoes and boys must wear "black only" dress shoes.

Place: School Patio

Time: 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

Please be present to see your child perform.

"Won't it be fun," Tricia said. "I get to lead our class."

"Oh, I'm glad Mrs. Kerr chose you. I know you will do your job well."

"School is so much fun. I just love going to

school," she said as she danced around in excitement. "But Mommy, why are you looking so sad? Don't you think it will be fun?"

"Oh, yes. It is just that Tim has no black shoes and we used all of Daddy's paycheck to pay the rent. Daddy won't be getting any more money until after the program. But let's not worry about it."

"Oh, I won't," she said, as she picked up Leah who was crawling toward her.

Our youngest daughter, Leah, was born August 7, 1965 at the mission house in Rosarita Beach, Baja California, Mexico. Sis. Virginia Wittenborn came and stayed two weeks. She did the cooking and caring for the older four children. The mission house had no inside water or bathroom. We had to go outside, around the house and across the yard whenever we needed to use the bathroom.

We had a hand dug well in the back yard. To get water we hooked a rope to a bucket, lowered it into the well and pulled it up by the rope. There was no electricity. So there was no machine for washing cloth diapers and other clothes. Besides that, we had service twice a week in our home, which caused a lot of extra work for (me) the homemaker.

I wasn't very strong after Leah's birth so we decided to move across the border where we would have an inside bathroom, hot and cold water and electricity. These things made life easier until I gained strength.

Continued on back page

REJOICE IN THE LORD

Matthew 11:28-30

28) Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me: for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

30 For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

overcometh the world, even our faith.



Isaiah 51:11

11 Therefore the redeemed of the LORD shall return, and come with singing unto Zion; and everlasting joy shall be upon their head: they shall obtain gladness and joy; and sorrow and mourning shall flee away.

Philippians 4:4-10

4 Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice.

5 Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand.

6 Be careful for nothing: but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

7 And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

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.

10 But I rejoiced in the Lord greatly, that now at the last your care of me hath flourished again; wherein ye were also careful, but ye lacked opportunity.

The Message

Anyone who will let Jesus be Lord and follow His instruction can have everlasting joy.

Questions

1. What did Jesus promise to those who come to Him?
2. Is the burden of Jesus heavy?
3. How often are we to rejoice in the Lord?
4. Is the Lord always near?
5. What should always accompany our requests to God?
6. What will keep our hearts and minds?
7. Must Christians control what they think about?
8. Name some things we should think about.
9. "___ and ___ shall flee away."

Memory Verse

Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice. Philippians 4:4

1 John 5:4

4 For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that



Have you ever tried to carry something heavy? It is hard, isn't it? If we do wrong, our spirit feels sad and is heavy. It carries a heavy load of guilt. The only way to get rid of this heavy load is to tell God you are sorry for doing the wrong. Jesus said, "Come to me and I will give you rest." Jesus will take away the heavy feeling and make you feel light and free again. Then you will have everlasting joy. After we have come to Jesus and are saved, there are things we can do to keep that joy. Let us carefully study the scriptures in Philippians 4:4-10 and see how we can help ourselves keep this joy.

Verse four instructs us to rejoice always. It is saying, "Look on the happy side of things. Don't let your mind think about sad things. Think only of the good things."

Verse five tells us to be moderate. Having self-control is being moderate. We must eat good food, and not many of those high in fats and sugars. Many people are unhappy because they are almost as wide as they are tall. Many of these people smile and laugh to cover up how miserable they feel. Years ago a song was popular which said, "Smiling on the outside, but crying on the inside." If we are careful about what we eat and how much we eat, we

can be smiling on the outside and the inside.

We must sleep enough but not be lazy. Not enough sleep will make a person irritable. Being irritable will cause embarrassment or maybe a stumped toe if we get angry and kick the wrong things. (Have you ever done that?) Just control yourself and you will be moderate and happy.

Verse 6 says we must thank God for the good, and pray about the things that trouble us, but not worry about them. If everything seems bad, stop and think for awhile and you will remember some good things hidden under your troubles. Thank God first then ask for help. If we will do this, God has promised in verse seven that His peace will keep our minds and hearts.

The next verse gives us a job to do. It is

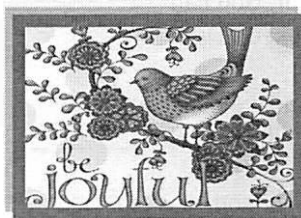
hard work to keep unholy thoughts out of our minds. Our minds are like gardens, in which an enemy is daily planting weed seeds.

