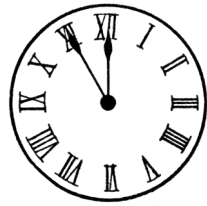


## Clock Hands and Rosebuds

*"You may move the hands of a clock to suit you, but you do not change the time... You can open a rosebud but you spoil the flower." –Stephen Merritt*



"Don't worry, I know what I'm doing." How often have you heard that phrase spoken? And how often did the circumstance turn out exactly how the individual expected it to?

Our human minds like to think that we are full of wisdom and foresight—that

when we make decisions, we are absolutely choosing the best course of action. But if we are honest with ourselves, we have no idea how any given situation might turn out. We are not omnipotent. Only God has that power.

Stephen Merritt said, "You may move the hands of a clock to suit you, but you do not change the time...."

God's way is God's way, whether you know what that way is or not, and choosing differently does not change that. In the same way that forcing the hands of a clock to suit you does not change the true time, choosing your own path does not change God's true plan for your life. He will bring you to where He wants you to be, no matter your choices, but if you choose His way, you ensure that you will enjoy His blessings along the way. Seek Him for answers. Ask Him openly: "God, what are your plans for my life? Which way should I go in this situation? Where would you like me to go from here?" He will not leave you guessing. Sometimes He answers through the scripture, sometimes through a song, or sometimes He simply opens up the way He desires you to go. Listen carefully to Him with a willing heart and He will show you the way.

Also, you cannot rush God's timing. "You can open a rosebud but you spoil the flower." Even if you are positive of the direction God would have you to go, you

### Questions

1. To what did the lesson compare clock hands?
2. To what did the lesson compare a rosebud?
3. What kind of end does God have planned for each individual?
4. What kind of blessings will you experience if you follow God's path and timing?

must patiently wait for His timing. He has your life laid out in a series of time-sensitive events. Things happen at a certain time for a certain purpose. Forcing an event to happen before its time ruins the beauty God planned for it to bring forth.

A familiar verse in Jeremiah 29:11 says, "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope," (ESV). God has an expected end in mind for you. He wants to give you a future full of hope and spiritual welfare. If you will follow His path and wait for His timing, great beauty and enrichment will pour forth from your life. You will be greatly blessed, and those around you will witness God's great goodness.

Food for thought: Do not force the force the petals of the flower to open before it is their turn to bloom. Their beauty and fragrance die before they really get a chance to live, and the flower's purpose is never fulfilled to its true potential.

Lindsey Gellenbeck

**Key Thought:** Following God's plan and timing for your life will lead to spiritual beauty and enrichment.

**Memory Verse:** For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end. Jeremiah 29:11

## Is That Grandma?

*I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will lead thee with mine eye. (Psalms 32:8)*

"Goodbye, Rosi. We are packed and ready to go home. I guess you will also be leaving today?" I asked.

"Yes, Philip has to finish some paperwork and get pictures of the completed job, and then we will also be heading for Guthrie. We might get there before you because we will probably drive faster."

"Maybe so—we can't go very fast in the old Ranger pickup. It has been fun vacationing together with you, Leah, and your children while the men worked. I loved staying in the ranger cabin in the mountain, driving up Pike's Peak, and hiking through The Garden of the Gods."

James was helping Philip install display furniture in a Dillard's store in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Now the two-week job was finished and we were headed for Guthrie, Oklahoma.

"Dad, what highway are you planning on taking?" Rosi asked.

"Oh, I don't know—we have a map in the pickup," he answered.

"Don't worry about us," I said, "God guides your dad."

"That's right," Rosi answered. "Goodbye, see you in Guthrie."

"Goodbye."

Wherever James and I travel, we like to take back roads in order to get a better view of the area. We followed Interstate 25 south for a while, and then we turned on State Highway 50 going south east. At Lamar, we got on State Highway 287. Before long we saw a herd of antelope grazing in the fields. Later we saw several more herds.

"We chose the right highway this time," I said excitedly.

"Yes, this is great—no traffic, no towns," James said. He adjusted his seat into a reclining position and pushed it back as far as it would go, so his legs had plenty of room to stretch. "This is the way to travel," he said.

We drove on in silence, enjoying the scenery for a good while, and then James said, "Something strange is happening to this car." Before long we had to stop.

"Looks like we are in trouble in this desolate place," I said.

"Don't worry. Philip and Rosi will be coming along any time."

"James!" I said, "They don't know we are on this lonely highway. There are lots of ways to get to Guthrie. They probably chose a more traveled route."

"Just wait. You will see," James said. "While I am working on the motor, you go back around that curve and wave down any car that comes along. We are in a dangerous spot so near that curve."

I got my head scarf, walked around the curve and stood ready, although I had no expectation that Philip and Rosi would come.

Before long a car appeared on the distance horizon. I watched it drawing nearer and nearer. With my head down, I began waving my scarf as the car swished passed.

The next thing I knew, the car slowed down and turned around in the middle of the road. It looked like Rosi and Philip's van!

Matthew jumped out of the car before it got stopped! He said, "We said, 'that looks just like Grandma,' but we didn't believe it was you until we came around the curve and saw the Ranger."

"What a miracle that we both chose to travel this isolated highway," Philip said.

"Now which one was God guiding?" Rosi asked. "Was it Daddy or Philip?"

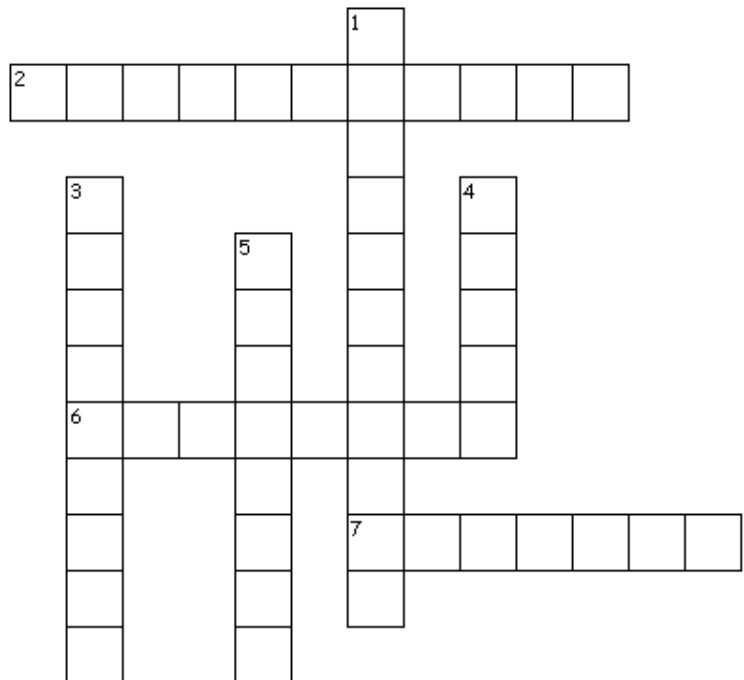
"God must have been guiding them both or they would not have taken the same isolated highway," Matthew remarked.

It is not in man that walketh to direct his steps. (Jeremiah 10:23b)

Taken from *Traveling with God* by Charlotte Huskey

## God's Timing—God's Plan

Word list: choices, enrichment, expected, omnipotent, patient, plan, timing



### Across

- Following God's plan will bring \_\_\_\_ to your life.
- The decisions that effect your life.
- Things work best when they happen in God's \_\_\_\_.

### Down

- God's power is \_\_\_\_.
- God desires to give you an \_\_\_\_ end.
- God has the ultimate \_\_\_\_ for your life.
- A fruit of the spirit needed to accept God's plan.

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## Desire the Word

A familiar passage in the gospel of John reads, “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God... In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it,” (John 1:1, 4-5).



This excerpt describes the beautiful completeness that is our wonderful God. Before He set our world in place, His Word existed. His word is the essence of who He is. It is the light that shines in the darkness of this world and it is so powerful, the darkness cannot overcome it.

We hear about people who know little to nothing about Jesus, and when they get an opportunity to read the Bible or hear the Gospel preached, they cannot get enough. Their desire to know about the Lord, to draw closer to Him, to learn His ways, can hardly be satisfied.

Our hunger for the Lord should be just as desperate as those who have never heard the Gospel before. God’s desire is to fill us to the point where we are beyond satisfied. King David wrote, “They shall still bring forth fruit in old age; they shall be fat and flourishing,” (Psalms 92:14). We have the opportunity to be well fed, overflowing, and saturated with God’s word and nourishment, if only we will take the necessary steps to obtain it.

The apostle Peter writes, “As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby,” (1 Peter 2:2). We must partake of the word of God on a regular basis for our spirituality to be established. Put aside a specific time in the course of your day to read a passage of scripture and meditate on how it can be applied to your life.

### Questions

1. What is God’s desire for your spiritual satisfaction?
2. What will happen to your desire to read God’s word when you set aside time to read scriptures?
3. How long will God’s words stay in your mind if you consistently partake of them?
4. Which Biblical authors wrote about meditating on God’s word day and night?

In doing so, your desire for God will increase exponentially.

Suddenly, though you planned on spending twenty minutes reading and praying, a whole forty minutes has been spent in the presence of God. You will come away from this time satisfied beyond measure, and yet you will long to return to that place of learning and infilling. This is how He intended for us to grow and hunger for Him.

Even after you have finished reading and praying, the words and lessons stay in your mind throughout the day. Joshua and King David both wrote about the staying power of God’s word, having experienced themselves how powerful and sustaining the scriptures were to their own spirituality. “This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success,” (Joshua 1:8). “O how love I thy law! it is my meditation all the day,” (Psalm 119:97).

It is so important that we develop a hunger and desire to read God’s word and partake of His scriptures. It is only by doing this that we will be sustained and given power to live successfully as Christ-like ambassadors in this world.

Lindsey Gellenbeck

### Key Thought:

Fostering a desire for God’s word will ensure that our spirituality is sustained and flourishing.