The devil sows evil thoughts in our mind because he wants to ruin us. He will win if we let our minds stay

on the things he plants there. We must be constantly throwing out these thoughts and replacing them with true, honest, pure, lovely thoughts. We can win if we obey this scripture and think on good things.

This scripture also instructs us to give if we are to have everlasting joy. Give our smiles to cheer the sad. Give our strength to help the weak. Give our money, clothes and food to help the poor. Give our all to Jesus. He will lift our heavy loads and give us everlasting joy!

—Sis. Charlotte Huskey



—Sis. Charlotte Huskey

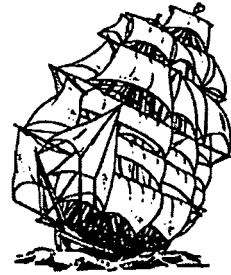
Clue: Romans 14:17

VFWOXRTWXHVEVXKWIWXVNWGXGVXWVDV
VXOMWOFWXGOWXVDWXWISWXNVOWTX
MWXVEAWWTVAWXVNXWDDWXVRWIWX
XWNVVWKWXVBVUTWRXIVGHWXVTEWXXOV
WUSWXNVEWXVSWXANWVDWPWXVEWXV
AVWCWXVEAWNVDJWOYINVTHWEWXV
WHWXVOLVYGWHVOWXVSWXVWXTVWXXV

[illegible]

1. He promised rest. 2. No. 3. Always. 4. Yes. 5. Thanksgiving. 6. The peace of God. 7. Yes. 8. We should think about things that are true, honest, just, pure, lovely, of good report and virtuous. 9. Sorrow/mourning.

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CAUGHT!!

(From A Newspaper Article)

Teresa lived in an old folks' home where many other old men and women lived. Each person had their own room, but they slept without locking the door so that the night nurses could check on each one while they were sleeping.

Each night before Teresa went to bed, she washed her false teeth and placed them in a container beside her bed. One morning she reached for the container to get her teeth, and they were gone! "Hmmm," she thought, "I wonder where my teeth are."

All day long Teresa looked for her teeth. The next day she told the nurses and they helped her look, but no one could find the missing teeth.

After several days of hunting, Teresa told the nurse, "Someone has stolen my teeth."

The nurse laughed and said, "Your teeth would not fit in another person's mouth." Teresa was still sure that someone in the home had her teeth. She thought and thought until she formed a plan to get her stolen teeth back.

One night when everyone was asleep she crept out of her bed. Taking her pillowcase in her hand, she tip-toed to the door. She looked up and down the hall to make sure that no nurse was near. Then she crept to the door across the hall and peeked in. Miss Jewel was asleep. "Ah," thought Teresa,

"I'll get my stolen teeth back."

Quickly she took Miss Jewel's false teeth from the container beside her bed. She then crept out of the room and into the room beside it. Mr. Jones was also asleep so Teresa took his false teeth also. She slipped them into the pillowcase with Miss Jewel's teeth. Hiding the pillowcase under her house coat, she slipped down the hall into the next room.

After Teresa had taken every pair of false teeth that she could find, she crept quietly back into her room. There she locked herself in the bathroom and tried every pair of false teeth into her mouth until she found some that she thought were hers.

The nurse on duty, seeing that Teresa was up, asked, "Are you feeling ill?"

"No," Teresa answered.

"Then come out and let me help you into bed."

Teresa let the nurse put her to bed, but she didn't go to sleep. She listened until the nurse had checked everyone and had gone back to the nurse's station. Then she slipped back out of her room and into every room where she had just gone. In the containers beside each bed, she dropped a pair of false teeth. She thought no one would ever know what she had done.

Do you think she was discovered? You think Teresa was funny and foolish to think she wouldn't be discovered, but people do things just as foolish.

Continued on back page

JOY FOR SALVATION

Psalms 96:1-10, 13

- 1) O sing unto the Lord a new song: sing unto the Lord, all the earth,
- 2) Sing unto the Lord, bless his name; shew forth his salvation from day to day.
- 3) Declare his glory among the heathen, his wonders among all people.
- 4) For the Lord is great, and greatly to be praised: he is to be feared above all gods.
- 5) For all the gods of the nations are idols: but the Lord made the heavens.
- 6) Honour and majesty are before him: strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.
- 7) Give unto the Lord, O ye kindreds of the people, give unto the Lord glory and strength.
- 8) Give unto the Lord the glory due unto his name. . .
- 9) O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness: fear before him, all the earth.
- 10) Say among the heathen that the Lord reigneth: the world also shall be established that it shall not be moved: he shall judge the people righteously.
- 13) . . . For he cometh to judge the earth: he shall judge the world with righteousness, and the people with his truth.