### Memory Verse:

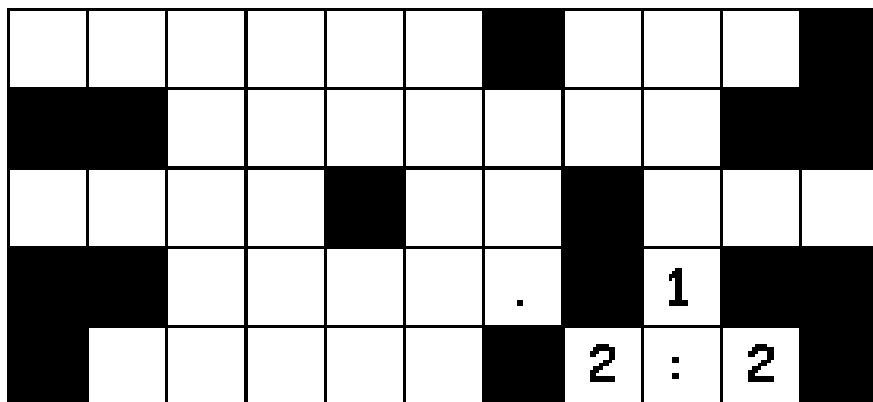
As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby. 1 Peter 2:2

## Hungry For God

James Huskey and Leslie Busbee finished getting legal papers to travel into Mexico. The next thing they did was get out Spanish tracts, and when James stopped to buy food or gasoline, Leslie went to each person and handed them a tract. The people smiled and said, “Muchas gracias.”

“The people seem to appreciate the literature,” Leslie said.

“They do,” James answered, as he drove. “See those people standing beside the highway? Have a handful of tracts ready, and when I slow down near them, gently throw the tracts out the window and watch what happens.”



S O R

S I N D

I E K R C H

D E W I R E F R T H

M P L T E O E T E E E

Leslie dropped the tracts. The people scrambled after them. They even chased those that flew in the wind! "Many are already reading," he exclaimed as he looked back.

"It is like this everywhere," James said. All along the way James and Leslie gave away Gospel literature.

After three days of driving, they rented a hotel room in Valle Santiago. Early the following morning, they drove out to Rancho Martinez. "I am James Huskey from La Mission, Baja California, where the Lara families live. They have asked me to visit their relatives here," James said to the first man he saw.

"Oh yes, Juan Lara is expecting you," he said, and gave directions to Juan's house.

They visited and had worship service at the ranch all day. The following day when they came to visit, Juan had a job for them. "There is a believer up in the mountain that has asked me many times to have the brethren bring her a Bible," he said. "It's only about six miles. Can we go today? It's just out of sight but almost on top of the mountain. There is a big spring up there and when our well is low, we go there for our water."

James turned to Leslie and asked, "What do you think about going up on that mountain? Some folks are wanting to hear the gospel."

"Seems to me if people are wanting to hear the Gospel, we ought to tell it to them. I've got an awful sore toe, but

## Fallen Phrase Directions

All the letters have fallen to the bottom. They got mixed up on their way down, but remain in the same column. Start with the last letter in the third row to begin solving the puzzle. (Hint: Keep track of the letters you have already used to make solving easier.)

if we could get some horses and ride part of the way, I think I could make it."

Juan brought two donkeys and a mule, and soon they were winding through a rocky ravine dodging brush and cactus.

After a while Leslie slid off his donkey. "I'll walk a while," he said, "I don't know which is worse—to walk on a sore foot or ride a wooden saddle without a blanket." He walked until his foot was hurting badly; then he mounted the wooden saddle and rode a while, and then off again. That is how he traveled

the six miles up the mountain and the six miles down.

They delivered the Bible first. Señora Amelia cried, kissed her new Bible, and immediately began reading.

"Please Mom, let me read it aloud so everyone can hear," her older son begged. He took the Bible and began reading. The other children gathered around him listening intently.

"Oh! What hunger for the Word," Leslie remarked. "Seeing this is worth the pain to get here."

Another man of the village invited them to have a preaching service in his large courtyard. He seated them on two homemade stools facing a large audience, who were standing or sitting on the ground or on rocks.

After the meeting ended, Leslie remarked, "What love and admiration they showed for the Word of God! Do you think the Bible we brought is possibly the only one in this mountain village?"

"It may be," James answered. "In years not-so-far past, the priest in this area did not allow Bible reading and told the people to burn all religious tracts."

Charlotte Huskey

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## Robes of Righteousness

*And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they? And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. (Revelation 7:13-14)*

John the Revelator wrote about seeing the saints of God



coming forth dressed in pure white robes. They were the children of righteousness, having paid a high price to be pure, and having come through great tribulation (many hard trials). How beautiful they must have looked, standing before the throne of God,

arrayed in flowing, pristine robes of white! Just as God robed those saints in John's vision of Heaven, so He wants to clothe you in pure robes of righteousness.

Recall the familiar parable of the man who did not wear his wedding garment to the wedding feast. Matthew 22:11-13 reads, "And when the king came in to see the guests, he saw there a man which had not on a wedding garment: And he saith unto him, Friend, how camest thou in hither not having a wedding garment? And he was speechless. Then said the king to the servants, Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

When the king asked the man why he did not wear the provided garment, the man had no answer to give. There was no valid reason for him to arrive clothed in his dusty, ragged work clothes. This parable represents God's gift of righteousness to us as Christians. He is offering a feast—a table laden with all that is good and nourishing to our spirit—if only we will agree to be robed in the wedding

### Questions

1. What kind of spiritual robes does God want you to wear?
2. What happened to the man who didn't put on the wedding garment?
3. What kind of garments must be laid aside in order to put on "robes of righteousness"?
4. What does Isaiah say are the blessings of wearing God's garments?

garment, accepting the price of salvation and holy living. Choosing God's way seems so obvious! Our spirits should rejoice, saying, "Let me wear the beautiful garment provided, so that I might partake of the goodness of the King's house!" If we choose to wear our own garments, our fate will be no different than the man who chose his own garments in the parable.

Choosing to be robed in God's righteous robes requires some sacrifices on our part. In order for us to stand before God's throne made white in the blood of the Lamb, we must lay aside our own desires and ways. No longer can we continue living in sin or deceit. All of God's commandments must be followed carefully, and His plan must become our plan. The very love and affection of our hearts must be given completely to Him. We must lay aside our dirty, sin-stained clothes in order to put on the robes of righteousness.

Isaiah 61:10 describes the beauty and blessings of God's white raiment, saying, "I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness...."

Lindsey Gellenbeck

**Key Thought:** In laying aside our sin-stained and tattered garments, we are able to be clothed in the blood-washed robes of righteousness.

**Memory Verse:** I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness... (Isaiah 61:10)

## God's Clothing

While having evangelistic services in Vera Cruz, Mexico, we went sightseeing in the city. To avoid the heat, we went very early, before many shops were open for business. In the doorway of a closed shop, we saw a boy about ten years old asleep.

"Oh, James," I said as we walked by, "Let's try to help him."

We walked on a little way and then turned around and went back to the boy. I laid a mango in his hand, and said, "Here is a fruit." He awoke and smiled.

"Mucho gracias," he said, and he stood up. I could tell by his ragged, but clean, clothes that he was very poor.

"Have you had breakfast?" I asked.

"No," he answered.

"Did you come here to work?"

"Yes, I came very early this morning to help in the fish market, but the owner was angry today, and he chased me away. I am waiting for this shop to open. The owner sometimes gives me money when I help her."

I thought my heart would break. The boy's face was so gentle, his eyes looked pure and unashamed. "I know someone who loves you," I said. "His name is Jesus. He is a God, and he has all power. He can do anything. He once lived in heaven, but he came to earth to make people clean and pure so they too can go live in heaven."

By this time the owner was opening his shop, so I asked the boy, "Can you meet us here tomorrow morning?" Then I handed him a few pesos.

About half a block down the street, we saw a policeman.

"Do you know anything about the little boy who was asleep in the doorway of the shop over there," James asked as he pointed toward the shop.

"He's just a little boy wanting to work. He's around here every day, sweeping the sidewalks, carrying packages, or doing whatever he can to earn a few cents. He never gets into trouble."

We had told the boy to meet us about seven in the morning, but it was nearer eight when we arrived. We apologized when he told us he had been waiting a long time. While we ate together, we talked about Jesus. We explained how Jesus wanted to live within his heart, and that he would come into anyone's heart if they would stop doing evil and say they were sorry for the evil they had done.

After eating we went to the beautiful mall in Vera Cruz, and found the store where one of the sisters who attended the church worked. She helped us to find new pants, a shirt, underclothes, socks, and shoes for the little boy.

He was beaming with delight when we let him out of the car at the shop where he sometimes worked. It made us happy to see the little boy so ecstatic with his new clothes.

It also makes Jesus and the angels in heaven happy when a person accepts the robe of salvation that God has for them. Christ has a robe of righteousness for everyone in the world.

Isaiah 61:10 says, "I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garment of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness...."

"God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten

Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved." (John 3:16-17)

From *Traveling with God* by Charlotte Huskey

## Verse Race!

Look up and copy each of the following verses on the spaces below. Race against your classmates!

Revelation 7:14

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Matthew 27:28

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Isaiah 22:21

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Revelation 22:14

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## Elijah is Not Alone



Elijah was a prophet in Israel during a time when King Ahab and his wife Queen Jezebel was shamelessly worshiping idols and had turned away from God. Elijah courageously told King Ahab God's words that there would not be dew or rain in all the land until he (Elijah) announced it. God then told Elijah to leave and hide by the brook called Cherith, which means separation. God commanded the ravens to feed Elijah in the morning and the evening and he drank water from the brook. Later, when the brook dried up, God commanded Elijah to go to Zarephath where he had commanded a widow woman to give him food.

About three years later, Elijah came out of hiding and again spoke with King Ahab. King Ahab and the prophets of Baal met Elijah on Mount Carmel where he spoke to them about the one true God. Elijah asked them how long they were going to serve their gods rather than the one true God. The prophets of Baal could not get their "god" to hear them or send fire on their sacrifice. However, Elijah's God proved Himself to be the true God of heaven that day when He sent fire down on Elijah's sacrifice. All of the prophets of Baal were then killed.

Elijah prayed for God to send rain on the dry land, a prayer which God answered. But when Jezebel, Ahab's wicked wife, discovered that the prophets of Baal were dead, she flew into a rage. Elijah was afraid and once again found himself running to escape and hide.

An angel found a very discouraged Elijah alone and under a juniper tree in the wilderness where he had stopped to rest. Elijah was so discouraged that he had even requested that he might die. The angel baked a cake for him and gave him water, telling him he needed to eat and drink. After Elijah ate and drank, the Bible says he journeyed on the strength of the food for forty days.

While doing God's work, Elijah found himself alone on more than one occasion. When in hiding the first time, God had His eye on Elijah because He commanded the ravens to come feed him! When Elijah ran away from Jezebel and Ahab the second time, an angel of God knew right where he was and came and ministered to him. Was he really alone? No! Elijah was never so alone that God did not know exactly where he was and provide for his needs.

We might feel alone sometimes, but that does not change the truth that God always knows exactly where we are and what is going on in our lives. In Psalms, David said even if we live in the farthest part of the ocean, God's hand would still hold us in that place (Psalms 139:9-10). Jesus encouraged us with the words that He was with us always, even unto the end of the world (Matthew 28:20). Just like with Elijah, God always has a plan for us. He loves us. He is always with us. We are never truly alone.

Sister Julie Elwell

**Key Thought:** God never leaves us alone.

**Memory Verse:** And the Lord, he it is that doth go before thee; he will be with thee, he will not fail thee, neither forsake thee: fear not, neither be dismayed. Deuteronomy 31:8

## Alone in the Desert

One afternoon, as Edith Cole was coming up the hill leaving Valle Trinidad, Mexico, the gears of her car started acting crazy. Although the motor was running as usual, the car would jerk then stop, jump forward and stop. Finally, it quit moving.

A man in a truck stopped. After she explained how the car was acting, he said, "I think it is your transmission. Add some transmission fluid, and it will probably get you to where you are going. Do you have any?"

"No, I don't," Edith answered.

"Wish I could help you more," he said. "But I can't without the fluid. San Felipe is probably the nearest place to buy some. He raised the hood. Right here is where you put it in," he said showing her a place. "Sorry," he said again, then stepped into his truck and was soon out of sight.

By now Edith was wondering if God had sent her. "Lord," she said, "I thought I heard Your voice telling me to come here. Was I mistaken? I cannot continue visiting without a car and it is miles to the next home. I cannot leave my car in this desolate place. Someone might steal the tires, the

### Questions

1. Were the ravens able to find Elijah's hiding place? Why?
2. What happened on Mount Carmel to cause Elijah to run a second time?
3. Who found Elijah under the juniper tree?
4. Why will we never be alone?

generator, or siphon out the gasoline.”

“Trust me, I will take care of you,” God seemed to say.  
“See, the road is downhill. Push your car down to that little roadside stand and leave it in the care of that owner.”

It was hard to push in the sand, but Edith did as she thought God had directed. When she asked permission to leave her car in the owner’s care, he seemed so happy that she wondered if he would sell parts off her car and pretend that they were stolen. Even so, she had no other choice.

Edith had traveled all over the desert the years she had lived in the mission house at the Santa Caterina Indian Reservation. Many times she had been alone, but she had never felt as lonely as she did this day when she left her car and started walking east toward the only highway in the area.

She had started early, planning to be home again before dark, but now she wondered where she would be when darkness set in. Once a day, a public transportation bus went between San Felipe and Valle Trinidad. What time, she did not know, but she was hoping that it or a car would give her a ride.

Edith walked a long way and was getting really tired when she came around a curve and found a man trying to change a flat tire. The man was big and cursing angrily. Apparently he had been trying for some time to get his car jacked up. Edith saw that the jack was not in its proper place.

“Sir,” she said gently, hoping not to anger him more. “I can help you.” He showed signs of allowing her to help, so she said, “The jack needs to be placed right under here,” pointing to the axle.

He cursed again. And then he smiled and said, “I’m a medical doctor, but medical school didn’t teach me how to change a tire.” He paused as if he hadn’t noticed who was talking to him. Then looking Edith over from head to toe, he asked, “What on earth are you doing walking alone here in the desert?”

“My car broke down a few miles back there,” Edith said. “I taught school on the Indian Reservation many years but now I live in Pátzcuaro, a small town south of Mexicali.”

“Near Delta?” He asked.

“Yes,” Edith answered.

“You are a long ways from home.”

*To be continued...*

Charlotte Huskey, as told by Edith Cole

## Elijah’s Story

Word list: Ahab, Alone, Angel, Baal, Cherith, Elijah, Jezebel, Juniper, MtCarmel, Ravens, Widow, Zarephath

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

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Contributors: Julie Elwell, Lindsey Gellenbeck, Charlotte Huskey. 2016.



## God's Angels

Angels appeared to men and women many times in the Bible, serving as God's messengers.



As Abraham was getting ready to slay his son Isaac, in obedience to God's word, an angel called to him from heaven, telling him not to hurt his son. An angel of the Lord appeared to Moses in a flame of fire

in the midst of a bush that did not burn up. A very discouraged Elijah sat under a juniper tree wanting to die when an angel touched him, telling him to arise and eat. Daniel was thrown into the lion's den for praying to God. God sent his angel and shut the lion's mouths so they did not hurt him. Angels announced the births of Samson, John the Baptist, and Jesus. Angels ministered to Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane before his crucifixion. When Jesus comes back, He said would return with His angels.

In Genesis, we read of a woman named Hagar who was in a very difficult circumstance. She found herself wandering in the wilderness with her son Ishmael. She only had a bottle of water and some bread. After they had drank all the water, she was so discouraged and afraid that she cast her son under a shrub and sat down a good distance away from him. She wept because she did not want to see him die. As she wept, God heard the voice of the boy and an angel of God called to Hagar from heaven. The angel called her by her name and ask her what was wrong. The angel said, "Fear not, for God has heard the voice of the lad where he is." The angel then told Hagar to get up and hold the boy with her hand for God would make of him a great nation. God then opened Hagar's eyes and she saw a well of water. She filled the empty bottle with water and gave it to her son. God was with Ishmael and he grew up to be an archer.

After Jesus ascended back into heaven, Peter and the apostles spread the good news of Jesus Christ and

preached salvation. They healed sick folks and those who had unclean spirits. This made the Sadducees angry, so they threw Peter and other apostles in prison. But the angel of the Lord appeared, opened the prison doors, and brought them out. The angel told them, "Go, stand and speak in the temple to the people all the words of this life."

While we may not have seen an angel with our eyes, the Bible does make it clear that angels are real. When God's people of old got into trouble He always showed up on the scene. He helped Hagar in her dire need. He saw her tears and knew about her fear and sent an angel to deliver her and Ishmael. An angel delivered Peter and the apostles out of prison and then told them to go preach Jesus.

When we cry, when we are afraid, or when we get into trouble, remember God is only a prayer away and will help us. Many times, God's angels come in the form of another person. Maybe God wants you to be an angel today—a helping hand to somebody who is in need.

Sister Julie Elwell

**Key Thought:** God has promised He will never leave us alone and without help.

**Memory Verse:** The angel of the LORD encampeth round about them that fear him,

## Angels Sent By God

Edith's car had stalled, so she was walking in the hot Baja, California desert when she came upon a man trying to change a flat tire. Having changed many tires, Edith helped the man, so he offered her a ride.

Edith accepted the offer, although she didn't usually ride in desolate deserts with strange men. As they rode along, he continued to question her about her life.

"I'm a missionary. I teach people to read, sew, and a few other skills. I also show them how to be saved from their sins and live in a manner that pleases God. I came here today to encourage some Christian converts."

They talked all the way to the highway. The man's last words were, "You are just wasting your life. You are young and have many possibilities ahead. Abandon these ideals and find a better life."

As she was getting out of his car, he reached into his pocket, pulled out some bills, and handed them to her. "I think you will need this," he said.

"Oh, thank you," Edith said. "God bless you."

The sun was going down, so Edith went directly into the

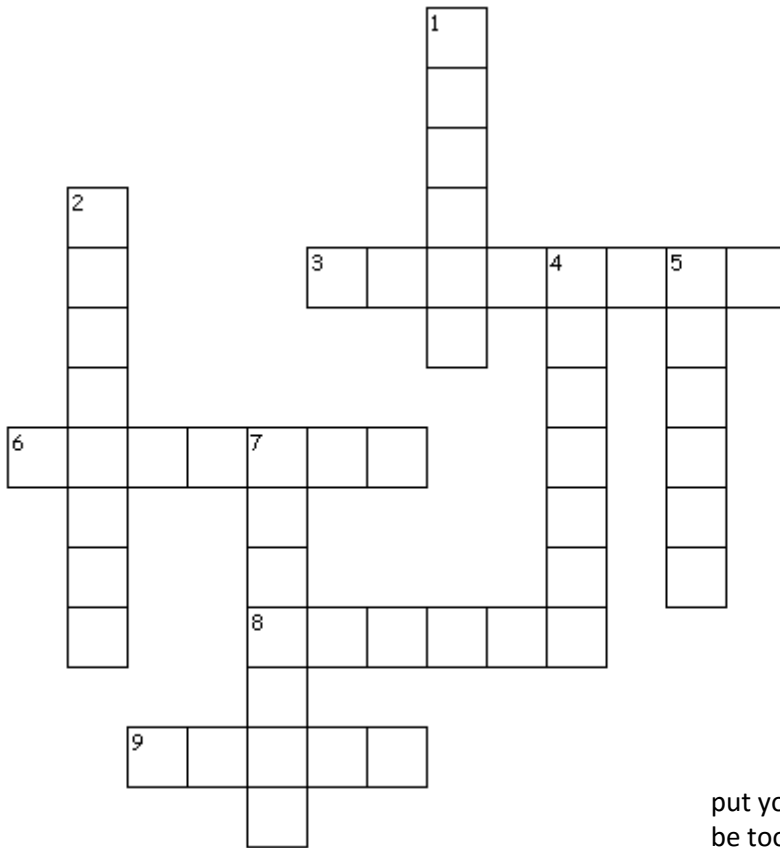
### Questions

1. Give examples of people to whom angels appeared.
2. Why was Hagar afraid? What message did the angel give her?
3. What did an angel do for Peter and the apostles and what message did the angel give them?
4. How do we know God is always watching us?

# Angels in the Bible

Match the situation where angels appeared with the biblical character involved.

Characters: Abraham, Daniel, Elijah, Hagar, Ishmael, Jesus, John (the Baptist), Moses, Peter



## Across

## Down

- |  |                                 |
|--|---------------------------------|
| 3. When he was about to sacrifice his son. | 1. In prison.                   |
| 6. In the lion's den.                      | 2. To his mother in the desert. |
| 8. In the Garden of Gethsemane.            | 4. In the desert.               |
| 9. Announced his birth.                    | 5. In the burning bush.         |
|  | 7. Under the juniper tree.      |

put your protection over me, and please don't let them be too drunk to drive safely." She hardly got her prayer finished when they came out, not the least bit drunk.