Luke 15:10

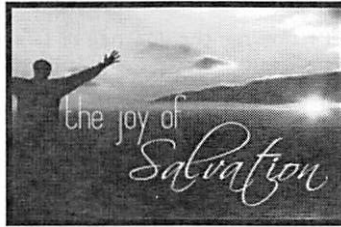
- 10) Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth.

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

- 2) The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.
- 6) For unto us a child [Jesus] is born, unto us a

son is given: the government shall be upon his shoulder: his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

- 7) Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice. . .



The Message

Be joyful, for the Savior has come to save from sin, to keep us from sinning and to judge righteously.

Questions

1. What kind of song should we sing?
2. Where should we declare His glory?
3. How should the Lord be worshipped?
4. How will God judge His people?
5. What did the people sitting in darkness see?
6. What happened to those sitting in the shadow of death?
7. The government shall be on the shoulder of whom?
8. Who is the Prince of Peace?
9. Is there an end to Jesus' kingdom?

Memory Verse

Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth. Luke 15:10



The prophet Isaiah said those who walk in darkness would see a great light. This happened when Jesus came. Jesus is "the light of the world." When He came, His light shined over everyone. Now everyone can have light in their soul. But only those who repent of their sins receive this light.

Every person has sinned. Sin causes a shadow of death over the person who sins. But God sent Jesus, in the form of a child, clothed in human flesh, to shine a light over those beneath a shadow of death. If this light is accepted, the person will be set free from sin and death. And as the memory verse says, the angels in heaven will rejoice.

King David in Psalm 96 tells us to sing a new song to the Lord. This new song is a song of praise for salvation. Before Jesus came, people could not sing of salvation from sin. They could only give offerings to be sacrificed for their sins.

Today the blood of Jesus cleanses our hearts of sin. The Holy Spirit takes away the roots of sin and fills us with power to overcome temptation to sin. We can resist Satan and do what Jesus would do. He did no sin. (1 Peter 2:22). Being able to overcome temptations to sin is something to rejoice about. The third verse of *Joy To The World* says:

"No more let sin and sorrows grow,
Nor thorns infest the ground (of your heart);
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found."

The curse is death for sinning. Jesus came to remove this curse. He removes it from everyone who repents of their sins. When sin is repented of, the heart is full of light and the person is saved. A saved person is in the light. As long as he continues to obey

God, he is walking in light and is able to sing the new song.
—Sis. Charlotte Huskey

Joy to the World!

Joy to the world! the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! the Savior reigns!
Let men their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.



No more let sins and sorrows grow,
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as the curse is found.
He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness,
And wonders of His love.
And wonders, and wonders of His love.

Wanting to write songs based on the Psalms from a New Testament background, Isaac Watts wrote *Joy To The World* from Psalm 98. (Ps 98:4 Make a joyful noise unto the Lord all the earth; make a loud noise and rejoice and sing praise...). "How dare he take the psalms and try to improve them," was the outcry. *Joy To The World* is now universally sung as one of the most joyous songs of Christmas.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

Caught! Continued

The following morning when Teresa was sleeping, Miss Jewel reached for her false teeth. She washed them carefully and put—tried to put—them into her mouth. The teeth were far too big for Miss Jewel's tiny mouth.

Mr. Jones reached out sleepily for his teeth. He took out the top piece and crammed them in his mouth. "Hey, what's happened to my teeth?" he yelled. "They shrunk in the night."

Lights were flashing and buzzers going off in the nurse's station as the residents discovered their teeth would no longer fit into their mouths. Everyone in the home was awake and excited, that is except Teresa who had lost her teeth. She was sound asleep with a set of false teeth in her mouth.

The next time you are tempted to do something you hope no one will know, just remember you are acting like Teresa. You are saying to yourself, "I won't get caught," while God is looking right at you. God is seeing everyone, everywhere, who is stealing, even though they are stealing at the same time and are hundreds of miles apart. He can hear everyone who is lying at the same time although they are on separate sides of the world. He can see everyone who is cheating. Some people are cheating and being cheated at the same time. God sees both.

Remember: While you are doing wrong, God sees you—you are already caught!

—Sis. Charlotte Huskey

Joy for Salvation

Bible Drill! The student that finds the following verses about joy for salvation and writes them down the fastest is the winner.

Isaiah 12:3 _____

Psalms 95:1 _____

Psalms 13:5 _____

Habakkuk 3:18 _____

Luke 1:47 _____

Answers:

1. A new song. 2. Among the heathen. 3. In the beauty of holiness. 4. Righteously. 5. A great light. 6. A light shined upon them. 7. Jesus. 8. Jesus. 9. No!