They wanted to know why she was walking at night on a remote road. That opened the conversation for her to tell them about Jesus. They listened respectfully.

When they got to her car, they put in the transmission fluid and saw that the car was running good. Then they asked where she was going. "I live on the other side of Delta. I wanted to get home tonight."

"Would you like for us to follow you at least out to the highway?" the driver asked.

"Oh, that would be wonderful!" she exclaimed. "Once I'm on the highway, there will be more chances to find help if anything else happens."

In the darkness, she got into her little car and drove back over the same road she had just traveled. She felt secure for she was followed by the two angels that God had sent.

Safe in her home that night, Edith said, "Thank you God for sending three angels to take care of me."

Charlotte Huskey, as told by Edith Cole

store and bought the transmission fluid she needed. "When does the bus leave for Valle Trinidad?" she asked.

"In the morning," the attendant told her. She stepped outside and counted the remaining money, hoping it would be enough to pay for a hotel room. It was not.

"What shall I do, Lord? Should I ask some stranger to keep me for the night? Should I start walking and hope for a ride back to my car?"

God seemed to answer, "Do not fear. I will take care of you."

Edith started walking and praying. Before long, two men in a pickup stopped. "Say lady, would you like a ride?" She was trembling, but knew it could possibly be the only vehicle going her way. "Do not fear," her heart said.

"Y-y-yes," she answered.

The passenger hopped out and motioned for her to get in. She squeezed in between the two rough, dirty men. "We are going to stop at the tavern a while, then we'll be on our way to Valle Trinidad. If you want to come in with us, we'll buy you a drink," the driver said.

"No thanks," she answered, "I don't drink anything stronger than a soda. I'll just wait in the car."

While they were in the tavern, she was praying, "Lord,

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Contributors: Julie Elwell, Lindsey Gellenbeck, Charlotte Huskey. 2016.

## Paying the Price



There are countless examples in the Bible of people who paid the consequences for the choices they made—King Solomon and other countless kings of Israel, Saul on the road to Damascus, the Israelites in the desert—the list goes on.

Galatians 6:7 reads, “Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.” God makes no secret of the fact that when a choice is made, there is also a price to be paid.

In your Christian walk, have you ever been tempted to do something you knew was wrong, but you did it anyway? Maybe it was telling a lie, maybe it was going against your parent’s wishes, or maybe it was refusing to let go of something God had asked you to give up. Whatever the case may have been, more likely than not, you were made to face the consequence of the choice.

God is not pleased when His children choose not to heed the warnings and boundaries He has given them. They have a purpose. They are put in place out of the unconditional love He holds for His creation. They are a safety net for each soul. If there are areas in your life that God, your parents, teachers, or even friends have warned you about, and if you know in your heart that they are true, do not make a mockery of their warnings. Do not cast aside the concern they are putting forth for your spiritual well-being. Proverbs 9:12 clearly states who will bear the blame of such scornful actions, saying, “If thou be wise, thou shalt be wise for thyself: but if thou scornest, thou alone shalt bear it.” It is so important to realize the truth of this cycle. It is a simple cause and effect equation. Make a poor choice: pay the price.

You must choose for yourself: Will I be wise and heed the

warnings given me, or will I abandon those warnings out of the scorn of my heart? Choosing wisdom will lead you to a place of safety, well-being, contentment, and abundant blessing. God will guide you with gentleness and love as a reward for choosing His way. But if you choose scorn, you will no doubt pay the price. King Solomon’s son died because he chose not to heed God. Saul bore the weight of thousands of innocent souls. The children of Israel wandered for forty years without reaching the Promised Land.

If in the past, you have chosen to abandon God’s ways, don’t be discouraged. Forgiveness and redemption are always available. God is waiting with open arms, willing to cast your sins as far as the east is from the west. He will make you pure and clean, a new creature in Christ Jesus for turning to Him.

If in the present, you are facing a choice between God’s way and your own way, remember all those who have paid a high price for giving no heed to the warnings and advice given them from godly people, or God Himself. Choosing His way will save you a million times over in a million different ways.

Lindsey Gellenbeck

**Key Thought:** You choose: Your own way and a high price to pay, or God’s way and an overflowing of blessings.

**Memory Verse:** Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. Psalms 1:1

## Playing with Poison Ivy

“Say Gorge, want to go fishing after school?” Tim asked.

“Sure, I’ll run by the house and ask Mom. Then I will meet you on the highway at the bottom of the hill,” Gorge answered.

“Don’t forget your fishing pole.”

Bobby, Tim, Rosi, Serafino, Juan, Francisco, Abigail, and Ester started home from school walking on the side of the highway. They met Gorge where the highway curved and started across the valley. At that point, the highway was on a ridge. Just for fun, the boys were running down the embankment and back up onto the highway. Each was in competition with the other trying to do it faster.

Near where the highway curved around to the north and went across a long bridge, there was a large patch of

### Questions

1. Who are some examples in the Bible that paid the price for the choices?
2. What kind of price did they pay?
3. What kinds of benefits come from choosing God’s way?
4. Is there redemption if you make a mistake and choose your own way?

						C	H	O	I	C	E	
		P	R	I	C	E						
G	O	E	S									.

Y U R M A I A T  
A V E Y W E H H I S  
E O I K T T H A T

## Fallen Phrase

### Directions:

All the letters have fallen to the bottom. They got mixed up on their way down, but remain in the same column. (Hint: Keep track of the letters you have already used to make solving easier.)

poison ivy that had grown up among the brush. When they neared the poison ivy, Rosi cautioned the boys who were running down the embankments. "There is a lot of poison ivy in that brush. Be careful that you don't touch it."

"Poison ivy? What is that?" Gorge asked.

"It is that dark green vine that is growing over the brush. See it? It has three shiny leaves on each stem."

"If you get it on your skin, it will make itching sores," Tim said, "My sister, Patti, gets it every year."

"I don't believe a plant can hurt me," Gorge boasted.

"It will if you are allergic to it," Tim cautioned.

"Well I am not allergic. I'll prove that it can't hurt a strong guy like me," Gorge said. Then running down the embankment he grabbed a hand full of poison ivy leaves and rubbed them on his face and arms. "You will see it won't hurt me," he said.

Just then Rosi remembered, "Pride comes before a fall." She had fallen into a cacti when she was proud. "Don't touch me," she said when Gorge came running up. "I don't want your poison."

"Me neither," Ester agreed. "Keep your poison hands to yourself."

"I'm not poison," Gorge said as he ran back and forth between the girls, pretending to try to touch them.

The children crossed the highway and followed a dirt road at the bottom of the mountain. When they got near the pond, Tim said, "Tell Mama I am at the pond fishing." "Okay," Rosi called as she, Abigail, and Ester were racing across the valley floor dodging juniper, cacti, and sage brush. They climbed the embankment up to Rosi's house

and sat down on the stone wall around the patio. Rosi brought each of the girls a glass of ice water.

"I wonder what Gorge will look like in the morning?" Abigail asked.

"I think he is crazy for taking such a chance with poison ivy," Rosi remarked.

"He just doesn't know how bad it can be," Ester said. After chatting a while longer, she said, "We had better be going home—we are late already."

Rosi watched as her best friends climbed back down the embankment and went walking on the sandy road below.

The following day, Gorge didn't come to school. The next day was Saturday. Sunday, during worship service when James asked for prayer requests, Gorge's Aunt Amelia said, "Please pray for Gorge. He is very sick."

"He has poison ivy," Ester whispered to Rosi. Rosi nodded her head yes.

Monday morning when Gorge came to school, his eyes were still swollen almost shut. His puffy cheeks, nose, and mouth pooched out. "He looks like a big fat sheep," Rosi whispered to Ester.

Proverbs 14:9 reads: "Fools make a mock of sin, but with the righteous there is favor."

Foolish people play with sin and suffer from it just as Gorge did.

*From Growing up With God by Charlotte Huskey*

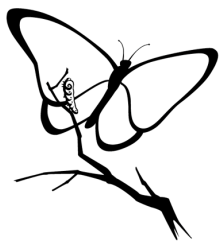
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Contributors: Julie Elwell, Lindsey Gellenbeck, Charlotte Huskey. 2016.

## Christ Liveth in Me

*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. Galatians 2:20*

Paul writes in his letter to the Galatians about becoming a new creation in Christ. His words outline exactly how a person can be saved and turn his/her life into a powerful witness of the Gospel.



He starts by saying, "I am crucified with Christ..." You must sacrifice your worldly desires in order for Jesus to

dwelt in your heart. It is a daily dying out to self—a purposeful, conscious decision to give up personal preference, self-will, and physical desire in order to serve the Lord. It isn't an easy task, but Christ has provided storehouses of grace for His people to live this life of sacrifice.

Paul continues by saying, "nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me..." In dying to yourself, a space in your heart and mind opens to allow for the indwelling of Christ. Instead of human impulses and thoughts constantly ruling, Christ-like thoughts and actions become second nature. This takes time and a daily dying to self. Through the sacrifice, however, the new creature that Jesus wants you to become is born.

In human strength, this kind of change is impossible to accomplish. You and I do not have the willpower to maintain the purity of heart and mind that God is pleased with. It is only through the strength and power of the resurrected Christ that we have access to such power. Paul says, "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." The faith of Jesus' followers was

empowered when he rose from the grave. No longer are we bound by the old law—we have constant access to the holy throne room. He was the ultimate sacrifice and we can live a pure, holy, sanctified life because of Jesus' love for us.

It is a beautiful thing when a person's soul is rebirthed and their life starts anew. The sacrifices and trials that the children of God face are nothing compared to the blessings they receive for choosing His way. God is faithful to provide daily strength and grace to live in holiness. He is the bread of life, the joy of the spirit, and the strength of the soul. All He requires of you is full access and surrender of your heart, mind, soul, and body.

Paul reiterates this thought in his letter to Corinth. "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new," (2 Corinthians 5:17). The old man is passed away—humanity and self must die. A new man is born—the person that you are with Jesus living inside is pure, good, and bound for Heaven.