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Bible Lessons for Juniors

December 14, 2014

MARY WALKED TWENTY-FIVE MILES FOR A BIBLE

(A true story)

"Careful there," a tall Welsh mother said to her six-year-old daughter as she stumbled on a tree root growing out across the path.

"It is so dark tonight," Mary answered. "I wish God were here."

"Why do you say that?" Mother asked.

"If God were here, we would have light on our path."

Mother laughed. "You must be thinking of God's words that the preacher read tonight. 'God's Word is a lamp to my feet and a light unto my path.'"

"Oh, how I wish I had a Bible," Mary sighed.

"Could we buy one? Teacher says, 'I can read well.'"

"Bibles are expensive! I could never save that much money! These four years since your father died I've barely kept food on the table and clothes on our backs."

"If I earn the money can I buy a Bible?"

"Of course you can," her mother answered.

At the end of the first year, Mary counted her money. She had only about one tenth of what she needed to buy a Bible; however, she never gave up. The following year she worked harder and earned more money. For almost ten years, she worked and saved most of her earnings. When Mary finally had enough money, she found out that only in Bala

could she get a Bible in the Welsh language.

"Where is Bala?" Mary asked Mother.

"A long ways from here, Mary. But maybe someone will be going to Bala and can buy it for you."

A long time passed and no villager went to Bala. Mary could hardly wait.

"Please let me go," she begged her mother. "I'm sixteen now, old enough to care for myself."

"You can't walk the distance in one day, and where would you stay at night?"

"God will care for me," Mary assured her mother.

Although her mother hated to see Mary go alone, she felt sure God would protect such a noble girl.

Mary walked for several hours and then she noticed her new shoes were getting scuffed. So she took them off and walked barefoot whenever she could.

When she finally arrived in Bala, she inquired and found Thomas Charles, who sold Bibles.

Laying her ten years' savings on his table, she said confidently "I have come to buy a Bible."

"I am sorry," he answered. "I have only one more Bible which I have already promised to a friend."

Mary fell into uncontrollable crying. "Come quick," Mr. Charles called to his wife. "Something is happening to this girl."

"Why are you crying, my dear?" Mrs. Charles asked.

Continued on back page

AN ANGEL VISITS MARY

Luke 1:26-40

26) And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth,

27) To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary.

28) And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women.
29) And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be.

30) And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God.

31) And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS.

32) He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David:

33) And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.

34) Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?

35) And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

36) And, behold, thy cousin Elisabeth, she hath also conceived a son in her old age: and this is the sixth month with her, who was called barren.

37) For with God nothing shall be impossible.

38) And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her.

39) And Mary arose in those days, and went into



The hill country with haste, into a city of Juda;

40) And entered into the house of Zacharias, and saluted Elisabeth

The Message

God's promise of a Savior was fulfilled.
We can always rely on His promises!

Questions

1. Who was sent from God
2. To what city was he sent?
3. To whom was the virgin espoused?
4. What was the virgin's name?
5. With Whom had she found favor?
6. What was she to call her Son?
7. How long will His kingdom last?
8. Who else was expecting a son?
9. With Whom is nothing impossible?

Memory Verse

For with God nothing shall be impossible.

Luke 1:37



Although it had been hundreds of years since God, through His prophets, last mentioned the coming Messiah, those who feared God still waited expectantly for Him.

One writer speculated that as the time drew near for the birth of Jesus, there must have been great excitement among the angels in heaven. They knew that this was the most important event of the ages.

The Lord, whom they adored, was about to leave the realms of glory to go and live on one of the smallest planets He had created. To show how much He loved all His creatures—even those who had rebelled against Him—He was going to come to earth as a tiny helpless baby and live as a man among men.

How much the angels understood about this miracle of miracles we do not know, but it must have seemed to them the greatest proof that God is love. They were so touched by this most gracious act that they wanted to tell everybody the wonderful news. How they must have marveled that the people on the earth—except for a very few—did not give a thought to His coming. Nobody was preparing a welcome for Him!

Eagerly they watched as the years of Daniel's prophecy gradually came to a close. Then, at exactly the right time, not a moment too soon, not a moment too late, God called upon Gabriel to fly swiftly to the earth and find a girl called Mary.

The Bible does not tell us just why God chose Mary. But we do know that "...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." No doubt Mary was the best girl He could find in the entire world just then. He had been watching her all her life and knew that her heart was "perfect toward him." He believed He could trust her with this very great honor.

He knew exactly where she was, so when Gabriel went to Nazareth he made no mistake. A moment later he was beside her. "Hail, thou that art highly favoured," he said kindly.

Mary wondered who her visitor might be and what he meant by these strange words. Seeing how frightened she was, Gabriel spoke more gently still. "Fear not, Mary," he said, "for thou hast found favour with God. And, behold, thou shalt bring forth a son, and shalt call his name Jesus."

To Mary this didn't seem possible.

Her son to be a king! To sit on David's throne! To reign forever! Oh, no! She must be dreaming. Anyway, it couldn't happen, because she wasn't married. She was just betrothed to Joseph, that was all, and she told Gabriel so, in case he didn't know it.

Gabriel was ready with his answer. If Mary were willing, he said, something very wonderful would happen to her. Through the power of God she would bear a special Son. Seeing that Mary still doubted, he told her a secret that must have surprised her very much: "Behold, thy cousin Elisabeth, she hath also conceived a son in her old age: and this is the sixth month with her, who was called barren."

Gabriel must have smiled at her surprise and bewilderment. "With God nothing shall be impossible," he said. Mary bowed her head. "Behold the handmaid of the Lord," she said. "Be it unto me according to thy word."

A moment later Gabriel vanished and Mary was left alone wondering what it all meant.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell



25 Miles for a Bible! *Continued*

Mary explained, "I live in Llanfihangel. It's twenty-five miles away, and I've walked all the way. I was tired, hot and afraid, but the thought of having my own Bible helped me go on."

"Surely my child, you are making up that story, your shoes are not worn," interrupted Mr. Charles.

"Let's look at her feet," Mrs. Charles suggested. "Then we will know the truth."

One look at Mary's scuffed, bruised feet convinced Mr. and Mrs. Charles that truly she had walked twenty-five miles.

Jumping to his feet Mr. Charles hurried to the cupboard and got the Bible. "You must take the Bible," he exclaimed. "You deserve it. I will get another Bible for my friend when I go to London."

"Thank you, thank you," Mary said, hugging the Bible. "You see my mother is a widow, too poor to buy me a Bible. I have worked and saved my earnings for almost ten years to buy this book."

Mr. Charles was so impressed with Mary's desire to have a Bible that he spoke to the men in London about publishing Bibles in the Welsh language. Fifteen months later the British and Foreign Bible Society was formed. Similar Bible societies were later formed in Germany, the Netherlands, Denmark, Russia, France, Greece and the U.S.A.

Mary never knew how many people were blessed by her sacrifice to have a Bible.

Adapted from the American Bible Society

—*Sis. Charlotte Huskey*

An Angel Visits Mary

Fill in the missing vowels to find out a prophecy about Mary's special Son. Clue: Isaiah 9:6

F__r __ nt __ __s __ ch__ld

__s b__rn, __nt__ __s __

S__n __s g__v__n: __nd th__

g__v__rnm__nt sh__ll b__

__p__n H__s sh__ __ld__r:

__nd H__s n__m__ sh__ll b__

c__ll__d W__nd __rf__l,

C__ __ns __ll__r, Th__ m__ghty

G__d, Th__ __v__rl__st__ng

F__th__r, Th__ Pr__nc__ __f

P__ __c__.

Answers:

1. Gabriel. 2. Nazareth. 3. Joseph. 4. Mary.
5. God. 6. Jesus. 7. It will never end.
8. Elisabeth. 9. God

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I KNEW YOU WOULD COME

(A True story)

Herman and I locked our general store and dragged ourselves home. It was 11:00 p.m., Christmas Eve of 1949. We were dog-tired. We had sold almost all of our toys; and all of the layaways, except one package, had been picked up.

Usually we kept the store open until everything had been claimed. We wouldn't have woken up happy on Christmas knowing that some child's gift was still on the layaway shelf. But the person who had put a dollar down on that package never returned.

Early Christmas morning we and our twelve-year-old son, Tom, opened gifts. But I'll tell you, there was something humdrum about this Christmas. Tom was growing up; I missed his childish exuberance of past years.

As soon as breakfast was over, Tom left to visit his friend next door. Herman mumbled, "I'm going back to sleep. There's nothing left to stay up for." So there I was alone, feeling letdown.

And then it began; a strange, persistent urge. It seemed to be telling me to go to the store. I looked at the sleet and icy sidewalk outside. *That's crazy*, I said to myself. I tried dismissing the urge, but it wouldn't leave me alone. In fact, it was getting stronger. Finally, I couldn't stand it any longer, and I got dressed.