Lindsey Gellenbeck

**Key Thought:** God desires to make every person a new creature in Christ.

**Memory Verse:** Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. 2 Corinthians 5:17

## A New Dog

"Let's go check out that dog by the rock," Bob said and started running across the field. Tim followed.

When they returned I asked, "What did you find?"

"He's big and mean," Tim said.

"He tried to attack us, but he didn't run after us. He acted like he was tied to the rock. I think he is crazy."

"And he was drooling like a baby, and white foam is bubbling from his mouth," Tim added. "We don't want him for our dog."

Just then Lalo came.

"Did you try to pet that dog?" Lalo asked.

"We couldn't, 'cause the dog wouldn't let us get near him," Bobby answered.

"It's a good thing. That dog is mad. My dad says he's going to shoot it. My dad, Martin and Cresencio Lara, Professor Abel, Augustine, and everybody thinks he has

### Questions

1. Who wrote the letters to Galatia and Corinth?
2. What must you sacrifice to have Jesus live in your heart?
3. Can human strength accomplish the kind of change Jesus wants you to make?
4. What kind of person are you when you are reborn in Christ?

that disease that makes a dog loco, and if he bites a person, the person will die.”

After Lalo was gone, James looked up “dogs with rabies.”

“This says an animal with rabies cannot drink water. I’m going to test that dog,” he said. He cut open an empty gallon milk carton and filled it with water.

Taking Tim and Rosi with him, he drove over to the dog and parked the van with the driver’s door nearest to the dog. He opened the door just enough to place the carton of water on the ground then drove away. From a safe distance, they watched as the big golden-haired dog inched his way around the rock and sniffed the water.

“If he drinks the water, he doesn’t have that dreaded disease,” James told the children.

Rosi clapped her hands and squealed, “Look, he’s drinking. Poor doggie, he’s so thirsty.”

“Now let’s bring him some food,” Tim suggested. They brought back food. The dog growled and snapped when James threw the food into the container.

“Be a good dog and I’ll take you home,” James said to the dog. The dog sniffed the food then started gobbling it. While the dog was eating, James stepped out of the van and quickly but cautiously slipped his belt around the dog’s neck. When James tightened his belt, the dog instantly jumped on James as if to say, “Will you take me?”

“I’ll be your master. Jump in the car and go with me,” James told the dog. He opened the door and the dog jumped into the van. Tim screamed and jumped out the front door.

“I’m walking home,” he shouted as he ran.

That evening they discussed the dog.

“I am amazed at the change in that dog,” James remarked.

“You putting the belt on the dog was kind of like Christ throwing his mantle of love over us. If we accept his love, we change. We become new creatures. We begin thinking and acting differently,” I said.

“Isn’t there a scripture about becoming new creatures in Christ?” Tricia asked.

“Yes, let’s see who can find it first,” James replied.

“I already have it,” Bobby said. He read, “2 Corinthians 5:17, Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away, behold all things are become new.”

“Wow! That is what the dog did. He became a new dog,” Tim said.

“Yeah, the doggie changed from snappy grumpy doggie to happy doggie,” Rosi whispered.

“That is the way people change, too. Grouchy, grumbling folks become pleasant happy people,” James said.

“God will change us so we act in a different way than we have acted before. Let’s all pray that we can be changed into the person God is wanting us to be,” I remarked.

Before going to bed, Tim called outside, “Good night, doggie. I’ll be praying you’ll be a good dog.”

Charlotte Huskey

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## Verse Race!

Look up and copy each of the following verses on the spaces below. Race against your classmates!

John 3:3

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Romans 10:9

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Ephesians 2:10

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John 3:16

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## A Spiritual House

Jesus gave many instructions on how to live when He preached the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew chapters five, six, and seven. He talked about what kinds of attitudes we should have and not have.



We should not think we are better than other people. We should be peacemakers rather than cause trouble. We should be merciful and forgive others when they do us wrong. We should not swear. We should love our enemies. We should love God with all our heart.

These are only a few examples, but He gave many more. At the end of His sermon, He spoke these words: "And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it."

We have examples in the Bible of people who lived selfish lives and forgot God; they did not build a strong house by obeying Him. The children of Israel were saved when Pharaoh's army would have destroyed them; God opened up the Red Sea for them to walk across. He gave them water and food in the desert. And yet, they forgot him. Psalms 106:24-25 says they did not believe His word, murmured in their tents, and did not listen to His voice.

Gideon was a man who feared God. He led 300 men of the children of Israel against their enemies and defeated them with only trumpets, pitchers, and torches. God granted a great victory that night and then gave them peace in the land while Gideon was alive. However, as soon as Gideon died, the people turned to idols and forgot God. Ultimately, they lost their homeland because

of their sins and were taken away into the foreign land of Babylon.

Job said people who forget God and trust in their own ways are building a house as flimsy as a spider web (Job 8:14-15). A spider might feel secure in his web, but little does the spider know how quickly his web can be knocked down and it is broken so very easily. Job also said a wicked man's house is as the house of a moth (Job 27:13; 18). A moth's cocoon is light and very temporary.

We have two houses. The first one we can see with our eyes and is the place we eat, sleep, and live. The second house cannot be seen with our eyes, but is a spiritual house. We are building it every day by our choices and actions. Let us not build our spiritual house on the sand, build it like a thin spider's web, or build it like a moth's house! Make the choice to live for the Lord. He will help us build a strong spiritual house that will never fall.

Sister Julie Elwell

### Key Thought:

We are building either a strong spiritual house or a weak spiritual house every day by our choices.

### Memory Verse:

Heaven is my throne, and earth is my footstool: what house will ye build me? saith the Lord. Acts 7:49a

## The Wall Came Tumbling Down

We were visiting a recently claimed homestead near the border of Guatemala in Chiapas, Mexico.

The home was one large room, about 14 by 22 feet, with a small kitchen attached to the north side. The kitchen could only be accessed from the outside. The new home was constructed of handmade adobe. The roof was of corrugated tin.

Each evening, outside of this home, we sang hymns and preached Christ. Some of the neighbors came to listen. Seven of us slept on three beds in this big room. The elderly couple we were visiting slept in the southeast corner, their daughter and her husband in the southwest corner, and we slept near the north wall. The owner of the house slept on the floor in the middle of the room.

I finally accustomed my ears to the melody of snoring and was just dozing when I heard scratching sounds near my head. I sat up in bed. Moonlight coming in through the space between the roof rafters and the adobe walls gave a wee bit of light. Squinting in the darkness, I tried to see what had made the noise. I could see a dark bulk which I thought to be storage boxes. I settled down and closed

### Questions

1. Who did Jesus say would be considered a wise man?
2. What two specific incidents in our lesson were mentioned in which the Children of Israel "built their house foolishly"?
3. How were the houses of the wicked described in the book of Job?
4. By what actions can we build a strong spiritual house?

my eyes, hoping for sleep. In a few minutes I was awakened again by rustling and scratching sounds.

I recalled the time we kept a goat in our house and Brother Harland Smith was disturbed through the night by its movements. I suspected a pet might be sleeping near us. Thus consoling myself, I slept when the animal was quiet.

When I awoke, it was daylight and the door was open. Instantly I remembered the rustling that had awakened me during the night. I looked around and there, near my head, was a hen sitting on a nest.

The nearest town was in the bordering country of Guatemala, so the following day we crossed the border and bought necessary supplies. The day after that we visited and handed out tracts in a camp where men from Guatemala were staying while working in Mexico. On the way home from the camp, we stopped by the river, took baths (fully dressed), and then we washed our dirty clothes on flat rocks along the river bank. Every day was busy and every night we sang and preached.

I was exhausted after being so busy and not sleeping well for several nights, so when I got in bed that night, I slept.

Sometime during the night I heard a loud crashing sound, and people moving around and talking. I wondered what had happened, but I was too tired to investigate. I told myself that whatever had happened, others were taking care of it. I rolled over and went back to sleep. Later on into the night, I was getting cold so I moved closer to James and pulled the cover over my head, and went back to sleep.

In the morning when I finally did open my eyes, I saw a big portion of the south wall was missing. Adobe bricks were scattered over the room and a big heap lay outside the wall.

“What happened?” I asked. “Did I sleep through an earthquake?”

“Possibly,” Milton, the owner, answered. “But sometimes this happens when the wall is made without adding rebar and cement. I had no money to buy rebar or cement.”

“We are thankful the wall fell outside instead of burying us,” Minevre said.

Jesus said the people who hear his teachings and do not obey them are like foolish men who do not build properly. Their spiritual house falls as Milton’s did.

Charlotte Huskey

## Building a Spiritual House

Babylon	House	Physical
Cocoon	Job	Spiderweb
Foolish	Peacemakers	Spiritual
Gideon	Pharaoh	Wise

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

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## The Responsibility of Knowledge

In the book of Acts, we read the account of Ananias and Sapphira. Instead of relying on and respecting what they know to be true, they try to do things their own way and end up paying a high price for their choices.



When the couple sells a piece of land, they keep a part of the profit hidden away. Ananias then takes the majority of the money they made and offers it in the temple. When he lays out their offering, Peter asks Ananias, “Why has Satan convinced you to lie to the Holy Ghost and keep part of your profit for yourself? When you owned your land, didn’t all of its worth belong to you? And now that you have sold it, all of the money is yours as well. So why have you come here pretending that this amount of money is the whole sum for which you sold your land?”

What do you think Ananias was thinking as Peter accused him of deceit? Do you think, at that moment, he believed it was worth it to pretend that he brought the entire profit of his sale to the temple? In his heart, Ananias knew that he was committing a sin. As far as the Bible tells, the offering was a good-will offering! It wasn’t mandatory or to cleanse his sin—it was simply giving of his possessions to the temple and to God. Ananias wasn’t required to give any of the money he made to the temple!

Peter continues by saying, “Why have you let Satan convince you to tell this lie? You have lied unto God.”

As soon as these words left Peter’s mouth, Ananias fell down and died. For his little deceit, for choosing not to adhere to what he knew—God’s law of truth—he paid with his life.

Sapphira, his wife, comes to the temple a few hours later in search of her husband. When she enters the temple, Peter asks her, “Tell me, did you sell your piece of land

for this much money?”

Sapphira answers, “Yes, for this much.”

Without any further questioning, Peter says, “Why is it that you and your husband decided to tempt the Lord your God? The men who buried your husband wait at the door to carry your body out as well.”