Outside, the wind cut right through me and the sleet stung my cheeks. I groped my way to the store, slipping and sliding. In front stood two boys, one about nine and the other, six. *What in the world?*

"See, I told you she would come!" the older boy said jubilantly. The younger one's face was wet with tears, but when he saw me, his sobbing stopped.

"What are you two doing out here?" I scolded, hurrying them into the store. "You should be at home on a day like this!" They were poorly dressed. They had no hats or gloves, and their shoes barely held together. I rubbed their icy hands, and got them up close to the heater.

"We've been waiting for you," replied the older boy. "My little brother Jimmy didn't get any Christmas." He touched Jimmy's shoulder. "We want to buy some skates. That's what he wants. We have these three dollars," he said, pulling the bills from his pocket.

I looked at the money. I looked at their expectant faces. And then I looked around the store. "I'm sorry," I said, "but we have no—" Then my eye caught sight of the layaway shelf with its lone package. "Wait a minute," I told the boys. I walked over, picked up the package, unwrapped it and, miracle of miracles, there was a pair of skates!

Continued on back page

BORN THIS DAY A SAVIOR

Luke 2:8-20

8) And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

9) And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

10) And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

11) For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord.

12) And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

13) And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

14) Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

15) And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.

16) And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.

17) And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child.

18) And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds.

19) But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.

20) And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.



The Message

Be sure to keep Christ in your Christmas.

Questions

1. Why were the shepherds spending the night in the field?
2. What made them 'sore afraid'?
3. Who was born in the city of David?
4. When the angels went away, where did the shepherds go?
5. Who did they find there?
6. After they had seen baby Jesus what did they tell the people?
7. What kind of a world would we live in if Jesus had not come?
8. What is more important to you, Jesus or your gifts?

Memory Verse

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. Luke 2:11



I am sure that all of you look forward to Christmas. When I was a little girl my folks were poor, but they usually had some fruit or candy for us and sometimes little gifts. And we always enjoyed the sacks with candy, fruit, and nuts that the Sunday school gave us.

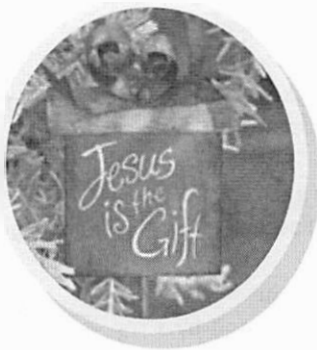
We loved to sing the Christmas carols at school. We were taught that we should love the great Gift, which was God's Son, who came to this world as a little baby. God gave a Gift first, and that is why we give and receive gifts.

If Jesus had not been born, there would be no Sunday school for you to go to. Jesus brought love and kindness to the world. There are places in the world today where they do not know about Jesus.

We need to pray that our nation will not forget about Jesus. It is sad to see how many people do not love or serve Jesus. Our nation will have great troubles, even more than they have today, because so many do not love Jesus and accept the peace and good will that He brought to the world. You can do your part by loving Jesus with all your heart.

—Aunt Marie

(Taken from December 25, 1966 *Beautiful Way*)



Years ago there was a Christmas card titled, "*If Christ had not come.*" The card showed a minister who had fallen asleep in his study on Christmas morning. As he slept he dreamed that Jesus had never come to the world.

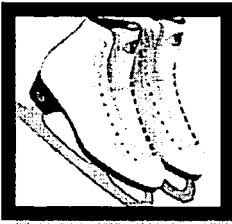
In his dream, he found himself looking through his home, but there were no little stockings in the chimney corner, no Christmas bells or wreaths of holly, and no Christ to comfort, gladden and save. He walked out on the street, but there was no church with its spire pointing to Heaven. He came back and sat down in his library, but every book about the Savior had disappeared.

The doorbell rang and a messenger asked him to visit a poor dying mother. He hurried to her bedside, sat down and said, "I have something here that will comfort you." He opened his Bible to look for a familiar promise, but it ended at Malachi, and there was no gospel and no promise of hope and salvation! He could only bow his head and weep with her in bitter despair.

Suddenly he woke with a start, and a great shout of joy and praise burst from his lips as he heard the choir singing in the church close by: "O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant, O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem; Come and behold Him, born the King of Angels, O come let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord."

Let us be glad and rejoice today, because "He has come." And let us remember the annunciation of the angel, "Behold I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people, for unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." (Luke 2:10, 11.)

Adapted from *Streams in the Desert*, Dec. 25.



Jimmy reached for them. *Lord, let them be his size.* And miracle added upon miracle, they *were* his size.

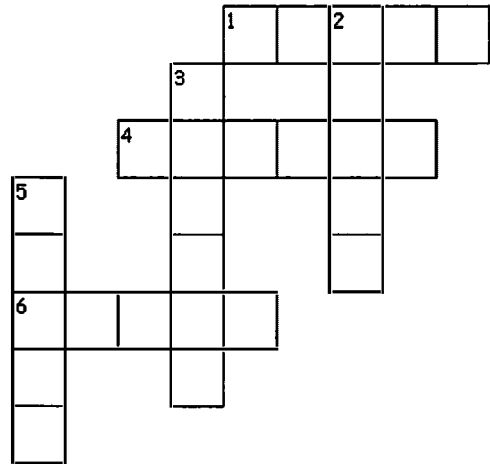
The older boy presented the dollars to me. "No," I told him, "I want you to have these skates, and I want you to use your money to get some gloves." The boys just blinked at first. Then their eyes became like saucers, and their grins stretched wide when they understood I was giving them the skates. What I saw in Jimmy's eyes was a blessing. It was pure joy, and it was beautiful. My spirits rose.

We walked out together, and as I locked the door, I turned to the older brother and said, "How did you know I would come?"

I wasn't prepared for his reply. His gaze was steady, and he answered me softly. "I asked Jesus to send you."

The tingles in my spine weren't from the cold. God had planned this. As we waved good-by, I turned home to a brighter Christmas.

—Elizabeth King English



Across

1. The shepherds were watching their flock by ____.
4. "Unto you is born this day in the city of David a ____."
6. An ____ appeared to them and they were afraid.

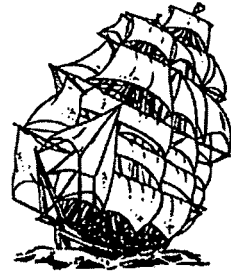
Down

2. "____ to God in the highest"
3. They found the babe lying in a ____.
5. "on earth ____ and good will"

Answers:

1. To keep watch over their flocks. 2. The angel of the Lord appeared to them. 3. Jesus. 4. To Bethlehem. 5. Mary, Joseph and baby Jesus. 6. Everything the angel told them about Jesus. 7. Answers will vary. 8. Jesus!

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THE WINTER MORNING GUEST

One winter morning in 1931, I came down to breakfast and found the table empty.

It was cold outside. The worst blizzard on record had paralyzed the city. The snow had drifted up two stories high against our house, blackening the windows. Gently Dad told me our fuel and food supplies were exhausted.

"So what are we going to eat?" I asked.

"We'll have our devotions first, John Edmund," he said, in a voice that told me I should not ask questions.

My father was a pastor. As a Christian, he'd been chased out of his Syrian homeland. He arrived as a teenager in the United States with no money and barely a word of English, nothing but his vocation to preach. He knew hardship of a kind few see today. Yet my parents consistently gave away at least 10 percent of their income, and no one but God ever knew when we were in financial need.

That morning, Dad read the scriptures as usual, and afterwards we knelt for prayer. He prayed earnestly for the family, for our relatives and friends, for those he called the "missionaries of the cross," and those in the city who'd endured the blizzard without adequate shelter.

Then he prayed something like this: "Lord, Thou knowest we have no more coal to burn. If it can please Thee, send us some fuel. If not, Thy will be done. We thank Thee for warm clothes and bed

covers, which will keep us comfortable, even without the fire. Also, Thou knowest we have no food except milk for Baby Thomas. If it can please Thee..."

For someone facing bitter cold and hunger, he was remarkably calm. Nothing deflected him from completing the family devotions, not even the clamor we now heard beyond the muffling wall of snow.

Finally someone pounded on the door. The visitor had cleared the snow off the windowpane, and we saw his face peering in.

"Your door's iced up," he yelled. "I can't open it."

The devotions over, Dad jumped up. He pulled; the man pushed. When the door suddenly gave, an avalanche of snow fell into the entrance hall. I didn't recognize the man, and I don't think Dad did either because he said politely, "Can I help you?" The man explained he was a farmer who'd heard Dad preach in Allegan three years earlier.

"I awakened at four o'clock this morning," he said, "and I couldn't get you out of my mind. The truck was stuck in the garage, so I harnessed the horses to the sleigh and came over."

"Well, please come in," my father said. On any other occasion, he'd have added, "and have some breakfast with us." But, of course, today there was no breakfast.

Continued on back page

GOD PROTECTS HIS SON

Matthew 2:1-5, 7-13

1) Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem.

2) Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him.

3) When Herod the king, had heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.

4) And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born.

5) And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judaea: for thus it is written by the prophet,

7) Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, inquired of them diligently what time the star appeared.