Instantly, Sapphira fell down and died.

The story of Ananias and Sapphira spread to all those in the church and caused great fear among many people.

Their story highlights the importance that God places on the knowledge of His people. If you have been raised going to church, you no doubt have extensive knowledge as far as Bible stories and doctrines go. For everything that you know, God will hold you accountable. He expects you to act in accordance to the knowledge that He has blessed you with.

Your responsibility to act in a godly manner directly parallels your knowledge of Him. The more you know, the more like Him He expects you to behave, and the consequences are far greater if you don’t. (Acts 5:1-11)

Lindsey Gellenbeck

**Key Thought:** Each person is responsible for and is expected to act in accordance with their knowledge.

**Memory Verse:** And that servant, which knew his lord's will, and prepared not himself, neither did according to his will, shall be beaten with many stripes. Luke 12:47

## Use What You Know

“Morgan,” Mother called, “I need you to walk down to the Farmer’s Market and get fresh vegetables for a salad for dinner tonight.”

Morgan set down the game she was playing and put on her sweater.

“You will need to be careful that you receive the correct change for each purchase. Many children are selling their produce, and they may not add or subtract properly. Also, some may try to cheat you. You know how to add, subtract and multiply, so use what you know.”

“I will. I can count money easily.”

“Good, I need two heads of lettuce, six tomatoes, a bunch each of radishes and green onions, and one red bell pepper.”

“This sounds kind of difficult,” Morgan said. “For the lettuce, I will need to multiply, and unless I have the

### Questions

1. Was the sacrifice that Ananias and Sapphira made a mandatory offering?
2. To whom did Peter say they lied to?
3. What does your knowledge of God parallel?
4. The consequences of acting in an ungodly way are greater if you have more \_\_\_\_.

correct amount of money, I will need to subtract to know what change I will receive.”

“That is correct. I know you can; just use what you know,” Mother assured her.

“Tomatoes are sold by the pound so again, I will multiply pounds by cost, and again subtract if necessary. For the other things I will need only to add and subtract. Okay, I’ll do my best. But how will I know what change I should bring home?”

“Write down the cost of each item on your list, and we will check it when you get home,” Mother said.

When Morgan returned home, she placed the items on the table. Then she and Mother did the math and counted the change. “Looks like you are missing one dollar,” Mother said. “Let’s check everything again.”

“Still missing one dollar,” Morgan said.

“Don’t worry about it,” Mother said, “Just mark it down as a costly mistake. And really not very costly. What if you had been adding and subtracting in the million column and missed one number? That mistake would have cost one million dollars. While I am frosting this cake, you may wash the vegetables and get them ready to slice,” Mother directed.

“I love to help in the kitchen.”

“I was thinking how important it is for us to use what we know in every area of life,” Mother said. “Like in choosing friends.”

“I know I am to hang out with children who, I think, are better than me so that will inspire me to do better.”

“That is a good idea. Who we are with has a lot of consequence. I read about a young man who spent ten years in jail because he was with two guys who blamed a murder on him to keep themselves out of jail. That was a very costly mistake.”

“Wow! That was costly.”

“How about marrying someone who is abusive? Isn’t that costly?”

“Yes.”

“Other simple things like our faith, fear, and disrespect can be become costly mistakes, too. Doesn’t God promise to be with us always?”

“Yes, Jesus said, ‘I will be with you even to the end of the world,’” Morgan said. “So we should not feel sorry for ourselves because God is always near ready to help us.”

“Yes, Morgan. That is correct. We know the Bible says, ‘In everything give thanks.’ If we do what we know we should do and give thanks for it, we will feel happy.”

“I don’t think we are using what we know when we

gossip,” Morgan added. “Doesn’t the Bible say we should not gossip?”

“Psalms 101:5 says, ‘He that secretly slanders his neighbor, him will I [God] cut off.’ Also Jesus said, ‘Every idle word that man shall speak, they will give account of in the day of judgement.’”

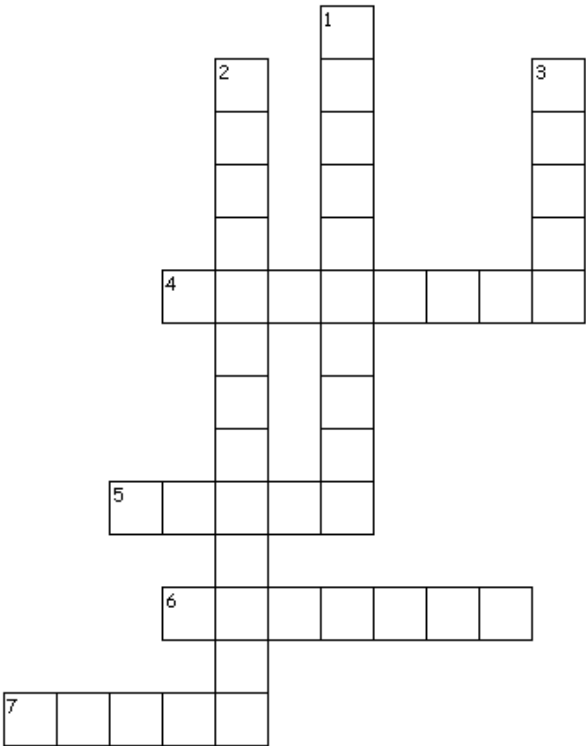
“I am going to try every day to use what I know and do what I know I should do,” Morgan said.

Charlotte Huskey

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# Ananias and Sapphira

Word list: Acts, Consequence, Deceive, Fear, Land, Responsible, Temple



## Across

4. Ananias and Sapphira attempted to \_\_\_\_ Peter.
5. A and S sold a piece of \_\_\_\_.
6. A and S took a sacrifice to the \_\_\_\_.
7. The story of A and S put \_\_\_\_ into the heart of many people.

## Down

1. Each person is held accountable for their \_\_\_\_.
2. Each choice has a \_\_\_\_.
3. The book in which the story of A and S is found.

*The Beautiful Way* (primary) and *The Compass* (junior) Sunday school literature can be downloaded at [sundayschoolliterature.com](http://sundayschoolliterature.com) or [churchofgodeveninglight.com/beautiful-way](http://churchofgodeveninglight.com/beautiful-way). Please email questions or input to [gellenbeck.lindsey@gmail.com](mailto:gellenbeck.lindsey@gmail.com).

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Contributors: Julie Elwell, Lindsey Gellenbeck, Charlotte Huskey. 2016.

## Fight with Determination!

*"Fight the good fight of faith!" (1 Timothy 6:12)*

Timothy writes these words in his first book, encouraging God's people not to give up on the salvation which they have been taught. He knew, as does every saint who lives faithfully for God, that there are days when you feel like giving up. There are days when it feels like it's just



too hard to go on in Christ. These days are hard to endure—these days make it hard to keep a positive outlook on life.

These days aren't necessarily out of God's plan for your life. He brings them along with a specific purpose in mind: to make sure that you are determined to live for Him, no matter what comes your way, no matter what happens, no matter the price you have to pay.

God wants you to be determined in Him.

Timothy writes more than one scripture about being determined to live for the Lord. He continues the verse in 1 Timothy 6:12 by saying, "Lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses." Professing and testifying of your salvation before other believers is a good way to reinforce your determination. Having the support of other saved individuals brings a sense of accountability and stability on the hard days.

2 Timothy 1:12b says, "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." Commit your way to God—verbally, in writing, in your heart and thoughts, and in your actions. If you have made a firm commitment to Him, your determination will be grounded in God.

Fight your fight with the end goal in mind! Every Christian's ultimate goal is to make it to Heaven, so when

you struggle to remain determined, remember what you are fighting for. 1 Corinthians 9:12 says, "Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain." Another translation says it this way: "Do you not see that in a running competition all take part, but only one gets the reward? So let your minds be fixed on the reward" (BBE). Let your mind be fixed! Don't let your focus waver, for in keeping your focus, you remain determined.

All of these things will help you keep your determination, but there is one key that will carry you through more than anything else. A familiar verse in Philippians 4:13 says, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." Christ, our Savior and friend, is our ultimate strength. We cannot fight the fight of faith without His hand upholding us. Don't forget to call on His name when the days are dark and hard, for you cannot make Heaven without Him.

If you remain determined, you will stand before God on your final day and be able to say, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith," (2 Timothy 4:7).

Lindsey Gellenbeck

### Key Thought:

Determination is a key component in our success as Christians, and the one true way to stay determined is to rely on the strength of God to carry us through the hard days.

### Memory Verse:

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. 1 Timothy 6:12

## A Lesson from a Dog

"Want to go get a lamb today?" Timmy asked Bob.

"Yes, let's see if Mama will let us go."

"Be sure and take Piloto to scare away the rattlesnakes," Mother said.

Soon the boys were racing toward the mountain where the sheep were grazing with Piloto in the lead. Besides being steep, the mountain had huge boulders to maneuver around. Sometimes, there were deep holes left when nature had caused these large rocks to shift.

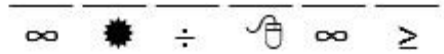
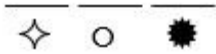
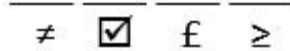
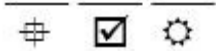
"Be careful Tim, and don't fall into one of those holes," Bobby cautioned.

"Why didn't we go up the goat trail? It would have been much easier." Tim complained.

### Questions

1. In living for God, is every day going to be easy and carefree?
2. Are the hard days a part of God's plan for you?
3. What are a few ways you can keep your determination?
4. What is the ultimate way to remain determined to reach Heaven?

## Crack the Code!



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

"It would take more walking and a lot more time," Bobby answered.

At the top, the boys sat down to rest. "We made it to the top without falling in a hole," Bobby said.

Soon the boys found the herd of sheep grazing not far away.

"Looking for a lamb?" Salvador, the shepherd asked.

"Yes, that's why we came."

"No twins yet. Maybe in a week or two. He pointed to a large fat sheep and said, "That ewe may give us twins. If she does, we'll send you word."

That evening after supper when Bobby went out to feed Piloto, the dog was missing. Bobby called and called, but Piloto did not come. The boys went through the vicinity looking for Piloto, but they found no trace of him. Late that night when the children were asleep and the neighborhood was quiet, Mother and Daddy could hear Piloto barking. Sometimes the sound seemed to be coming from the mountains on the South, sometimes from those on the North.