8) And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found him, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also.

9) When they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, 'till it came and stood over where the young child was.

10) When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy.

11) And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.

12) And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way.

13) And when they were departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeareth to Joseph in a dream, saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will seek the young child to destroy him.



The Message

**Just as God protected Jesus,
He will Protect those who obey Him.**

Questions

1. Who was king when Jesus was born?
2. What did the wise men ask Herod?
3. What did Herod command of the high priests and scribes?
4. What did Herod ask the wise men to do?
5. Did Herod say he wanted to worship the new king?
6. What did God show the wise men in a dream?
7. Did the wise men obey God?
8. What did God tell Joseph to do?

Memory Verse

If ye do return unto the Lord
with all your hearts . . . and serve him
only . . . he will deliver you . . .

I Samuel 7:3



Many years before Jesus was born, the Jewish people rejected the laws of God. They worshipped idols. A few times they even sacrificed their children to these idols. Prophets and wise men warned them of the danger to come if they did not stop these evil practices. The people did not change.

Enemy armies marched into the land of Israel and took the people captive. They burned the cities, stole their livestock and their crops. The people they captured were herded like livestock over mountains and plains until they reached the conquerors' country. Here they were put to work as slaves.

There were a few of these Jews who remembered the laws of God and obeyed them while living in the foreign country. The three Hebrew children, who did not bow to the golden idol, and Daniel, were among those who honored God and obeyed His laws. In this way, the laws of God spread into many nations. I am sure as they visited with their neighbors, the captive Jews sometimes mentioned God's promise of a king who would come to deliver them.

It also seems that some of the Jews had taken along some books of prophecy. These books are portions of the Bible. Prophecies about Christ were in these books.

One said, "I shall see him, but not now: I shall behold him, but not nigh: there shall come a *Star* out of Jacob, and a Scepter shall rise out of

Israel."

Some Bible historians believe the wise men had heard some prophecies of Jesus. When they saw the bright new star they thought it must mean that the new king of the Jews had been born.

At once they set off to find Him. When they arrived in Jerusalem, they went straight to the palace. Now King Herod cared nothing about prophecies and therefore knew nothing about a new king. The scribes and high priests knew very little more than King Herod did, but they had the old books. Searching them, they found the prophecy in Micah which said the new Governor would be born in Bethlehem. So Herod sent the wise men to Bethlehem with orders to

return and tell him where the child was. At Bethlehem the star stood still over the place where Jesus was. At last they had found the promised Savior! Falling to their knees they worshiped Him. Then opening their treasures, they presented Him with rich gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. To protect Jesus, God instructed the Wise Men in a

dream that they must not go back to Herod. So they returned to their home by another road.

Herod waited a long time for the Wise Men to return from Bethlehem but they never came. Now Herod was angry! He sent his soldiers to kill every child in Bethlehem and the surrounding country that was two years old or younger! But God knew his evil intentions. He had already warned Joseph to leave Bethlehem and take Mary and the Child to Egypt where they would be safe.

Remember how God also protected the three Hebrew children from the king's fiery furnace and Daniel from the lions? Obey God and you can trust Him to protect you, too!

—Sis. Charlotte Huskey



The Winter Morning Guest *Continued*

The man thanked him. And then, to our astonishment, he plucked a large box off the sleigh. More than sixty years later, I can see that box as clear as yesterday. It contained milk, eggs, butter, pork chops, grain, homemade bread and a host of other things. When the farmer had delivered the box, he went back out and got a cord of wood. Finally, after a very hearty breakfast, he insisted Dad take a ten-dollar bill.

Almost every day Dad reminded us that "God is the Provider." And my experience throughout adult life has confirmed it. "I have never seen the righteous forsaken nor their children begging bread." (Psalm 37:25) The Bible said it. But Dad and Mom showed me it was true.

Written by John Edmund Haggai

The Debt of Love

II Corinthians. 8: 9-15

The Jew was taxed a tenth, and made freewill offerings besides. All the Christian has belongs to God. Whatever we have is His, because we are His. It is given us in trust, to be administered conscientiously as His Spirit suggests. We are to owe no man anything. Yet *we are badly in debt*. It is a debt of love, due to God, payable to man. We pay it only by giving freely as the Spirit directs.

The Bent-Knee Time by S.D. Gordon

The Wise Men



Answers:

1. Herod. 2. "Where is he that is born King of the Jews?" 3. To tell him where Christ was born. 4. To find Jesus and let him know where Jesus was. 5. Yes. 6. They must not return to Herod. 7. Yes. 8. To take Jesus and His mother to Egypt. 9. Yes.

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