The following morning, Mama said, "I think Piloto is on the mountain. His barking sounds stronger from that direction. We are probably hearing an echo from this other direction."

"You better take a rope and something to carry him in. He may have fallen in a hole and broken a leg," their daddy said.

"He's too big for us to carry," Bob remarked. "May we take the car?"

"Well, yes. But you'll have to get him down to the road. After you find him, let me know if I need to bring the car and help you with him."

The boys ate breakfast hurriedly and started for the mountain to search for Piloto. "This is going to be easy," Bob said. "We can follow the sound and go right to him."

"I hope he doesn't have a broken leg."

"I don't think he does. He doesn't whine as if he does?"

Listen, Tim! I think he smells us. His barking sounds happy!"

The boys found Piloto in a huge hole. When he saw them he began trying to jump out. The boys tried encouraging him. They laid down and tried reaching his front paws. Finally, they decided that one of them must get down into the hole and lift the dog up. "You get in," Bob told Tim.

"No," Tim said. "You jump in."

"But you can't pull me out. I can pull you out." And so they argued, while Piloto yelped for their help.

Ultimately, Tim submitted, got into the hole and together they hoisted Piloto out.

They raced home with Piloto in the lead.

"I think Piloto has taught us a lesson," Mother said.

"What's that?" Bob asked.

"To be more determined. Piloto kept barking because he was determined to get help. Many things, thought to be impossible, have been done because someone was determined to do it. We should ask God to help us and keep trying until the job is done."

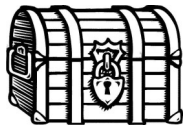
Taken from *Growing Up with God* by Charlotte Huskey

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Contributors: Julie Elwell, Lindsey Gellenbeck, Charlotte Huskey. 2016.

## A Real Hidden Treasure



Jericho was a great city, fortified on every side by thick, very high stone walls. God commanded Joshua and the children of Israel to march around the walls one time every day for six days. On the seventh day, they were to march around the walls seven times and then shout and blow their trumpets. When they did this, the shout was so great that the walls fell down flat. God also gave another commandment. He told the children of Israel they were to completely destroy everything in the city. Although a great victory was won, there was a problem. There was a man who had not obeyed God's order. The children of Israel lost the next battle with their enemies. They became frightened, turned, and ran away. Joshua rent his clothes in sorrow and asked God why they had lost the battle. God told Joshua that someone had disobeyed Him after the battle of Jericho. It was discovered that a man named Achan had seen a beautiful garment, two hundred pieces of silver, and a wedge of gold. He wanted them so badly that he took them back to his tent and hid them under the tent. Because of Achan's sin, he not only lost the "treasures" he hid under his tent, but he also lost his life as punishment from God. Jesus gave a parable of another hidden treasure. It is a REAL treasure—an extremely valuable treasure. This treasure is not stolen or obtained through disobedience. It is not beautiful clothes, or money, or the neatest, nicest, newest, most popular thing that we want. The parable He gave about the treasure was this: *The kingdom of heaven* is like a treasure hidden in a field. When a man finds this treasure, he will take it and hide it. Then, with joy he will go and sell everything he has so he can buy the field. This man is honest. He does not "steal" the treasure out of the field. He sells everything he has so he can honestly keep it!

We have examples of three different men in the New Testament. Two of the men recognized a "real treasure" in Jesus and were willing follow Him. The other man may have recognized how much of a treasure Jesus was, but he was not willing to obey Him and follow Him completely. The first two men were Peter and John. As Jesus passed by them one day, they were fishing, making money for a living. Jesus said, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." Peter and John immediately left their nets and followed Him. The other man was a rich young ruler. He asked Jesus what he must do to inherit eternal life. Jesus told him to sell everything he had, give to the poor, and follow Him. The rich young ruler went away sad because he had great possessions and did not want to sell them.

Do you want a *real* treasure? Be wise—recognize what is lasting and most valuable! He wants you to find salvation. He wants to give you something real—not something fake or cheap. He wants to give you peace and joy as you make the choice to follow Jesus Christ.

Sister Julie Elwell

**Key Thought:** Jesus is the *real* treasure.

**Memory Verse:** For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. Matthew 6:21

## Miracles in Bitan

Minerva called up the stairs to her daughter, "Hurry Miriam, or we will be late starting the meeting!"

Miriam came running down with her purse in hand. As they were driving, she said, "Mama, I know you love to preach the Word and I am so glad you do. You have taken Papa's place spreading the Gospel. But Mama, I think you are working too hard. I don't want to lose you as well as Papa. Can't you please slow down and take life a little more relaxed?"

"And let the people die without knowing about Jesus? Why, this opportunity may not last long. Who knows when these farms may shut down? I've got to preach while the door is open."

When they drove into the camp at Bitan, a voice called, "Buenos Tardes, Hermana Minerva." She looked around and saw Marcos coming in from the field with a big insecticide machine strapped to his back. Minerva knew he had been running up and down tomato rows spraying for tomato worms and other insects. The machine did not work properly unless the carrier walked very fast and because Marcos had very short legs he had to jog to keep it going.

### Questions

1. Why was Achan's treasure not really a treasure after all?
2. What did the man do who found a real treasure?
3. Talk about the three men who followed Jesus. Did they recognize Jesus as the real treasure and what did they do about it?
4. What is the real treasure Jesus wants us to find?

She felt so sorry that Marco had to work so hard for very little pay. However, she knew he and hundreds of other migrant workers were happy to have jobs. Each year during the growing and harvest seasons, migrant labor camps became active cities.

After Minerva’s husband died, she and Miriam made their living selling clothing. Miriam loaded their old van with clothes and drove her mother to a different location each day. Minerva offered her articles at low prices because she felt sorry for the people. The guards at the gates of these camps noticed her compassion and honesty, so they gave her freedom to visit the sick in the camp.

One day while visiting a sick woman, God said to her, “These people need the Gospel more than they need the clothes you bring.”

“But how will I live without this business?” she questioned.

“I will take care of you,” God promised.

Minerva easily got permission from the owners to have church service inside the camps because the guards testified of her love and compassion. Many people were saved in the meetings.

During one of these services, Marcos came. He and his wife had been taught from children that Jesus was not the Savior and that they should not read the Bible. Marcos kept listening until God opened his heart to be saved. His wife, however, hated his “new religion” as she called it. She yelled ugly words about Jesus. Often she grabbed his Bible from him and threw it on the floor, while shouting, “Stop reading that book.” One day she snatched his new little hymnbook from his hand, ripped it into two pieces and threw it in the fire. It burned a lot of pages before Marcos could retrieve it.

Each year when Marcos returned to Bitan, he would come and hear more of the Word of God. He was faithful to God and kept praying that his wife would believe in Jesus.

When we went to the fall meeting in Culiacan, Minerva happily introduced me to Marcos’ wife, Emilia, and their two-week old baby. God had worked two miracles for them. He caused Emilia to believe in Jesus, and He had given them a baby. They had wanted a baby for several years. When the group who came from Bitan got up to sing, Marcos’ face glowed. His plan is to return to his home in Vera Cruz and preach the Good News to his family there.

From *Traveling with God* by Charlotte Huskey

# Verse Race!

Look up and copy each of the following verses on the spaces below. Race against your classmates!

Joshua 6:5

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Isaiah 45:3

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Matthew 19:21

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Proverbs 21:20

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Isaiah 33:6

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Junior Sunday School

Volume 66, Quarter 3, Week 12

## Jesus—Our Merciful Rescuer

One very special night about 2000 years ago, the angels of heaven appeared to some shepherds on a hillside with the greatest message this earth has ever received. A Saviour had been born in the City of David! The word “Saviour” means a deliverer—someone who rescues. God looked down from heaven and He saw we were in a very sorry condition. We were slaves. We were bound with chains, living in bondage to a cruel taskmaster. We were sad. We did not have peace. Sin had brought much guilt and pain to our lives. So, God in His love and mercy sent His son, Jesus, to this earth to rescue us!

Jesus grew to manhood and began to bring the beautiful message of salvation when he was 30 years of age. In the early days of his ministry, He went into the synagogue and stood up to read. His message was short, but he spoke with such power that the people were very attentive. He read from the book of Isaiah of a prophecy concerning Himself. His message to the people was that He was sent from Heaven to bring good news to the poor. He was sent to bind up the broken hearts and to preach freedom and deliverance to the captives. He would bring sight to the blind! As Jesus read these ‘rescuing’ words of deliverance, the eyes of all the people did not leave His face! (Luke 4:18-19)

For three short years, Jesus gave His time and energy completely to the people He came to save. He preached to them, taught them, and healed the sick. Rescuing unhappy and spiritually sick people was what Jesus wanted to do more than anything else. There were times Jesus and His disciples were so busy they did not even have time to eat. On one such occasion, Jesus and His disciples tried to slip away to the desert where they could be alone and get some rest. When the people discovered where Jesus was going, many hurried on foot from all the towns and cities and actually arrived before Jesus and His disciples did. Although Jesus was very tired, when He

looked around and saw all the people—people who were heart-hungry, He had compassion and mercy on them. He saw they were like sheep without a shepherd and so He began to teach them many things. (Mark 6:31-34)

Over and over again Jesus saw people who needed a Saviour—needed rescuing both physically and spiritually. A blind man named Bartimaeus sat by the highway begging. When he heard that Jesus was passing by, he began to cry out saying, “Jesus, thou Son of David, have mercy on me.” The people told him to be quiet, but Jesus stopped, had mercy on Him and gave him his sight. How overjoyed Bartimaeus must have been!

Jesus ultimately died on a cross so we could be saved. He does not walk on this earth anymore; but, He IS still alive. He loves you. He wants to rescue you. He wants you to know about Him and how to live right. Accepting Jesus Christ as your own personal Saviour is the best decision you will ever make.

Sister Julie Elwell

**Key Thought:** Jesus wants to rescue us from the heartache of sin.

**Memory Verse:** 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.

## See God’s Mercy

*The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is long suffering to us ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. 2 Peter 3:9*

An elderly gentleman began coming to church in Chapultepec so we started visiting him in his home. While visiting him, we met his landlord who invited us to study the Bible with her. I went over whenever I could and read the bible with her.

One time, shortly after the Pacoima camp meeting, I went to visit her. I noticed that there were a lot of new people living in her little apartments. “They have come to work in the onion harvest,” she said when I asked.

While I was reading the Bible to the elderly lady, a young woman knocked at the door, and asked, “May I listen? I love to hear about Jesus.”

“Sure, Maria, come right in,” the older woman said.

“I will just sit here on the steps,” Maria answered. “My little boy is sick and I’ll have to go check on him in a short time.”

### Questions

1. What was the greatest gift this world has ever received?
2. In what ways does the devil hurt people’s lives?
3. Does Jesus ever get so tired that He fails to see our needs?
4. When should we accept Jesus’ salvation?

About halfway through the lesson Maria left, but returned quickly. After we finished the lesson, I asked if I could pray for her sick child.

“Yes, please do,” she said. I followed her to her home. The only furniture in the two-room dwelling was a broken down chair and a portable, two-burner kerosene cook stove. Her few cooking utensils were in an open box on the floor beside the stove. Her four-year-old son was lying on a blanket on the cold cement floor. He was hot with fever and his cheeks and throat were swollen. She thought he had the mumps. His big, beautiful black eyes looked up at me while I prayed.

We had other obligations that evening, but early the following morning, I took two blankets and an egg-carton type mattress to her. She laid the sick boy on the mattress and covered him with one of the blankets. Then we read the Bible together. While I was reading and explaining scriptures to Maria, her mother came to check on the sick boy. I then read, James 5:13 and prayed for the child.

The following day when I came to visit again, the child was outside playing as if he had never been sick. I told Maria that I would like to teach the Bible to the children if she would get them together. “We are migrant workers,” she explained to me. “The children go to school in the morning and work pulling onions in the afternoon. They get home about 6:30 p.m., but please do come.”

The following day, Rhonda Doolittle, Julie Samons, and I gathered up flannel-graph pictures and coloring pages for a Bible story and arrived at Maria’s house at 6:30 p.m..

Twenty-three children and four adults were waiting for us. We went every day for five days, and the interest was as good the last day as it was that first day.

I praised God for his mercy in helping us meet Maria. I realized if He had not opened that door we would not have had the opportunity to share His Gospel with those people.

A few weeks later the migrant workers moved away.

*The Lord is gracious, and full of compassion: slow to anger, and of great mercy. The Lord is good to all: and his tender mercies are over all his works. All thy works shall praise thee, O Lord; and thy saints shall bless thee. They shall speak of the glory of thy kingdom, and talk of thy power. To make known to the sons of men his mighty acts, and the glorious majesty of his kingdom. Psalm 145:*

8-12

Charlotte Huskey

## Our Salvation

Bartimaeus, Captives, Compassion, Deliverer, Freedom, Mercy, Rescue, Salvation, Saviour, Shepherd.

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

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Contributors: Julie Elwell, Lindsey Gellenbeck, Charlotte Huskey. 2016.



## By His Stripes



Jesus taught his disciples many things. He gave them instructions on how to deal with people, how to cast out devils, and how to heal the sick. In Matthew 10, we read an account of one such time. He charged His disciples with their mission, telling them to go into the cities of the Gentiles and preach the Gospel. Then He said, "And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand. Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give," (Matthew 10:7-8).

In those verses, we catch a glimpse of what Jesus desired for those who accepted Him as their savior. He wanted them to know that His kingdom was at hand. He was there to be their saving grace and their strength. But he also wanted them to be healed, cleansed, and freed. The gospels are full of accounts of Jesus healing the sick and forgiving sins, and often times, He performed those two works together. If healing and saving was one of Jesus' main ministries when He walked the earth, certainly He wishes to perform the same miracles for His followers today.

In these modern times, there are so many things that can substitute the work that God wants to do in our lives. Instead of giving our lives and hearts over to Him, we can fill the void with the work and entertainment of this life. Instead of trusting Him with our bodies, we can rely on modern medicine or our own knowledge. But God's desire is to fulfill our every need. He wants to care for us as a father cares for his children.

James 5:15 says, "And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him." A prayer in faith will solve all of our problems—spiritual, physical,

emotional, or mental. Full, implicit trust is what God desires from us, and in return, we are provided with every answer, solution, and reassurance we will ever need!

In Isaiah, the price that Jesus paid for us is clearly written out. "Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed," (Isaiah 53:4-5). He has carried each of our sorrows. He sees every tear and hears every cry. On the cross, He was wounded and bruised for the sins that we committed, and by the stripes on His back, our bodies can be healed.

Do you have an affliction in your body or a need in your soul? Are you searching for something to fill a void in your heart? Have you struggled to overcome a physical wound? All God asks of you is a fervent prayer of faith and trust. He wants to heal every aspect of your being and meet every need you experience. He is the Divine Physician.

Lindsey Gellenbeck

**Key Thought:** Jesus desires to be our healer--physically, emotionally, and spiritually.

**Memory Verse:** And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him. James 5:15

## A Broken Collarbone

James picked up Leah and swirled her around in a circle. "Goodbye, honey. Daddy will be back Sunday. Be a good girl and help mommy while I'm gone."

The family watched as their daddy sped down the hill headed for five days in Mexico.

In just a few minutes Rosi came home from school and Leah begged her to play. "What shall we play?" Rosi asked.

"You be donkey. Me ride," Leah said.

So Rosi bowed on her knees and Leah mounted her donkey. Around and around in the living and dining area the girls went. When Leah tired of the routine, she said, "See if you can buck me off."

"Hold on tight 'cause I'm a wild bronco," Rosi warned.

"Okay, I holding tight," Leah said. Rosi jumped, and

### Questions

1. What did Jesus instruct His disciples to do in their ministry?
2. What kinds of things can we substitute for God's care in our lives?
3. How does God desire to care for us?
4. What must we do to receive physical or spiritual healing from God?

reared, and swung from side to side, but Leah held on—until suddenly she landed on the floor and screamed in pain.

I pulled the refried beans from the stove and turned off the gas. Then I dashed into the living room. Leah lay crumpled on the floor. I picked up Leah, who began crying louder. “Where does it hurt?” I asked as I laid Leah on her bed. Leah screamed at every movement. “Where are you hurting?” I asked again. Leah raised her right hand and pointed to her left shoulder.

“Oh, look, Mother,” Rosi said, pointing to Leah’s collar bone. “It is smashed in.”

The collar bone that usually shows very plainly was sunken in between the center of Leah’s chest and the left shoulder.

I touched it carefully. Leah screamed. The bone moved under the pressure. “It is broken. But what shall I do? Her daddy is gone. I have no car and no money for an emergency room visit.”

“Call Brother Willie,” Rosi shouted. “He will know what we should do.”

“Yes, that’s who will help us,” I said, and I dialed his number. “Say, Brother Willie, James left for Mexico this afternoon and Leah is hurt. I think she has a broken collar bone. Can you come and pray for her and help us decide what to do?”

“Sure, Sister Charlotte. I’ll be right over,” was his cheery reply.

Rosi and I knelt beside Leah and asked God to put the bone back together in its proper place. When Brother Willie arrived, Sister Marie Miles was with him. When I saw them it was like the presence of two angels. They bowed around the bed where Leah lay and prayed for a manifestation of God’s healing power. Leah was quiet after that prayer.

Then we discussed options for Leah. In the end it was decided to call Brother Bob who worked in emergency ambulance service and ask his advice.

He came and after explaining the different options and getting my approval, he bound Leah’s hand and arm tightly to her chest. “This is about the only way to keep it from moving and give it a chance to heal,” he said. “Make Leah lay still for a couple days and then she can move about slowly.”

They prayed again for Leah and encouraged me to trust in God, reassuring me that he was a miracle-working God.

By Sunday, four days later, Leah acted like nothing had ever happened to her. Brother Bob gave his okay that she go to school on Monday as long as she kept her arm in

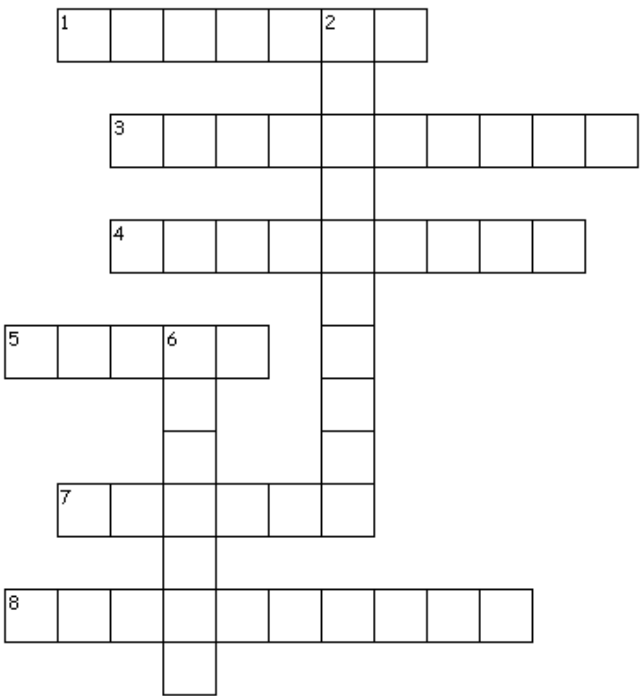
the sling.

Monday when Leah came home from school, her daddy was home. He took off the bandage and asked Leah to move her arm. She moved it in all directions without pain, just as she did the other arm. “Thank you, God for healing my little girl while I was away. Thank you for watching over my family,” James prayed.

From *Growing up with God* by Charlotte Huskey

## Healing

Word list: dead, devils, emotional, faith, lepers, physical, physician



### Across

1. Jesus said, "Cleanse the \_\_\_\_."
3. Healing for feelings: \_\_\_\_ healing.
4. Healing for the body: \_\_\_\_ healing.
5. Jesus said, "Raise the \_\_\_\_."
7. A prayer of \_\_\_\_ will bring you healing.
8. Jesus is the Great \_\_\_\_.

### Down

2. Healing for the soul: \_\_\_\_ healing.
6. Jesus said, "Cast out \_\_\_\_."

*The Beautiful Way* (primary) and *The Compass* (junior) Sunday school literature can be downloaded at [sundayschoolliterature.com](http://sundayschoolliterature.com) or [churchofgodeveninglight.com/beautiful-way](http://churchofgodeveninglight.com/beautiful-way). Please email questions or input to [gellenbeck.lindsey@gmail.com](mailto:gellenbeck.lindsey@gmail.com).

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